

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD

July 16, 2020

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:32pm on , July 16, 2020 by Pam Spradlin, Chairperson. The meeting was held virtually. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Board Members Present:**

*John Adams*  
*Ben Alderton*  
*Pat Candelaria*  
*Scott Candelaria*  
*Dean Elliott*  
*Sarah Fischer*  
*Jennifer Foss*  
*Wesley Jacobs*  
*Shawn McWhorter*  
*Debbie Mills*  
*Jack Orr*  
*Phil Riesselman*  
*Gabriel Ryan*  
*Hayden Schmidt*  
*Craig Sloan*  
*Pam Spradlin*  
*Lora Talbert*

**Associate Members Present:**

*Nick Candelaria*  
*Matt Coyle*  
*John Holst*  
*Laura Martin*  
*Patti Russell*  
*Anneliese Phippen*

**Staff Present:**

*Michelle Bartlett*  
*Synneva Knopp*  
*Luanne Lee*  
*Mike Ehmann*  
*Sharon Hines*  
*Kyle Christensen*  
*Kirsten Cowan*  
*Nicole Speeding*  
*Laurie Anderson*  
*Tony Spurlock*

**Board Members Absent:**

*Monty Anderson*  
*Arlie Gordon Jr.*  
*Tom Harris*

**Associate Members Absent:**

*Barry Borges*  
*Matt Coyle*  
*Darlene Craven*  
*John Holst*  
*Chayce Lutz*  
*Scott McHenry*  
*Kyle Moore*  
*Dick Sabulsky*  
*Jessica Smith*  
*Todd Spencer*  
*Phillip Woodrick*  
*John Woodrick*

**Staff Absent:**

*Barbara Drake*

**Other Guests:**

*Danny Talbert*  
*Jennifer Talbert*  
*Sophia Foss*  
*Mark Moore*

**Standing Members Present:**

*None*

**Public Meeting**

**Public Comment** – None

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes** – Scott moved to approve the June minutes. Sarah seconded— All approved.

**Treasurers Report** – Wes gave a report of the current status of the revenue and expenses. He recognized the Fair Foundation for their generous donation.

**Fair Management Report** – Luanne introduced the newest Fairgrounds employee, Sharon Hines. She informed the group that Douglas County already had a variance for large events so the variance request that was developed specifically for the Fair was not submitted. She explained that Commissioner Partridge spoke with Tri-County Health was received approval to have 500 people outside and 250 inside. Luanne read a statement regarding masks from the County’s Director of Communication and Public Affairs. Pat asked if the Livestock Sale could be increased to 250 people and Luanne said most likely no due to the set-up and limited space, but she would verify.

Michelle explained that the wristband plan for the 4-H shows has changed slightly- now members will receive one wristband for themselves and 2 for parents/guardians. She also explained that each Directors will receive one on grounds parking pass and associates will be asked to park in any of the surround lots and walk in. There are also masks with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo logo on them available for anyone who wants one.

Synneva gave an update on tickets sales, the food vendor schedule and Fair Board tickets. Each Fair Board Member can have 1 ticket for either Thursday or Sunday. Every Foundation Member will be offered the same, however, if a person is on both boards, there will be no duplicate tickets given. She also let everyone know that tickets will be sold in pods of 2,3,4,5,6.

**CSU Extension Director Report**

**4-H Council** – None.

**4-H Leaders Council** – None.

**Staff Report** – Kyle introduced the newest CSU Extension employee, Nicole Speeding. He explained that her focus would be STEM, after-school curriculum, Shooting Sports and General Projects. Pat Candelaria commended Nicole for doing a great job at the Shooting Sports Competition the previous weekend. Kyle agreed with Pat in saying that Shooting Sports went well, and he is honored to work with the Fair Board. Scott Candelaria echoed Pat in saying the staff did an outstanding job- He also thanked the Sherriff’s Department.

Kirsten Cowan stated she didn’t have anything to report other than the livestock and dog tests are completed, but the cat test still needs to happen. gave a general update on how their office is responding to the current restrictions in regard to 4-H events and that if the variance does go through, CSU will be able to fall in step with that. She also mentioned that there is a new agent at the Extension office, Nicole Speeding.

Pam thanked CSU for increased communication.

## **Guest Organization Reports**

**Fair Foundation-** Mark Moore stated the Fair Foundation had been meeting virtually much like the Fair Board had been. The Foundation will have their first in-person meeting at Heritage Plaza and fit the bricks from last year that were the incorrect size. The Wall of Honor Ceremony has been postponed until 2021. The Foundation has expressed enthusiasm for branching out into other species or maybe even sponsoring rocketry or drones. The Ghost Town Hoedown will be in the Events Center. It will not be a fundraiser and will simply focus on bringing the community together.

