

COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIR BOARD
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 2023

The Columbia County Fair Board met in scheduled hybrid session with Peggy Howell, Kassie Bonnell, Butch Guess, Henry Heimuller, Mary Ann Guess.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Peggy called meeting to order at 6:36pm

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Fair Board Applicant – Ryan Hausner . Ryan talked and told the board about himself, that he was born and raised in Columbia County. He joined the Air Force –He has family here. He works in the Emergency Management department of Columbia County. Has a 16 son and daughter 12 both are getting involved in 4-H . – Henry stresses how much work it takes to run the fair and fairgrounds. It's a true commitment. The fair board gets the first interview then based on the fair board recommendations his application will go to the Board of Commissioners. Questions were asked of him what strengths he will be bringing to the board and how he handles conflict. Ryan has a list from the community and being on the board he would be able to put their mind at ease. Keeping them informed. The fair board is very compassionate toward the fair and fairgrounds. We want to build a multi purpose building and has plans. Kassie wants everyone to be part of the family and bring solutions which will bring the community to be more fruitful. Each of us has different passions that we bring to the table.

Terri mentioned she would like to organize a drive thru with Christmas lights and decorations display- maybe contact the schools wood shop maybe have a merchants competition –maybe charge or have a food drive to enter , she did talk with Walmart and they would be willing to donate lights - Henry felt it was a lot of work to coordinate in two months. He suggested putting a committee together and bring your proposal to the fair board. She wanted to put it on Facebook, maybe families in Columbia County might be able to donate. Where would the storage be. Don't have extra place to store. The fair board thought it was a good idea maybe for next year.

Rental Rates and Terms and Conditions – The Fair board suggested that the small stage and courtyard be a separate rental of 500.00. Kassie moved to add small stage and courtyard to the rental for %500.00. Henry 2nd, motion passed. Kassie will add that to the fair rental form.

RFP Carnival Services- Henry talked with Mike and Karen Davis and Mike suggested to be very flexible. He hears that the carnivals are having to pay more for labor and don't want to pay their worker's overtime. They need to stay within 40 hrs. – for them to compete they may want to be open less hours. We added a statement to the RFP that the Carnival hours are subject to be determined and negotiable.

Peggy asked if the board could donate a package of tickets toward auction at JLS Party. We will give 2 sets for VIP rodeo tickets and parking, one for Friday and one for Saturday, will give 2 family passes with parking and two season family passes with parking. Mary Ann moved to approve the sets of tickets, Henry 2nd, Motion passed.

Butch brought a quote to tear down the tree by museum for \$1700. There was discussion if the tree was dead or just needed to be pruned. Butch will get a quote on clearing and raising the branches

QMRA –Peggy has concerns about the camp host not here during events. They would like to have a race on Oct 14 and promotion day on the Oct 15. - They have not paid us for the first race. It was suggested that we contact Ed and write them a demand letter they need to bring gravel in for the road they removed, and they are in breach of contract for payment. Contract states payment will be made within 5 days along with accounting report on camping and parking. We will table the dates until the demands are met.

Topics were discussed for the next 5 work sessions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm