

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD

March 18, 2021

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:30pm on, March 18, 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
Ben Alderton
Pat Candelaria
Scott Candelaria
Dean Elliott
Sarah Fischer
Jennifer Foss
Arlie Gordon Jr.
Tom Harris
Shawn McWhorter
Debbie Mills
Phil Riesselman
Gabriel Ryan
Hayden Schmidt
Craig Sloan
Pam Spradlin
Lora Talbert*

Associate Members Present:

*Nick Candelaria
Anneliese Phippen
Matt Coyle
Laura Martin
Dick Sabulsky
Pat Salazar
Rob Tkach*

Staff Present:

*Michelle Bartlett
Kyle Christensen
Kirsten Cowan
Tim Hallmark
Mike Ehmann
Synneva Knopp
Luanne Lee
Nicole Speeding
Laurie Anderson*

Board Members Absent:

*Wesley Jacobs
Monty Anderson
Jack Orr*

Associate Members Absent:

*Barry Borges
Darlene Craven
Deb Dilley
John Holst
Chayce Lutz
Scott McHenry
Kyle Moore
Patti Russell
Jessica Smith
Todd Spencer
John Woodrick
Phillip Woodrick*

Staff Absent:

Barbara Drake

Other Guests:

*Bailey Fischer
Mallory Latimer
Grace Pool*

Standing Members Present:

None

Public Meeting

Public Comment – None

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – Craig moved to approve the January minutes. Phil seconded. All approved. No discussion.

Treasurers Report – The Treasurer was not present at the meeting; no treasurer's report was given.

CSU Extension Director Report- Nicole reported that the Youth Council is busy planning June Show and the upcoming Resale Event with all proceeds going to the Youth Council Scholarship. Nicole asked that Fair Board attend the April 5, 2021 and May 3, 2021 Youth Council meetings. Nicole also reported that the 4-H 201-204 events are coming up and Fair Board presence is requested at those as well.

Kirsten reported that Beef Tag-In went great and thanked everyone who helped. Kirsten also reported that Leaders Council is working on leadership trainings as well as eRecord book training.

4-H Youth Council – Grace reported that June Show is scheduled for 6/4-6/5. June Show sponsor numbers are up. The Council is still looking for volunteers if any Fair Board Directors are interested in helping.

4-H Leaders Council- None

Scott informed Kirsten that he had been approached by a family that had lost its calf in the breeding project. He informed her in the past that the Fair Board has no problem with a family replacing their calf. Kirsten informed Fair Board that she has no problem with the calf being replaced from 4-H but asked the Beef Superintendent to look into the situation from the Fair Competition Rules side.

Fair Management Report – Staff reported that they are working with Ticketmaster and will be able to build several different seat maps for the rodeos to be prepared for whatever restrictions, if any, are in place. Ticketmaster will work with us to maximize seating capacity.

Synneva has been working with two carnival vendors and there is a now a possibility of having a carnival on the main weekend of Fair; The Entertainment Committee is looking at the space for the Old West Town and what space would be left available for the carnival.

ShoWorks will be doing a specific training jus for our Livestock Sale committee.

Agendas and Minutes are available on the Fair website under the Information tab, then Agendas & Minutes.

The Fair Staff will be assigning FFESS Supervisors to each area of the Fair to help streamline set-ups, tear downs and anything that is needed during events.

Luanne reported that we were given a task from the commissioners for new revenue generating events, etc. However, because of everything that happened this year, fees will stay the same for 2021, except for vendors fees. Fees across the board with the Fairgrounds, including Fair, will not be changing but will be looked at in the near future.

Guest Organization Reports

Fair Foundation- Mark Moore reported that the Cattleman's Days BBQ will be this Saturday at FirstTier bank and is sold out. Proceeds from the event will go to the Youth Council for their scholarship fund. The Turquoise and Tequila event will be held on May 1, 2021 and he would like to see everyone there. Debbie added that there will be a whiskey and wine pull and that they are still looking for donations for. All donations will need to be given to Debbie by April 15. Mark also reported that he, Dean and County Staff are working on the MOU and he feels that it will be a good document for a long time to come. The Fair Foundation is also working on recruiting new Directors and a new Treasurer.

FFA – Bailey Fischer reported that FFA had their Oyster Fry Auction on March 5th over social media and a silent auction site. Overall, between the fundraising in February and March FFA made \$10,126. A large donation of \$4,500 came from Castle Rock Autoplex, \$2,185 came from Beef Drawing Sales and the rest from the silent auction and private donations. Thanks was given to all who participated and continuously support the FFA Members. The money will be used to compete in State CDE's and hopefully attend the State Convention in June. CDE's this year are virtual through CSU the first week of May. There will be a livestock judging, horse judging, floriculture, Ag mechanics, vet science, and possibly a meat judging team. People are to let Mrs. Simonds know if they would like to help any of the teams. The students will be committing to teams and setting up practice times next week.

Students will be returning to in person learning on 3/22 and they will be back to working hands-on in the classroom. They are working on getting back into SAE's and a banquet in Late April or May. The Ag Program has also been approved for a new greenhouse. Construction is set to begin this summer.

Committee Updates

Guest Services Committee- No report. No March Meeting.

Marketing Committee- Debbie reported that the souvenir program is coming along great and reminded everyone to get her everything by the deadlines. If she doesn't receive the information by the deadline, it won't be in this year's souvenir program. The main focus for marketing this year is selling out the rodeos.

Entertainment Committee- Lora gave an update on the option of having a carnival on the weekend of Hometown Rodeo and the big weekend. She reported that the committee has decided to go with a western band on Friday night. Lora asked the committee to discuss opening the Marketplace on Thursday night during Xtreme Bulls. The Board recommendation is to not have the Marketplace open on Thursday night. John Adams motioned. Gabe seconded. Approved, no discussion.

Scott showed everyone drafts for the old west town facades.

Livestock Sale Committee- Phil reported that the committee is working on finding a caterer, sponsorships, and hats. The last Livestock Sale Committee Meeting was spent going through the online ShoWorks auction platform and talking about the mock sale and

how ShoWorks can help us facilitate it. The committee has identified both pros and cons of the software, but overall agrees that it will be a much better alternative to last year. Phil asked the Executive Committee for \$250 to add Fair Vault to ShoWorks so that exhibitors can upload their own photo of themselves with their animal (with the tag number) for people to place add-ons online.

Rodeo Committee- Craig reported that most of the last Rodeo Committee meeting was to get everyone up to speed as there has not been a meeting for a while and going over budget. The committee had several recommendations for the 2022 budget.

Show Management Committee- Hayden reported that the Show Management Chairs have been finalizing judges and just finished individual Department meetings with each superintendent. He and Ben are looking at their budget to decide any addition items to add to the 2022 budget.

Executive Committee- Reports given at Committee Level.

Old Business

Code of Conduct - Michelle sent out the Code of Conduct electronically to those who had not already signed it and turned it in. Dean pointed out the clause about attendance and reiterated that attendance at meetings is very important.

Marketplace Hours – Discussed during the Entertainment Committee report.

Opportunity for Carnival – Synneva explained that there is the now the option to have the carnival on both weekends of the Fair using two different companies, Wagner’s Carnival, and Sun Valley Rides. The Board asked if having two separate vendors was going to hurt our relationship with Wagner’s Carnival if we use the second company? Staff clarified that yes it could, but they are loyal to the Logan County Fair first. When Synneva talked to Wagner’s Carnival, they asked that we research Sun Valley Rides before we contract with them. Synneva and Michelle are currently doing research into the company but have not found anything. The Board asked if there would be any scheduling issues with Sun Valley in the future. Staff said yes, but it would be a good idea to look at our future dates if having a carnival is important to the Board.

Tim Asked if the Board had considered the footprint of the Old West Town and what that might do to the Carnival. Debbie clarified that she has been working with staff on exact sizes for the Old West Town and doesn’t believe it to be an issue. Gabe asked what the projected revenue is for the Old West Town vs the carnival. He has talked to a lot of people who come to the Fair because they see the carnival from the highway, the Old West Town wouldn’t have the same effect, so the pros and cons need to be considered. Debbie clarified that the Entertainment Committee is spending \$10,000 on the Old West Town and the carnival does not cost us money. Pam asked what all of the entertainment was. Debbie clarified that Discovery Ranch, Farm Bureau, Native American Dancers, petting zoo, train, chuck wagon display, town facades, long horns, and a carousel. Pat moved not to have a carnival on the first weekend and look to see if there is space on the second weekend. Sarah amended the motion to just not have a carnival the first weekend. Craig seconded. Approved, no discussion.

New Business

Governance Best Practices Program – Tim explained to the Board the County does trainings for their employees on a regular basis and that the County would like Fair Board to participate in the next one. Chuck Passaglia will be the presenter on ethic responsibilities, and workplace harassment. Chuck has a background in employment law and will be putting on the training for all Fairgrounds staff, some Facilities Staff, and Fair Board. Staff is looking at doing an executive session during the next Fair Board meeting for the training. The Board asked if there is a reason the County is asking the Board to take the training? Tim clarified that the County has talked about doing these trainings for a long time and are finally able to get them up and going. Everyone in the room should be representing Douglas County in the same way, it is just a good reminder for everyone. Phil moved to have the training. Gabe seconded. Hayden reminded everyone that these training are a great asset; however, it is important to not skip over meetings and rush things along, especially getting closer to Fair. All Approved.

Director Recognition – Pat requested that the board purchase all Directors that have been on the board for 30 or more years a 30-year buckle with box. They would all also become platinum Directors on the web site and in the souvenir program. Hayden moved. Gabe seconded. All approved, no discussion.

Budget Discussions –Tim and Luanne gave a presentation on the budgeting process and what budgeting looks like from the County side. Budget requests are due in April for the 2022 Fair. Michelle and Synneva will send a template for any budget request to each committee chair. Please send those to Michelle or Synneva when they are finished. All requests will have to be prioritized by the Fair Board and then within Facilities.

Director Comments

Dean reminded everyone that both the Executive Committee meeting and Fair Board meeting are pushed back one week due to the April calendar. Executive will now be on April 15 and Fair Board on April 22.

Sarah asked everyone to investigate the PAUSE act and the detriment it could have on the Agricultural Industry.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.