

**DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD**  
September 23, 2021

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:30pm on, September 23, 2021 by Dean Elliott - Chairperson. The meeting was held in the Events Center Conference Room at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Board Members Present:**

*John Adams*  
*Pat Candelaria*  
*Scott Candelaria*  
*Dean Elliott*  
*Sarah Fischer*  
*Jennifer Foss*  
*Arlie Gordon Jr.*  
*Tom Harris*  
*Wesley Jacobs*  
*Gabriel Ryan*  
*Hayden Schmidt*  
*Craig Sloan*  
*Pam Spradlin*  
*Lora Talbert*

**Associate Members Present:**

*Nick Candelaria*  
*Matt Coyle*  
*Laura Martin*  
*Scott McHenry*  
*Kyle Moore*  
*Dick Sabulsky*  
*Jean Sabulsky*  
*Rob Tkach*

**Staff Present:**

*Michelle Bartlett*  
*Clay Gysin*  
*Luanne Lee*  
*Allison Paul*

**Board Members Absent:**

*Ben Alderton*  
*Monty Anderson*  
*Debbie Mills*  
*Phil Riesselman*  
*Shawn McWhorter*

**Associate Members Absent:**

*Barry Borges*  
*Darlene Craven*  
*Deb Dilley*  
*John Holst*  
*Chayce Lutz*  
*Anneliese Phippen*  
*Patti Russell*  
*Pat Salazar*  
*Jessica Smith*  
*Todd Spencer*  
*John Woodrick*  
*Phillip Woodrick*

**Staff Absent:**

*Kyle Christensen*  
*Laurie Anderson*  
*Tim Hallmark*  
*Kirsten Cowan*  
*Mike Ehmann*

**Other Guests:**

*Tori Checkal*  
*Leigh-Ann Coggins*  
*Justin Hundley*  
*Brenda Tanin*

**Public Meeting**

**Public Comment** - Justin Hundley from Elizabeth Locker Plant was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for transporting the animals for the Simla plant. Justin gave a brief overview of the last 6 or

so years. DC and Elbert Fair have been on the same date which makes it hard for them to handle the large load from each Fair. Justin would like to try and figure something out and suggested one County could send animals to a ranch to be fed for a week before processing. Justin requires a minimum of a week for processing between the Fairs.

Fair Board is concerned about the liability if an animal dies before processing.

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes** – Hayden moved to approve the July minutes. Scott seconded. All approved. Amended the date of the Ghost Town Hoedown to October 30.

**Treasurers Report** – Wes summarized recent expenses in the budget. No discussion.

**CSU Extension Director**- No report.

**4-H Youth Council** – Tori Checkal served as the 4-H Youth Council representative and reported that Achievement Night is October 13, all Fair Board members are invited.

**Staff Report** – Clay would like a wish list from Fair Board each year and requests list be sent by email to Clay, Mike, Luanne, and Tim.

The Fairgrounds has hired a new Event Coordinator, Coral Miller, who will start next week.

### **Guest Organization Reports**

**Fair Foundation**- Ghost Town Hoedown is Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. Advertisements on Facebook have started.

**FFA** – Sarah Fischer gave the report. Douglas County High School Chapter hosted a successful dunk tank fundraiser during Fair. Chapter members will be helping at CALF Harvest days.

### **Committee Updates**

**Administrative Committee**- The Committee was late getting started this year but worked on several items. Staff will review tasks and might find some new tasks for 2022. Plan of work for each committee will be due in October Fair Board. The form to be provided.

**Guest Services Committee**- Online orientation was not successful and will not happen in 2022, in-person only. The committee has decided to keep the volunteer minimum age at 16. Committee will look at busy and slow times of Fair for getting adequate numbers of volunteers. Will be removing specific volunteer tasks, and just have volunteers register for time blocks. Total volunteers in 2021 were 95 with a total of 464 hours.

**Marketing Committee**- Jennifer reported that the committee is continuing to build educational outreach. They would like to have a commemorative poster contest and coordinate painting of dumpsters at the Fairgrounds.

**Entertainment Committee**- Lora reported the committee is trying to secure a carnival. Wrap up meeting with Gina from Get Connected Events next month. Need to find companies that can book a big concert for 2023. Old west Town needs a location for 2023 to start conversations about kind of vendors/entertainment can be there. Keifer Hitch well received, will ask to return. The Committee needs a committee chair.

**Livestock Sale Committee-** Pat reported there were issues with the sale. Committee will host a mock sale in the Pavilion in 2023. The sale may possibly move to Fair Entry instead of Showworks and will only be in person. Committee picked out Sale hat color. Bids will start going out for photographers, catering and hats.

**Rodeo Committee-** John reported that planning is in process. John Adams moved to renew the contracts for the scoreboard and stock contactor providers. Craig seconded. Approved.

**Show Management Committee-** Hayden reported that the committee is starting a list of judge recommendations, superintendent applications and rule changes.

**Executive Committee-** Initiatives and opportunities for improvement led to an awards committee to be more efficient. A sub-committee is also looking at dates for Fair going forward.

## **Old Business**

Review the opportunities for improvement and have committee chairs bring feedback to the October Fair Board Meeting.

Discussion on three leading initiatives for 2022.

1. Education for all of the community, including other activities throughout the year.
2. Community engagement by bringing in a new audience.
3. Expansion of Fair Activities including expanding the dates of Fair, other events we should be thinking about, and additions for Saturday after the parade.

## **New Business**

Reminder of Committee governance- There is a recommendation to move towards a consent agenda. Committees make recommendations to Fair Board and Fair Board will discuss and approve.

Task force being created to evaluate Fair Board Policy and Guidelines. Jennifer Foss, Laura Martin, and Gabriel Ryan were selected.

MOU for Fair Board/Foundation/County- Discussion was had regarding the MOU. Wes moved to approve. Scott seconded. Approved.

Foundation needs more attendees at its meetings.

## **Director Comments**

Scott inquired about the status of Rob's approval. Next step it goes to Commissioners.

Scott reminded Fair Board members to begin soliciting items for the Ghost Town Hoedown liquor for donations to help out.

Awards Committee is focusing on 4-H Awards- not contests or open class. Nov. 4th is the next meeting.

Hayden suggested if there is more Show Management involvement on awards there might be less feedback from those affected by changes.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.**