



Crook County Fair Board Minutes
Fair Board Meeting 5:30 pm- February 11, 2019
1280 S. Main St., Prineville, OR 97754
Telephone 541-447-6575

The regular meeting of the Crook County Fair Board was called to order on February 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman, Gail Merritt

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Gail Merritt, Chair
- Linda Smith
- Linda Cross
- Mike McCabe
- Dale Cummins, Vice Chair
- James Savage
- Stanley Flynn

STAFF ATTENDING

- Casey Daly, Manager
- Micaela Halvorson, Office Assistant

GUESTS

- Marv Sumner, Crooked River Roundup
- Jason Snider, Crooked River Roundup, President
- Steve Holliday, Crooked River Roundup

MINUTES

- Linda S. motioned to approve the minutes from December 17, 2018, Linda C. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, minutes approved.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Dog Policy for Fairgrounds – Gail signed the new dog policy into effect after the last meeting. The policy was read, Dale had questions with the “must be leashed or otherwise confined under the direct control of the owner or handler at all times”. He understood after the last meeting that the dogs could be under verbal command and this policy is unclear on that point. Casey will talk with Jeff Wilson to clarify that part of the policy.
- Crooked River Roundup – Jason sent Casey an email with a list of things that they would like to see fixed or touched up on. At the last meeting, Casey mentioned a few things that will be repainted this year, the CRR would like to see a few things repainted in the outdoor arena including the bucking chutes, and the grand stands potentially. Jason would like to continue discussing putting some permanent pens and sorting alleys on the north end of the arena. The CRR would not be the only organization that would utilize them so it would be an investment into the fairgrounds. Jason would also like to start using the flagpole that is in the outdoor arena but currently there is no spotlight for it, Casey will work on getting that setup. The fairgrounds have a flag that can be used. Casey suggested putting a spotlight on the speaker tower that is there because it has power there. Jason sent a list of “wants” from the Roundup Board, but Casey did not receive it, Jason will resend it. The sand that was submitted by Hooker Creek does meet the standards that the WNRA requested

for the Outdoor Arena footing. There might be some changes to the cattle drive, the fairgrounds will still be the final stop but they might just drive them down Main Street. The CRR did not make it to the NFRA's tier qualifier, but that does not mean that the top guys can't compete here. They are still between Reno and St. Paul so competitors will still be coming through here. The CRR is entertaining a Jumbotron video screen, using the same outfit as Sister's uses, Randy. He is mostly self-contained, but we will need to look at power needs. Casey asked about the fairgrounds supporting the queen again this year, and since they are no longer doing the queen coronation at Carey Foster Hall, just need information on how and when. Jason believes that the golf tournament they will be hosting is going to be in May sometime (Mother's Day Weekend). Jason will let Casey know for sure on the date and we will be receiving an invitation.

- Kennedy Property Update – The city is considering putting some water treatment facilities out here. There have been some wells drilled about 8-9 years ago that you can see the well heads out there, the city is going to put a structure up and they are working with the county attorneys currently.
- Christmas in the Pines Update- Gail and Stan – Gail and Stan attended the County Court session on Wednesday to give them an update and provide a “wish list” of wants and needs for Christmas in the Pines. They did request additional funds from the court to pay for new electrical cords; they are currently still using some of the indoor cords outside, batteries for the golf cart, and additional tools. The request was for \$8,000 but no decision was made at County Court. Something else that they asked for financial aid for was a trailer for the golf cart. Dan McNary was there and wanted to discuss the trailer, it might be a good project for his kids to do and they could do it for a portion of the cost. Christmas in the Pines took in just over 4,000 pounds of food, compared to last year's 2,500. The attendance last year was 5,000 and this year was almost 7,000. The request was made so that the work is easier for the volunteers. Dale wanted to follow up on the radio broadcasting. James Wilson talked to Casey about the issue and he is willing to work with us to find a station that will work and also that is within the FCC guidelines of 1500 feet from the point of broadcasting.
- March 5, 2019 Date for FG Long Term Plan Annual Review – Every year, the board meets to go over the long term plan and also go over our emergency plan. Casey has been working on these documents. Casey will have food brought in and hopefully we can knock it out in a couple of hours. The board was provided with the long term plan for review. Casey will email a copy to the board.

BOARD REPORTS

- Gail Merritt: Attended Oregon Fairs Association Convention (OFA) and Western Fairs Association Conference (WFA). During the OFA convention, Casey went from Alternate Area Director to Vice President. He will be Vice President for two years, President for two, and Past President for two. Gail is excited for the opportunity this will provide for Crook County as well as for Casey. OFA is a good conference for networking with the other fairs in Oregon. This was her first time attending WFA and was amazed at how many fairs are in California and how small we are. The sessions were really interesting and more informative than what we got at OFA. There is not as much networking at WFA. The Central Oregonian had a nice article on Cain Hall and how it was condemned, but how the top part was saved and we use it now as our ticket booth.
- Dale Cummins: Nothing to report.
- Linda Smith: One of the sessions she attended during the WFA was regarding getting your Agricultural Community re-involved in your fair since that is what fair is all about. Linda would like to reach out to the FFA, 4-H, Cattlemen's Association, and the Farm Bureau and see if we can get some more interest back in to the animals. During fair, she judged for herdsmanship and there were a few areas that were really good about talking to her about their animals, but some of the other areas were lacking. She felt that if the kids weren't talking to her about their projects then they certainly weren't talking to the public. She knows a young man that she is hoping will come and talk to the kids about presentation and get them excited about their projects. It would be nice if the kids would talk about what they are learning and the importance of livestock, where our food comes from and how we are going to sustain that over the years. Dale suggested talking to Michael Estes about sheep shearing and getting kids involved. The board also suggested talking to the 4-H Leaders about this. Linda would like to get something that is put together by a college/high school student, hopefully it will get the younger kids engaged. It would be nice to have a few “Did you know?” stations around the

fairgrounds. Micaela also printed a few interactive posters that are produced by the IAFE that we could enlarge and place around the fairgrounds. They show various stages of agriculture as well as provide a few interesting facts. Gail suggested talking to Grace Deboodt about this because she is involved with “Ag in the Classroom”.

