COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Work Session August 26, 2026
6:30 p.m. Fair Office
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Meeting ID: 270 945 182 269 3
Passcode: SJ3Yv7Lf

AGENDA

Present: Henry Heimuller, Jennifer Plahn, Branden Staehely, Mary Ann Guess. Absent Peggy Howell and Jaime Urwin

CALL TO ORDER
Henry called meeting to order at 6:30pm

APPROVE AGENDA
Brenen moved to approve agenda, Jennifer 2nd motion passed.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS
Woody Davis wants to propose we name the pavilion the Butch Guess Memorial Show Pavilion. He mentioned that Butch spent many hours here and the work he has done here on the concrete and buildings he feels Butch deserves this.
Woody also mentioned the MOU from Means Nursery in 2019 mentions 20% of the plant sale proceeds should go to 4-H. He doesn't want 20% but would like the amount received for the youth and leaders/volunteers bracelets each year be deducted from the plant sale amount received. Mary Ann mentioned the fair board received a report from Means Nursery listing the items the plant sale proceeds should go to. She will pull this report and have it for the next Fair Board meeting.

Fair Board Applicants
Henry began telling the applicants what the statues are and our Board of Commissioners lets the fair board recommend to them who we choose. We have no paid staff. We have three cardinal staff who work part time and we have Kevin who is the camp host. He also said speaking for Henry himself, we don't have time to deal with someone who thinks its only a one day a month position. We are a working fair board and it's a lot of work we need to maintain 60 acres of land and very old buildings. We have to manage all the rentals, just not the fair and we are all on call. We have noise complaints, major electrical power outage took place this past year during a Quinceanera and the races. It took about 30-45 mins before power was restored. Luckily, he was able to call Branden who works for PUD and he called PUD to come out. We're not big like Washington county where the funding is available. If there is any concerns about the energy and expectations to please take it in concentrations about being on the board.

Daniel Klemm (Danny) was the first applicant. Jennifer asked Why he wanted to be on the board. He said he volunteers for the moose, helps mow and do repairs, and has volunteers for years. He volunteered for Peggy helping with the rodeo gate, worked 12 and 14 hrs. a day and was the last one here.
Brenden asked him where would you like to make your impact – Dan has a lot of knowledge and is rounded and his willingness to work. Peggy suggested the rodeo is chaos at the gate – people trying to sneak in rodeo. – enjoys working with his hands.

Diana RiggsNish was the 2nd candidate she grew up here and has volunteered for open class in baked goods. She felt there were good supervisiors this year and would like to see new display cases and they talked about changing the lay out. She has been researching these. She has volunteered for the plant sale for years. She has been involved with 4H in livestock. Doesn't mind overseeing this if needed. She has no problem in doing maintenance. Just tell her what needs to be done and she does it. She retired at the end of January this year so she is flexible with her time. She likes organizing projects. She ran a youth project including 5 counties.
Branden asked based on what you've seen over the past years what your concerns are. Diana likes that our fair is a family friendly small town fair . we need bleachers. It is better with the assigned seating.

Would like to see 4H grow, needing more buildings, would like to see static grow as well. look for way to find money.

Alice Todd was the last applicant. Jennifer asked the same question Why do you want to be on the fair board. Alice has a lot of memories here. It feels like a good fit for her. She wants to know what's going on. She felt there were not a lot of vendors , she wants to attack people to come here. Branden asked where is one area you would like to see and what improvements. Alice wants more vendors. She is a communication person wants to overlook things – need to inform people what's going on.

Diana asked when the Board of Commissioners will be interviewing. Henry mentioned it shouldn't be long. They will interview all applicants. It's important to remember, we currently only have one position available. The fair board passes on to them their recommendation but they do make the decision.

Dan asked about knowing how to volunteer. It was suggested he contact Elena and let her know when you are available. She will let Darrin and Robert know. Henry thanked them all for coming.

The applicants stepped out and the fair board discussed all the applicants. Mary Ann will forward all the applications to Jacyn to set up interviews and what the fair board recommendations are.

Rental complaint. This relates to the noise complaint we had a couple weeks ago. It was scheduled as a birthday party in the 4H bldg. Kevin felt it really got laouder at 11pm and they stopped at midnight. Mary Ann suggested we add the noise requirements to the application itself. Kevin asked about the dosimeters rule on how loud it can be. The county does have ruling and you can pull up an app on the Iphone.

Maintenance, Projects and small stages were postponed.

Henry said the current leaf blower we have is 10 years old and it's been repaired twice. Darrin and Robert suggested purchasing a new one and having this one as back up. Henry researched and the current one we have is a DR Promax for $3799.00. Jennifer moved to purchase the DR ProMax for $3799. Mary Ann 2nd, motion passed.

Henry had three quotes for the A/C unit in the Warren Grange building. Since we are heading into fall we can either wait until spring to purchase or purchase now. Columbia NW bid was 11,343-848.00 for the res=cent repair and also 500.00 manager discount for a total of $9,965.00.
North by North west quote was $12,335.00.
Sherclaim was $8,485.00. Columbia NW was for a 4 ton unit. The others were 5 tons. Columbia NW is also a sponsor for the fair and they know how that building is used.

Mary Ann moved to accept Columbia NW quote for $9,965.00, Jennifer 2nd. Motioned passed 3-1.

Jennifer mentioned a lady who was a first exhibitor in the fair. She submitted photos, the superintendent told her they were not mounted correctly and needed to fix them. She said she went to Walmart, made the changes and resubmitted. By the exhibitor number she had, she was a new person. Jennifer spoke with superintendent who doesn't remember her. Her entry form is gone and so are her pictures. The lady asked to be reimbursed for the changes she made which was approximately $30.00. The board felt like if we did, we would set a precedent. It is stated in the fair book that we are not responsible for any lost or damaged items. Jennifer will let the lady know.

OFA – who is going to the OFA convention.
Jennifer is available
Branden is available
Henry will not be here
Mary Ann – not going due to tax season.
Mary Ann will reach out to Jaime and Peggy. We do receive a discount if registered by Sept 2.

ADJOURN
With nothing further to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.