



**DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10th, 2022, AT 6:30 PM**

**EVENTS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting**

**Attendance:** Dean Elliott, Wes Jacobs, John Adams, Pam Spradlin, Lora Talbert, Sarah Fisher, Debbie Mills, Phil Riesselman, Scott Candelaria, Pat Candelaria, Tori Thelen, Michelle Bartlett and Tim Hallmark

**Carnival:** GS Shows, 2022 carnival group, to return to the 2023 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo. The contract terms to remain the same. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo July 29<sup>th</sup>-August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Action Plan Status and Work Plan Review:** Administrative Committee to revise Work Plan worksheet and disperse them to all committees the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>. Committees requested their work plan worksheets from 2022 to be sent to them. Staff to compile and email what they have on file.

**Secretary Position:** Dean announced Rob Tkach interested in opened secretary position. No opposition reported.

**Holiday Party:** Administrative Committee planning Holiday Party on December 15<sup>th</sup> in the Events Center. Discussion of effort to plan party and to ensure all feel it is worth while and can make the commitment to be there. O'Brian's to offer catering menu for holiday party. Set up for 45. Invitations to include a plus one and to be sent out the week of 11/14. Invitations to include more details on the white elephant gift exchange and requesting attendees to bring desserts to share. Various shirt and jacket sizes to be available for try on at the holiday party. Discussion of party being a nice time to gather and catch up with everyone.

**Concert 2023:** Tim discussed list of entertainers as possibilities for 2023 concert. Requested feedback from entertainment committee to narrow down list and give feedback. Tim to bring narrowed down list to commissioners for approval. The talent agency to also provide production

set-up resulting in a more streamline and smooth process. Discussion of having various generations of music to widen demographic of concert attendees. Split model has been proven to have a lot of success. Some concerns of traffic leaving after first artist complete their set. Fair board is appreciative of Tim and staff's efforts to secure exciting entertainment choices.

**Other:** Hulu hoop and axe women will not return to 2023 Fair & Rodeo.

BBQ, Car Show and Farm to Table to return to the first weekend of the 2023 Fair & Rodeo. Discussion of plans to make BBQ a larger event in 2023.

Entrance to remain the same as 2022 and additional signage requested

Debbie discussed the souvenir program and marketing goals to make the program more valuable with coupons. Marketing committee hopes for the program to pay for itself. A digital version of the 2023 sponsorship brochure is in progress.

Scheels to be new sponsor for 2023 Fair, expressed interest in sponsoring youth shooting sports and youth dance.

John discussed Douglas County Fair & Rodeo winning best grounds and more improved for the Mountain State Circuit. DCFR was just shy of beating Cheyenne in the large category. Top 60 in Pro Rodeo's in the county. Rodeo was viewed on the Cowboy Channel streaming platform. Big accomplishments and Douglas County Fair & Rodeo to be recognized as destination rodeo.

Master plan final approval and is in planning process with contractors. Discussion of fairgrounds needing more camping and external facilities. Commissioners are positive and supportive of growth and improving grounds.

Discussion of improving fair entry process and software. Unlikely to do online sales and changes in 2023. Blue and white hats decided on for livestock sale hats. Livestock banner changes and request will be notified to Stefanie.

IAFE awards- 27 category entries. Requested Michelle present on 5 categories. More information to follow on award winnings.

Fair Board group photo will be taken in spring, tentative date is April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting:**

January 12th, 2023