

Columbia County Fair Board Meeting
Monday August 12, 2024
6:30 p.m. Warren Grange Building
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/119894269>
United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679 Access Code: 119-894-269

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

Butch called meeting to order at 6:29 pm

VISITOR COMMENTS – 5 MINUTE LIMIT

Rick Smith commented that overall the fair was quite nice. The complaints he heard were about open containers. wasn't drinking in cans not plastic cups. He asked fi we had designated smoking areas – livestock area and street – fair board personnel – designated – smoking areas maybe before next year , people were not real happy with the carnival – entry into the fair is to expensive. Maybe some type of admission flat rate – maybe higher premium – Branden asked help recruiting for premiums – if we don't do something – overall the fair was nice –

Henry mentioned about the carnival- we struggle – we have lost about 50% of carnivals in the country. If they don't make money they don't come, that's why no Sundays and trim – young couple 2 kids – \$140.to get into the fair –

Daisy Smith -overall the fair was better than before. She complained the entertainment wasn't good. She wants to see pig races and logging– a lot less pop up stands – less food –don't spread out for commercial vendors – went to fair and vip seating – overall rodeo was pretty good – rodeo clown wasn't – Butch commented on the vendor food row – we made it wider for walking down – need for cutting down from 20 to 18 – still lot – commercial vendors – no room for commercial vendors – people will walk down the road and around pavilion – can't see anything else – taking more room away from vendors people acted – water and electrical is limited – keep looking for ways to do better each time. – Aletia Brown who was a commercial vendor –had no traffic– when no business is there for Sunday need to study the flow of traffic – tents were closing early – had trouble at the office with checking in – application – came in to office - - no explanation on the vendor tickets if they were daily or season.-need to use the fair vendor wifi – no one was able to help her – professional event coordinators – need a paid position hugh opportunity for someone to be paid here – nothing mentioned at the chamber of commerce – local businesses here – vendor coordinator - Aletia Brown – willing to volunteer – 503-710-2911 – Henry mentioned they were good points - - Butch mentioned when applications are due we need to do better coordinating the vendors. Henry suggested maybe let the vendors who stay open should be on the main road and the others who leave early – put them in the back. Rick –the shade canopy's - people really liked them –
Alice – sponsors for rodeo – should limited to 29 – just having a flag maybe increase flags – come to a work session –

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Henry moved to ratify the invoices for July. Ryan 2nd – motion passed
- B. Ryan motion to approve bd mins and July 28 work session minutes, Jennifer 2nd motion passed.

COMMITTEES:

- A. Rodeo Committee – Jr rodeo entries were a mess. Need to be more organized. No entries by email must come in with check or cash –only cash or check -Julie wants to close gate as people were coming from the grandstands due to no seating – JJ wants more money – pick up guy got kicked – broke arm. will need to go out for bids the year for stock, sound, and probably more money.- Scappoose Fire Dept is receiving a new water truck and giving us their old one. Paperwork being

written.

- B. Rodeo Court Committee – Queen Madison–went to Canby – Lindsay went to Rainier in park and thunder days in Longview. And the jamboree in Vernonia –

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- CCMH Holiday Party – Erica McCartney –they hold this party to celebrate the employees – wed instead of thurs to clean – wants to be a community partner – with mega egg hunt – work force of 200 people – wed the 4th – asking time to set up day before and day after to clean – evening from 5-9 She is asking the board to waive the fees. 503.438..2217- will put on work session agenda.
- Close fair on Sunday – Henry said it was a ghost town on Sunday and we lost \$15k -no people- come in -vendors and us for our losses - open to audience – Aletia –doesn't want to let people start tearing tent and table down – if someone – Woody is up for it. – already has a plan with Sunday – grange – Eva agrees with closing on Sunday – Henry motion to eliminate the fair on Sunday starting in 2025 – Branden 2nd – motion passed.
- 4-H – Woody said the fair was good to 4-H numbers were up – auction was up – alcohol had nothing to do with it. Think some parents didn't know what to expect. – signs went = Woody thought it was a better fair then over the past 5-6 yrs. -Eva mentioned the alcohol coming between the two barns – they went to their truck – Gate 2 – reported to the sheriff – need to restructure and have more security – Butch said people came to him and told him this was the best fair – vip - sell by number –
- Butch commented that the enclosed camping area should be back to 4H and board members This will need to be a work session discussion
- Maintenance Report – the grandstand steps have been removed and building new ones and getting a quote to replace the poultry barn roof- addressing the barns this year – had a water leak –
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- Treasurer Report – 126,520.55 – not all the revenue and expenses have been entered.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Branden –thought the fair was really good –

Henry thanked Jennifer for helping in office- Branden handled open class – hiring a good crew

Paul – takes all the garbage out and recycles and goes to food bank – interesting- a mattress and tables and chairs showed up one day. vendors with cooking oil –Eva mentioned someone comes and picks up the oil.– someone from the Elks said they went through 7000 cups – He probably will take 1600-1700 to the bank -

Butch adjourned the meeting at 8:04pm