

Columbia County Fair Board Meeting
Monday August 11, 2025
6:30 p.m. Warren Grange Building

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[Meeting ID: 260 669 068 225](#)

Passcode: h3Ms7382

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

CALL TO ORDER

Peggy called meeting to order at 6:30

APPROVE AGENDA

Henry motion to approve agenda as written, Jennifer 2nd motion passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS – 5 MINUTE LIMIT

Greg Peters from search and rescue asked if a map could be made so everyone knows where they are supposed to be. Also would like to be by sheriff.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ratify the invoices for June and July 2025 – Henry motioned to approved the June and July invoices
Ryan 2nd motion passed

Approve Board minutes for June 9, 2025, and work session minutes for June 25 and July 7, 2025.

Jenifer motion to approve the minutes for June 25, July 7 and June 25, Branden 2nd motion passed

COMMITTEES:

Rodeo Committee – Jill said things went pretty well. Had a couple of accidents in the Wild Cow milking, and Bull riding. They are improving but its slow and steady, the bull rider had 8 ribs cracked but is up and walking. Jennifer knows him. He won't be riding bulls anymore. Gates worked out good. Can have extra parking at the race track be for overflow . The rodeo committee has the kids clean it up. Jill mentioned the music needs to be behind the stage and talked about having dancing in the dirt again. Was asking about having the lights on in the covered area for no reason. Kevin will make list what lights need to be turned off.

- A. Rodeo Court Committee – Princes Avery talked about going to Canby tomorrow and next day
- B. Auction Committee Woody said they made \$364,462.97 had 174 lts compared to 146 last year. had 150 buyers.
- C. 4H went well. They will continue to grow. Open show went really well. Appreciate the early deadline for open show. Auction committee and 4H team – went really well. Sunday went well. No one was upset. Henry said all he heard Sunday was positive no one was . FFA kids need to clean up their pens the ones in 4H know the rules. Woody will give Branden the FFA leader her phone number.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Fair office staffing – there was discussion regarding having someone work on sponsorships and receive a percentage on what they bring in. That would give them the incentive to bring more in Mary Ann mentioned that Kevin has stepped up and is helping in the office and felt his hourly wage should be increased to match the others. Henry motion to increase Kevin hrly rate –,Jennnifer 2nd , motion

passed.

- 2025 Fair updates – We don't have a total from Paul on what he took to the food bank . Mary Ann mentioned not all expenses and revenue has been received yet. Henry said he received comments on how Oregon Beverage Services provided professional service. He heard no negative responses. Customer service was improved. Going to the high price on beer and serving alcohol had no issues. Didn't realize not having stage behind shop affected the vendors and music and entertainment – we're rethinking this. - Jill thought Cale Moon is a draw - we're having to rethink the tickets for the main grand stands at the Rodeo.– Jill suggested charging two dollars for general admission at least they would have a seat. People were saving seats and placing blankets down. People complained the carnival was too far and in a big circle. Henry talked with Carroll with Oregon Beverage Services and he is going to help with planning the layout. He attends so many events he knows what works and how to route the people. It was mentioned the porta potties were scattered all over and thought having them in one place at least people would know where they are.
- Maintenance Report - Henry has a guy from Salem coming out to trap the grave diggers before they go into hibernation.
- Treasurer Report Mary Ann gave the ending balance as of July of \$44,506.28 and with June's total it would be \$156,784.95

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ryan – wants to talk about the youth garbage detail at work session

Branden – thought everyone did a great job. Hardly any problems.

Jennifer found a superintendent for baked goods – Need to address the bee problems.

Henry – wanted to appeal the fair board - , committees, woody, grange, all worked well together

Woody asking if we could have better rides – Jill mentioned how good the Jr rodeo entry book was. They didn't have to do much. Clatsop county only gave us one bleacher rather than two. Henry mentioned they will have a cardinal Rainer next year. Clatsop moved their fair up a week to have Rainier come.

It was suggested to have Mike Curry bring in a display like he used to. Maybe having a local talent show.

Peggy said OBS will have draft beer next year. She now knows what can be brought in. people can bring in open water containers and coffee. the entertainment after the rodeo, people couldn't hear the music like they can when the stage is behind the shop/

Alice wanted to mention the open horse show and using ring radar to enter was great. Erica did a great job.

ADJOURN

With nothing further to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:36