



Crook County Fair Board Minutes
Fair Board Meeting 5:30 pm- February 14, 2022
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 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman, Gail Merritt.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Gail Merritt, Chairman
- Linda Smith
- Mike Kasberger
- Mike McCabe
- Dale Cummins
- Stanley Flynn
- James Savage

STAFF ATTENDING

- Micaela Halvorson, Office Assistant
- Casey Daly, Manager

GUESTS

- Sheri Storey
- Dennis Hildebrand

MINUTES

Mike K. motioned to approve the minutes from January 10, 2022, Linda S. seconded the motion. Motion passed; minutes approved.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Crooked River Roundup-No one available to give an update.
- Dennis Hildebrand-Proposed Livestock Building Update – Received some quotes on the proposed building. A clear span of 200' x 130' is \$586,000, by placing a pole in the middle it drops the price down to \$492,430. After talking to several contractors about how much fill would be needed to get the area ready for the building and it will cost around an additional \$200,000. With the new information, they have a new proposal. They would like to tear the existing H-Barn down at the indoor arena. The H-Barn is currently 96' and the new building would be 100' x 200'. Currently, the H-Barns are 11,760 square feet and in the same footprint, the new building would add 8,240 square feet. That is without adding any lean-tos; there is still enough room on each side to add them. Casey requested a conceptual drawing so that the fair board can get a visual of what they are proposing. Sheri said that they have the architectural drawings with the size. Micaela asked how this addresses

the issue of not enough space. Dennis believes that with the additional 8,240 square feet, they will be able to move the show ring there as well as the auction. With the lean-tos, it would add another 6,000 square feet. The building would not be fully enclosed; however, they would like the west end to be partially enclosed. That would eliminate the need to hang shade cloth. By building the lean-tos, it would protect the south side from the sun. The numbers of beef are up this year so additional space is going to be needed. Dale stated that if Dennis can provide the dimensions or drawings of the proposed building, someone from the city would be able to drop it in an aerial photo so the board can conceptually see it.

- Fair Carnival-The way that the first weekend in August falls for 2022, means that Deschutes County Fair will be August 3-6 and we will be August 10-13. The carnival company assumed that we would be August 3-6 and will be in Missoula, Montana during our dates. Changing our dates currently does not seem to be an option. We share equipment, vendors, patrons with Deschutes County, plus all our entertainment is under contract for the 10-13 dates. Historically, Deschutes County is always the first Sunday in August, that is why the dates changed for us. The board has tasked Casey with talking to Don Maurer about what it would take to get them here this year or even pushing them off this year and figuring out how to make it happen next year. The fear is that if we don't have them this year, then they will go somewhere else next year.

BOARD REPORTS

- Gail Merritt: OFA Convention was good. Missed having Casey attend. The food was good. Not sure if everyone was ready to be out in the open with COVID, and the time of the year meant that a lot of our service members were unable to attend. The dates were moved to try and coordinate with the Association of Oregon Counties and legislators; however, the capital was closed due to COVID restrictions. Lane County did an excellent job with their presentation of the incident that happened during their fair. They had a shooting during their fair. Gail would like to see us review our emergency plan. She would like to reach out to Lane County and get a copy of their presentation. Micaela would like a copy of their communication plan that was put in place after the incident. They also stated that signs were something that was missing, specifically exit signs. Their information booth was the main place to distribute information, so we need to make sure that whoever is in the booth knows what to say. Also planning for a safe space for people that witnessed the event so they can give their account to the police and a space for those people that are separated such as lost kids. It was suggested that Dale or James meet prior to the start of fair with the people that will be working during fair just to go over everything and what their expectations would be if an event occurred.
- Dale Cummins: He wanted to know if a home brewer would be allowed to bring some of his beer to fair to sell. They would be required to follow OLCC rules as far as samples go, but they are welcome to have a booth like what New Basin does. They would be allowed to sell their product, but it can't be consumed during fair. We could certainly talk to Sheena about selling it for consumption through her. We could also contact other microbreweries to see if they would be interested in participating.
- Linda Smith: She has been in contact with food vendors and the ones she has contacted so far want to come.
- James Savage: Nothing to report.
- Stanley Flynn: Nothing to report.
- Mike Kasberger: Nothing to report.
- Mike McCabe: Attended OFA Convention. There was good information presented. The schedule was difficult to read. He really enjoyed the speaker that discussed millennials and how to get them engaged in the fair. It would be a lot of work, but it would be worth it. It would involve more technology incorporated. The meals were good. Patrick seemed overwhelmed so trying to figure out how to rely on him less would help.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting. An estimated cost analysis for year-end has been presented to the board.

STAFF REPORT

Micaela- Working on the Premium book. We are trying to get it out. We went out to get pricing and we are finding that it is very expensive beyond the Central Oregonian. The Central Oregonian does not do the binding that we've had in the past. The new style is not stapled, it is folded so it won't work well for us. We are working through it. The cost has almost doubled to print it. Micaela submitted a request for a grant from the Crook County Cultural Coalition to start a program called "Bacon Buddies" for \$2,500 and was awarded the grant. She will be working with the 4-H, FFA, and Open Class leaders to develop a program that gives kids with disabilities the opportunity to show an animal during fair.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Commissioner Brummer has informed Casey that we should be able to use our ARPA money for jockey room improvements. Gazebo update: We asked our volunteers to build the gazebo after Lance Romine was unavailable to do it. We submitted the plans to Ann Beier before she retired, and we were given approval. We got the money together, started the project, and while Casey was out sick, Louis, the county's compliance officer shut the project down. We don't have permits, engineered drawings, or structural calculations so they shut it down. Casey contacted Will Van Vector, the new director of Community Development, and pleaded our case. He sent out Terry and Randy who are the building officials. They wanted to know why we hadn't submitted anything to the city. Casey explained that we've never had to submit anything to the city in the past. Casey called Josh Smith from the city, who confirmed that he didn't need anything from the fairgrounds. We are still shut down. We are having the plans redrawn to include a sheer wall that they are requiring. Casey talked to Commissioner Brummer about it. We will need to pay for the permits. Louis was also not very nice to our volunteers. Another issue they had was that volunteers can't perform the work, but Casey thinks we've overcome that obstacle. The roof has been repaired on the Indoor Arena Kitchen; Quality Roofing gave a bid and did the temporary fix on it. Chavez Roofing never showed up even after talking live to Jerry. We got a bid to do the sheetrock and insulation that was damaged. It is \$15,314; Casey was only able to get one bid and he is on the County Court agenda this month to get the bid approved since it is over \$10,000. The LED sign on Lynn Boulevard is up and running, thanks to James Wilson and his team. We hauled in 170 yards of topsoil to the Indoor Arena. We were starting to hit the rebar supports underground with our groomer. Scott Porfily really helped us out by only charging us \$12 per yard for topsoil. Over the weekend, we had a couple of young men throwing rocks and broke one of the windows in the kiosk. Their mom called and ratted them out and is going to pay for it. Judy Kennedy is wanting to donate George Slaton's blacksmith shop. It is located on Elliott Lane, so if any board members have time, please go by, and look at it to see if it is something that the fairgrounds would like.

ACTION ITEM

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date: March 14, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Micaela Halvorson, Office Assistant

Gail Merritt, Chairman

April 5, 2024