

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD

April 22, 2021

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:30pm on, April 22, 2021 by Scott Candelaria, Vice-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
Monty Anderson
Pat Candelaria
Scott Candelaria
Sarah Fischer
Jennifer Foss
Arlie Gordon Jr.
Tom Harris
John Holst
Wesley Jacobs
Shawn McWhorter
Debbie Mills
Phil Riesselman
Gabriel Ryan
Hayden Schmidt
Craig Sloan
Pam Spradlin
Lora Talbert

Associate Members Present:

Nick Candelaria
Anneliese Phippen
Laura Martin
Dick Sabulsky
Pat Salazar
Rob Tkach
John Holst

Staff Present:

Michelle Bartlett
Kyle Christensen
Mike Ehmann
Synneva Knopp
Luanne Lee
Nicole Speeding
Laurie Anderson

Board Members Absent:

Dean Elliott
Jack Orr

Associate Members Absent:

Barry Borges
Matt Coyle
Darlene Craven
Deb Dilley
Chayce Lutz
Scott McHenry
Kyle Moore
Patti Russell
Pat Salazar
Jessica Smith
Todd Spencer
John Woodrick
Phillip Woodrick

Staff Absent:

Kirsten Cowan
Tim Hallmark

Other Guests:

Tori Checkal
Dani Devault

Standing Members Present:

None

Public Meeting

Public Comment – None

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

Treasurers Report – Wes summarized recent expenses in the budget.

CSU Extension Director Report- Nicole provided a report on Kirsten’s behalf.: “Thank you to everyone who attended the 4-H 201 ~ Intro to 4-H & Douglas County Fair & Rodeo. We really appreciate it and the families did as well. Swine Tag-In is ongoing – due back April 29th. Goat & Sheep Tag-In May 4th. Working on workshops & training across the board for all animal projects from basic care, nutrition, fitting & coat care, and showmanship. Horse shows and Horse Camp moving ahead full steam and we are working on coordinating some dog shows as well. Requests for Poultry and Cat Showmanship clinics so I am working on getting those lined up.”

4-H 202 will take place on 5/11 and serve as an intro to livestock.

4-H 203 will take place on 5/19 and serve as an intro to general projects.

Kyle expressed thanks to the Fair Board and said their expertise and guidance is really important to the 4-H families. CSU is working on creating new opportunities and is excited to focus on community collaborations moving forward.

4-H Youth Council – Tori Checkal served as the 4-H Youth Council representative and passed out a flyer for June Show to everyone. June Show is coming up and is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year. She asked the Board if they would help advertise as they are looking for donations from businesses. Entries for June Show are due by 5/21 to CSU Extension Office and only one person is registered so far.

4-H Leaders Council- None

Fair Management Report – Staff reported that they are waiting for the Purchasing department to send out official letters to award the chosen companies for 2021 security and parking and then will announce who was selected.

Guest Organization Reports

Fair Foundation- Dani DeVault introduced herself as the Secretary for the Fair Foundation. She announced that the Cowboy Ball is coming up on May 1st and there only 50 tickets left to purchase. She reminded everyone that tickets will not be available at the door and they are planning for it to sell out. She advised anyone wanting to donate a bottle of alcohol for the whiskey pull to reach out to Debbie or herself to coordinate a pickup. The Fair Foundation is working with Elephant Rock for a fundraising opportunity. Dani reported that the Livestock Grant Program is going well, and animals are being purchased.

FFA – No Report.

Committee Updates

Guest Services Committee- Dick gave a report in Dean's absence and reported that there were 9 volunteers signed up so far. He encouraged all Fair Board to tell their friends about the opportunity and direct them to Volunteer Connect.

Gabe Ryan was recommended by the Guest Services Committee to become the new Chair of Guest Services as Dean's replacement. Craig made a motion, John seconded. The motion passed.

Marketing Committee- Jennifer gave an update and reported that the committee is talking to potential sponsors and working on an educational initiative to incorporate in Fair this year in partnership with CSU and CALF that focuses on the importance of agriculture.

Entertainment Committee- Lora gave a summary on the planned entertainment. She said the band on Friday night will have to be moved back to the Midway Stage due to space and budget constraints. She reported that the carnival vendor guaranteed a Ferris Wheel and will be coming in June to plan the carnival layout and do a walk-through. The Fair Board has the opportunity to pre-sell wristbands for the carnival. The chuck wagon vendor may put on the pancake breakfast this year.

Livestock Sale Committee- Phil reported that the committee had decided on a hat color and are placing an order. The video board will be the same as last year, but a little cheaper because the stand will not be necessary since the Sale will take place in the Pavilion once again. The committee will do a mock sale with ShoWorks and invited anyone who was interested to attend. He also stated that with doing a hybrid sale, every buyer will get a new number and each buyer will be encouraged to register ahead of time, but there is the option of registering in person the night of the Sale.

Rodeo Committee- Craig reported that the committee went over the budget, brought in Hometown Rodeo supplies to be inventoried at a later date and discussed marketing strategies. The decision was made to move Beyond the Dirt to the Outdoor Arena and the rodeo performances will be streamlined on the Cowboy Channel.

Show Management Committee- Hayden reported that 75% of the judge contracts are complete. The Competition Rules have been updated to include the State Fair rules. Hayden, Michelle, and Ben will be meeting with Superintendents individually to see how Fair Board can best support them during Fair.

Hayden brought up a concern that was presented by Brenda McKinney, the Dog Superintendent. There is a discrepancy in what height dogs need to jump at County and State Fair. The dogs will need to jump at the higher level at State Fair but have never had to at County Fair because they haven't been measured before and the jump height is determined on the dog's height. There was some discussion on whether the Fair Board should enforce the State height that is outlined in the Competition Rules or not. Some felt the rules should be followed no matter what and other concerns were that it could have a negative effect on future participation and quality of the show if dogs were forced to jump at a height they have not been practicing at thus far. Wes made a motion to take the issue back to the Show Management Committee for further discussion and bring a recommendation back to the Board at the May meeting. Shawn seconded. Hayden and Gabe abstained. The motion passed.

Executive Committee- Wes gave a summary of the Budget Process meeting that occurred at the Executive Committee meeting. He explained how the Chairs should submit their requests and added the Executive is working on a proposal to bring to the Fair Foundation.

Old Business

2022 Budget Requests are being worked on at a committee level and need to be complete by the next Fair Board meeting, May 20 to be reviewed and final copies will be due to staff by Friday, May 21.

Pam and Lora volunteered to be on the Administrative Committee.

New Business

Dean would like to amend the Guidelines and Policies to move food vendors from the Entertainment Committee to the Guest Services Committee and camping from Show Management to Guest Services as well. Discussion followed. Most people who spoke were against the idea, but it was decided to table the motion until Dean could explain his reasoning to the rest of the Board.

Hayden made a motion to table the approval of the Competition Rules since most of the updates surrounded the dog project. Wes seconded. The motion passed.

Director Comments

John Anderson stated that the cattle drive will take place on July 30th and confirmed there will be the annual Fair & Rodeo parade.

Shawn let everyone know his kids would be participating in the Elbert County Fair this year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.