

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD  
March 19, 2020

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:35pm on March 19, 2020 by Pam Spradlin, Chairperson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Board Members Present:**

*John Adams  
Ben Alderton  
Pat Candelaria  
Scott Candelaria  
Dean Elliott  
Sarah Fischer  
Jennifer Foss  
Tom Harris  
Wesley Jacobs  
Shawn McWhorter  
Debbie Mills  
Phil Riesselman  
Hayden Schmidt  
Pam Spradlin*

**Associate Members Present:**

*Patti Russell  
Anneliese Phippen*

**Staff Present:**

*Michelle Bartlett  
Kirsten Cowan  
Synneva Knopp  
Luanne Lee*

**Standing Members Present:**

*None*

**Board Members Absent:**

*John Anderson  
Monty Anderson  
Arlie Gordon Jr.  
Craig Sloan  
Lora Talbert*

**Associate Members Absent:**

*Barry Borges  
Nick Candelaria  
Matt Coyle  
Darlene Craven  
Deb Dilley  
John Holst  
Chayce Lutz  
Laura Martin  
Scott McHenry  
Kyle Moore  
Dick Sabulsky  
Jessica Smith  
Todd Spencer  
John Woodrick  
Phillip Woodrick*

**Staff Absent:**

*Laurie Anderson  
Kyle Christensen  
Mike Ehmann  
Barbara Drake  
Tim Hallmark  
Vicky Starkey*

**Other Guests:**

*None*

## **Public Meeting-**

Due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19, a virtual meeting with a consent agenda was held in lieu of the standard meeting at the Fairgrounds. The link for the meeting was emailed out to all Directors and Associates as well as posted on the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo website in case any member of the public wished to join the call.

**Public Comment** – None

## **Message from Chair-**

Pam explained how the meeting would be structured and that it would be run off a consent agenda format. She proposed moving the Competition Rules to the bottom of the agenda as she anticipated that item would generate the most discussion. Pam requested that everyone mute their microphone and if they have something to contribute, to please state their name and she would call on them to talk to avoid too many people talking at once.

## **CSU Extension Report-**

Kirsten Cowan gave a general update on how their office is responding to the current restrictions in regard to 4-H events. She also stated that CSU reported there may not be any face-to-face meetings until the end of the semester and in turn will be pursuing digital programming options. More information to come.

## **Consent Agenda-**

*Approval of January 2019 Meeting Minutes*

*Draft Schedule*

*Superintendents*

*Judges*

*Kirk Hall Proposal*

Pam read the list of agenda items. Dean moved to approve all items other than the Competition Rules. Scott seconded the motion, all approved.

## **Competition Rules-**

Wes proposed the change of changing “I.” to “1.” in Section 2. Phil moved to approved, Shawn seconded, the motion passed.

Wes moved to approve the change of adding ‘See Jr. Division Rules in Open Class Llama Rules’. Phil seconded. All approved.

Shawn inquired about section 2B and asked if his daughter was showing and him and his wife were both busy, if her grandma would be able to hold the sheep when getting ready to participate in a show. We addressed Shawn’s question and said it would not be a rule violation because the grandma would not be helping to fit the animal. Hayden also reminded the group that a new rule added to the CR stipulated that non-immediate family members may be permitted to help if they

submit an inquiry at least 24 hours before the show and the request is approved by 3 Members of Fair Management. Wes read the entire section for everyone to hear again and Pam asked if that answered Shawn's question. Shawn asked if it would be necessary to ask if the grandma can hold a sheep and Wes responded saying people do not need to get permission for someone to hold their animal.

Pat asked if other changes are brought forward, should they be held for the following year. Wes responded saying if it's a mistake, it should be corrected, but if it's another change or suggestion, then it will be kept for next year.

Phil asked if there would be CRR's available for the Fair Board during Fair. Michelle said that there would be one in every barn and all Superintendents will have a copy of their sections in addition to Section 1 and 2B.

Pam let everyone know that any rule concerns brought to the Fair Board by the public have been addressed and/or corrected. She read each submission out loud and explained the measures taken to address each concern.

**Concern:** Seeking clarification on definition of 'immediate family member' and in what capacity exhibitors are able to receive assistance.

**Response:** Section 2B → Possession Care and Showing → 7. Junior Division Exhibitors may receive assistance from immediate family members or other Junior Division Exhibitors in good standing in Douglas County. An immediate family member is defined as the Junior Exhibitor's siblings, parents and/or legal guardian. Or other persons approved 24 hours prior to the show by three members minimum of the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management.

**Concern:** Seeking clarification on the 'Blow and Go' rule

**Response:** Beef → III. Animal Fitting and Care → B → 1. Absolutely no fitting products of any kind may be used. Beef → III. Animal Fitting and Care → B → 2. Animal can only be washed, dried and groomed for their show.

**Concern:** Seeking clarification on the coloring of sheep/goats

**Response:** Sheep → III. Animal Fitting and Care → B. At any point, changing the color of hair, spot or area on the animal's body or any grooming material that allows color to be rubbed off from any animal will result in disqualification. → 1. The natural color of any animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring.

Market Goat → III. Animal Fitting and Care → B. At any point, changing the color of hair, spot or area on the animal's body or any grooming material that allows color to be rubbed off from any animal will result in disqualification. → 1. The natural color of any animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring.

Non-Market Dairy, Pygmy, Fiber & Utility Goat → III. Animal Fitting and Care → B. At any point, changing the color of hair, spot or area on the animal's body or any grooming material that allows color to be rubbed off from any animal will result in disqualification. → 1. The natural color of any animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring.

Phil said that the rules surrounding changing the color of an animals hair should be added to the beef section as well.

Dean moved to approve the Competition Rules, Phil seconded. The motion passed. Dean thanked everyone for their hard work making sure all the necessary revisions were made.

#### **Fair Management Report-**

Luanne stated that she, along with Synneva and Michelle, would keep the Board posted as things progress and more information becomes available.

Michelle reminded everyone that the agendas and minutes are on the website.

#### **Director Comments-**

Pam stated that depending on how COVID-19 progresses, all upcoming meetings may have to be virtual.

Pam announced that Dean Elliott indicated he is interested in running for Chair. She also stated that he has been very invested and a huge help to her the past several months. Pam noted that Dean wants the Fair Board to continue and be successful.

Shawn stated that he thinks the Fair Board needs to develop a contingency plan and a trigger point where the decision to cancel Fair would be made. Phil added that experts are saying that COVID-19 won't be fully over until July with 2-3 waves of the virus circulating through. He stated he thinks the decision shouldn't be made until May at the earliest. Hayden echoed Phil and Shawn and agreed that contingency plans need to be made so that plans do not fall behind and that all tasks related to Fair are able to be completed.

Dean suggested that the Chair should appoint a small committee to invest in researching contingency plans for the different areas of Fair. Luanne responded saying the Fairgrounds staff has already been working on this and are keeping a close eye on what the impacts would be. She also mentioned that staff has been involved in conversations with the IAFE and CAFS to keep informed with how other Fairs/Fairgrounds are handling things. Dean expressed that he felt a committee should still be formed so that they can be proactive and research potential solutions. Luanne suggested that everyone have these discussions within their own committee first. Dean said that committees only make recommendations and it will be good to have a diverse group of people focused on looking at different options. Scott agreed.

Dean made a motion for Pam to appoint 3-5 people of her choosing to be on the Contingency Plan Committee. Pat seconded. All approved.

Pam said she would get a committee assembled and asked that everyone not request information from staff while they are doing their research as they are busy with their normal job duties in addition to extra tasks brought on by COVID-19.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm