

**NCW Fair Board Meeting
Thursday, June 13, 2024**

Members Present		
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Foged <input type="checkbox"/> Julia Goodman <input type="checkbox"/> Leon Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Hedges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chance Landon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Matthiesen <input type="checkbox"/> Marie Overton <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Schneider <input type="checkbox"/> Jesse Shafer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamey Jo Steele <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Viebrock <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Beidler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Whitehall <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheri Bock
Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Morley <input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Sanders	<input type="checkbox"/> Karina Angeles <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ramon Ramirez
Guests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Adam called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. He mentioned that if you have items to be added to the agenda, please do so.

Chance moved, and Bill seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 8, 2024. The minutes were previously emailed to all Board members previously. It passed unanimously.

Carolyn gave a brief financial report. There have been no unexpected expenses incurred year to date. Money is coming in for camping, vendors, and ticket sales.

Old Business

1. **Future Events on the calendar for 2024**
 - a. Junk Rodeo June 1 & June 2. This was well received; rain dampened attendance on Sunday. There were 800 attendees on Saturday; 350 on Sunday. We will continue with this event next year.
 - b. Monster Trucks & Freedom June 28 & 29. This event is still two weeks out. Ticket sales are ramping up. The Petting Zoo group will sell chips/pop/candy to raise money for purchasing animals for the raffle during the Fair. They lost their major sponsor this year.

2. **Open Board Position** – We are continuing to look for potential board member candidates that would be a good fit with the needs (skillset) of the Board. The greatest need currently is for the maintenance and general knowledge of our facilities (camping, livestock barns, etc. David from the Department of Corrections would be a powerful addition to a committee within the board, regardless of becoming a Board member. Ramon and/or Carolyn will reach out to him to gauge his level of interest. David is familiar with our fairgrounds with his previous experience of oversight bringing DOC crews to work around the fairgrounds.

New Business

1. Committee Reports:

- Livestock Committee – Jamey Jo has developed and documented the criterion for managing overflow livestock exhibitors if the situation were to arise. The Committee decided that we would use RFID tags on hogs only this year even though the State Veterinarian’s Office recommends the use for all species. The buckles for the Round Robin have been ordered for 4-H and Grange. FFA receives banners. To complete the upgrades to the hog run along the side of the 4-H horse barn, there will need to be purchased ten eight foot 4”x4” pressure treated posts. Ramon said he would take care of that and charge it to the livestock fund. Bill is checking with a fencing company regarding needed repairs/replacement of the livestock check-in gate that was damaged several years ago. They will look at installing a gate back by the bone pile to ease pressure on loading out hogs. The packer requested a “corral” to hold beef for load-out; Tom Goodwin has a rolling chute trailer that he will bring on Sunday for that purpose.
- Race & Rodeo – A question was raised as to the availability of some posts and railing to be used around the arena if there is an accident that damages them (as with the horse racer a couple of years ago). There was discussion of a safety action plan for animals leaving the arena, such as the recent escape of a bull into the crowd. Chance will work on the action plan as the structure of our arena, track, etc. does afford some security for the audience in this event. It was also discussed that there will be slats inserted into the chain-link fence to obscure spectators standing near the fence to watch horse races. It is a safety issue for the spectators but also for the racers and horses as well. Chance mentioned that sponsorship is going slowly. The stock contract increased again by \$2,500. Everything is ordered and all the paperwork has been completed. We have invited the photographer back for the BBR and the livestock sale.
- Entertainment – Adam reported that ticket sales are going well for the Clint Black concert, which will increase once advertising efforts are implemented. There are 866 tickets sold for Clint Black; 75 for Red; and 45 for the Big Bend Rodeo.
- Operations/Safety – Leon and Heidi are to focus on the preparations for the G.O.A.T. experience.
- Ramon reported on projects:
 - Three bleachers funded by receipt of Waste Management Community Funding, have arrived. We will no longer need to transport bleachers between Waterville and Wenatchee for our events.
 - Repairs to the 4-H/FFA/Grange Youth building have been completed, which included the purchase of tables to be used for displaying exhibits.

- Ramom provided a list of funds approved by the Friends of the Fair totaling \$78,942.36 to be used (or have already been used) for specific projects around the fairgrounds.
2. **Training for Still Life Barn Superintendents** is scheduled for July 20 at 9:00 a.m.
 3. **Camping update:** All camping spots have been reserved. There is still room available for dry camping.
 4. **Update on status of premium book.** The premium book has been completed and has been posted on the website. Discussion ensued regarding having the book printed or utilizing it solely using technology. The Wenatchee World did not sell ads without knowing whether we would want the book printed, or not. Their minimum printing order is massive, which has resulted in discarding a pallet worth of unused books after completion of the fair. It was suggested that Carolyn could check with Office Depot and Commercial Printing to see what the cost might be for a smaller “print run.” However, there was no allowance within the budget to cover the cost of printing the premium book. It was the recommendation of the Board that the premium book be displayed online and that fliers to that effect be prepared and posted in the locations where the books were previously displayed. The inclusion of a QR code would take the exhibitor straight to the website for registration.
 5. **Picnic table project:** This project is back again this year and we have received six or seven applications so far.
 6. **First Responder of the Year:** Nominations for the First Responder of the Year opens on Saturday, June 15, for nominations from Chelan and Douglas Counties.
 7. **Volunteer of the Year award:** We need some nominations prior to the next meeting to put them forward to the Board of Commissioners.
 8. **Additional Beer Garden:** The Board of Commissioners directed Carolyn to propose to the Board the creation of a beer garden in the sale area. She wanted to get our feelings regarding the matter. It was unanimous with the Board that this would set a poor example as the livestock sale participants are all young folks. This could be a huge distraction and adversely affect the success of the sale.
 9. **Fair Prep conversation.** Workdays are scheduled for July 13 and August 10. We need all the volunteer support possible to get the grounds ready for the fair. The training for still life superintendents is to be held on July 20 at a time yet to be determined.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on July 11, 2024.

Ann Whitehall, Secretary