- Mike McCabe: Wanted to know if the reunification plan had moved forward, Dale had not been contacted as of yet. Micaela did not realize that Maggie Hale was supposed to contact him to set up a meeting. She will have Maggie contact Dale and James to setup a meeting. He inquired about the boathouse property project and where we are with it; please see the Manager’s Report for details. Mike also expressed his concerns over spending a lot of money on the outdoor arena if the rodeo is not going to continue being successful with the changes the PRCA is making to their organization. Currently, we invest some of the money that comes in from the CRR event back into the facility. The past 3-4 years it has averaged around \$8,000-9,000. We have done electrical upgrades, bucking chute updates, and the new roping boxes. The Pee Wee and High School Rodeos do use the facility so improving and upgrading the facility is important. The discussion Casey had with Jason was that the CRR would purchase the metal for the proposed holding pens and the fairgrounds would help with the installation. Gail would like us to include this in the discussion on March 5th for the Long Term Plan.
- James Savage: Nothing to report.
- Stanley Flynn: Nothing to report.
- Linda Cross: Nothing to report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Micaela has put together a financial report that is similar to what we used to receive from the Finance Department. Casey mentioned that there are a few Cooper Electric bills that have been placed in Building Repairs and Maintenance and should be in the Capital Improvements account (704).

STAFF REPORT Micaela stated that WFA was great, really enjoyed the breakout sessions and came back with some good ideas. OFA was not great for her, she ended up getting sick. One of the sessions she attended at WFA was “Building Your Brand” which includes having the same color and repetition. One of the keynote speakers was discussing “Making Your Story” so she and Casey have been looking at different ways to create a fun story for the fairgrounds or fair. Gail would like to add branding to one of the meetings and figure out a good brand for the fairgrounds. Dale asked if the museum has things from fairs in the past. Steve Lent has access to a lot of historical things, we just need to ask. Gail asked what the McCabe family might have as far as photos and memorabilia. Mike stated that his sister has most of that stuff. Micaela volunteered to scan any images they might have to keep at the fairgrounds. Casey and Micaela have also been discussing different ways to be more interactive with the youth/teenagers and have discussed having selfie stations and promoting a hashtag or having fun face cutouts.

MANAGER’S REPORT

We are in discussions with Fairfield Suites, the same company that was in contact with the city. Casey spoke with Jeff Miller to verify if there is any economic label for that property for tax purposes and tax breaks. Casey contacted Steve Forrester and he and Eric Klann are going to look into the zoning of the property. Eric stated that if it creates enough jobs, the city can reclassify it to an economic development area. Eric, Josh and Steve said they would do the research and get back to us. Fairfield Suites seems very interested because of the location; it is on the scenic bike route, the fairgrounds, and the golf course. Commissioner Brummer suggested discussing a community hall in conjunction with the motel to have some long term revenue in association with it. Fair planning will start up again next month; tentatively, a meeting is scheduled for March 19th. Last year, we only required one representative from the fair board to attend the fair planning meetings to best utilize everyone’s time. Micaela will also provide minutes from the fair planning meeting to keep the board informed. After OFA and WFA, we were contacted by another carnival provider; Paul Maurer is interested in providing service for us for 3 years. Casey has spoken with Jeff Wilson regarding the contract that we currently have and he said based on the last year’s performance he does not see an issue in terminating it. Casey has not terminated the contract yet as he is waiting for one from Paul. The Extension Office and OSU have approached us about partnering in another LED sign on Lynn Boulevard. Casey is going to work on

getting that fit into our budget for next year. They would like to see it in the green space by the Clover Building. The east side of the LED sign in Pioneer Park is unrepairable so we will need to replace it. The Air Quality Committee has a little extra money and as soon as they put the LED sign up by the Chamber, they will be able to help replace the one in the park. The painting project for the indoor arena is being bid on right now for the east and west walls as well as the entire green safety fence. The bid packet for the asphalt repair work is ready for review if anyone is interested, Casey will share that with them. We purchased a new goose neck flatbed trailer from WW Western Wear. Gail is looking for new shirts for the fair board. The gazebo landscape is in progress; Lance is working on the timbers for it. Dennis is going to start attending recertification classes for his Master Gardener so Casey will be taking him on Fridays to Bend. As part of his recertification program, the program managers would like to see a demonstration garden. Gail would like to see it by the college and the Pioneer Building. The beds will be raised creating a natural walkway and we will probably have to put fencing up around it to discourage vandalism. Day at the Capitol is March 24th and 25th. There will be a barbeque on the 24th and the actual day at the Capitol is on the 25th. The eight doors for the indoor arena have arrived. Tom Hinkle (one of our volunteers) will be installing them soon. Casey has been approached about having a Senior Rodeo Circuit come through. We have a circus coming to town on April 19th and usually we have protesters, we will do like we did last year and cone off an area for them.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date: March 18, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Micaela Halvorson, Office Assistant

Gail Merritt, Chairman