

Columbia County Fair Board Meeting
Monday April 13, 2026
6:30 p.m. Warren Grange Building
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[Meeting ID: 217 046 048 412 4](#)
Passcode: df2ng2Pp

The Columbia County Fair Board met in a regularly scheduled session with Peggy Howell, Jennifer Plahn, Ryan Hausner, Branden Staehely and Mary Ann Guess

CALL TO ORDER

Peggy called the meeting to order at 6:29pm.

APPROVE AGENDA

Branden motion to approve the agenda, Ryan 2nd, motion passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS – 5 MINUTE LIMIT

Eva mentioned kids riding their motorcycles in the field. Several people use the field, walking, walking their dogs, Fair board is concerned of any liability issues. Peggy will contact county counsel.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jennifer motioned to ratify the February and March invoices, Ryan 2nd, motion passed.

Branden motioned to approve the Board minutes for February 9, 2026, and minutes for March 9, 2026. Ryan 2nd, motion passed.

Ryan motioned to approve Board work session minutes for February 25, 2026, and March 25, 2026, Jennifer 2nd motion passed.

COMMITTEES:

Rodeo Committee Mark wants to get a trick rider for the fair this year who is also going to Longview, it would be \$2,400. Extra to the rodeo budget. When we meet with the Finance committee, we will increase that line item. He wanted to also add hotel rooms for the announcer and clown. Mary Ann will submit a request to amend their contracts

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Les Watters - bd spaces in ag building. He has take heritage group fill in the empty spaces the granges don't use. He also mentioned the Wi-fi in the ag building is horrible. He is willing to contact IT and see what needs to be done. He asked if the board would waive the fees for the vendor space he holds each year. Ryan motioned to approve waiving the fees, Branden 2nd, motion passed.

Woody said enrollment is up all around the board. has scheduled Clover Buds coming back Friday during fair hours. Oregon State has made a ruling regarding waterfowls to be permanent. He will handle everything except for signage for hand washing. Peggy said the fair board can do that. He'll have an isolated area like before.

Eva gave the Museum update – she mentioned coming out here at night and seeing the lights, really looks good. the electrical will be completed this week, concrete is being poured tomorrow. The Warren Grange will be having a fundraiser at their breakfast May 9 to help raise funds. They will have large baskets to be raffled. They plan to start moving everything back May 1.

Eva said she has seen those squirrels back. Need to contact the people who came out last year.

Sponsorship Coordinator – Jennifer Parral talked about her experience and what she can bring with her. Jennifer will contact counsel and have them write up a contract.

Maintenance Report – Mark will be having a work party

Treasurer Report - \$155,628.71

Fair Theme - *250 years of Agriculture & County Fair Pride* .it was discussed to add American's in front of 250.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Paul will have the food bank van – does need a golf cart with bed. Peggy asked about the extra help. He said he needs older volunteers. Also asked to have more recycling bins and signage is important. He has some from last year but needs more. Collecting the recycle it was very helpful last year breaking down the cardboard. He would like help but explain to younger kids, they don't want to do it.

Jennifer mentioned the superintendents in the pavilion would like to close early. Also in the Ag building. It was discussed and closing an hour earlier no one had any complaints. The only thing that is used are the restrooms. This has been tabled.

Important to have signs made

Branden wants to keep the meetings on the same day. Woody and Eva say weds are good for them. This has been tabled until the work session.

Jennifer did say that Michelle will be taking flower entries only on Monday. There will be no more Tues entries.

Jennifer asked the board to donate a family pack of fair passes to support the Scappoose little league. Ryan motioned to approve donating the family pack to little league, Mary Ann 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin asked about planting trees. He would like to plant arbor vides along the shop south wall. He also asked who he should talk to about having plants or trees with disease. Woody gave him the extension Director name Janhvi Pandey who works at the extension office.

Peggy spoke with Carroll, and we will not need a fence around the cars. Orange construction fencing will work. People can also bring water and coffee just no full baby bottles

ADJOURN

With nothing further to come before the board, the meeting adjourned.