Mark reported that the Foundation unanimously voted on injecting \$50,000 into this year's Fair and are motivated to raise more money in 2021.

**FFA** – No report. Sarah Fischer explained that the FFA members could not officially participate in this year's Fair as an FFA member, but many are still interested in being involved.

## **Committee Updates**

**Fair Planning Committee-** Dean explained that he chaired the Fair Planning Committee, but it somewhat ceased to exist after awhile as all the planning was occurring in each individual committee. He said that he has been attending weekly meetings with Commissioner Partridge with County Staff and Pam to keep work real time on the variance.

Dean stated that the Sherriff's Department and Fairgrounds Staff have been working diligently on parking, security and ushers focusing on how to work through all the restrictions and protect the safety of the community.

**Guest Services Committee** – Dean reported that the committee is working closely with staff to determine the number of volunteers needed and the activities they will perform.

**Marketing Committee** – Debbie gave an update on sponsorships and thanked the Foundation for their contribution and said they will be well represented throughout the Fair & Rodeo. Debbie said she would make sure to let everyone know who the 2020 Sponsors are so everyone can make sure to thank them for their continued support.

For advertising, Debbie stated that the committee is focusing on advertising the 4-H Shows and Livestock Sale in working with the County to do 'Photo of the Day' posts. There is an opportunity to be livestreamed via the Cowboy Channel app, which would be a great way to gain exposure as a whole. Debbie reminded everyone the importance of wearing a mask to keep everyone healthy in addition to maintaining a good image in the public eye.

**Royalty-** Debbie let everyone know that 2 out of 4 girls are rolling over to 2021. Brooke and Shelby have other obligations. Aren't having a luncheon, but if you have a chance to thank them.

**Entertainment Committee** – Synneva stated that in meeting with Commissioner Partridge, he expressed wanting to have a band on the Midway Stage to play before the rodeo performance on Saturday and Sunday. He recommended a local band called Trouble Bound.

They will be playing for a duration of 90 minutes before each performance and stopping 30 minutes before the rodeo starts.

**Show Management Committee** – Scott spoke on the Infraction Sub Committee stating they were all involving the sign up for Fair and missing the deadline. 3 of the infractions were people who simply did not register on time and 1 was someone who did not think they would be able to participate originally, but then were able to. The first 3 infractions were allowed to enter and participate as normal. He stated that there was no defined grace period this year and the committee was more lenient this year since things were a little off due to COVID. Scott reminded everyone that he facilitates the meeting so doesn't get a vote.

Several Fair Board Members expressed that they disagreed with the decision and that a rule is a rule for a reason.

Ben gave updates on the 4-H shows that had passed and all upcoming shows. He stated that the steers who would participate in the Sale would stay on the Fairgrounds on Thursday night and all other Sale animals would come back to the Fairgrounds on Friday. Pat Candelaria said that she would be able to have the names of all the kids in the Sale by Friday morning, but wouldn't have the Sale order until much later in the day. Buyer holds will come to collect animals on Saturday morning and the rest will be taken to slaughter on Sunday as usual. Michelle reminded everyone the exhibitor packet went the night before and to let Ben, Hayden or herself know if they had any questions.

Luanne said that Ben and Hayden have been dedicating a lot of time the past couple of months and superintendents have really stepped up and been awesome. Ben thanked staff and superintendents.

Hayden said that it would be great for all Fair Board to make a presence and support all the shows in addition to walking through the barns.

Wes moved to approve the new shooting sports rules and have them added to the book; Scott seconded- the motion passed.

Ben reminded everyone that help is really needed on Sunday from 9:00am-1:00pm.

**Livestock Sale Committee** – Phil stated that the Mock Sale went very well and that although many people are performing new duties to keep everything under control given the current restrictions, everything seemed to go smoothly. and thanked the County for all their hard work in setting up. He said the Fairgrounds staff has gone above and beyond and have really helped the committees through this difficult time.

He stated that the committee is nervous having never done an online Sale before in addition to never working with Superior before, but they have a good reputation and there will be 3 representatives to help with the Sale.

Buyer communications are being sent out. Michelle invited everyone to take a flyer on instructions on how to register. Phil asked the Fair Board to help anyone who isn't computer savvy and make sure all their loyal buyers are able to register and participate.

Michelle said if anyone has any trouble, they can call the office and she will help register them as well.

He reminded everyone that buyer numbers won't be the same, add-ons won't be recognized and there will be no market floor or buy-backs.

Michelle reminded everyone that 4-H parents have to register in order to do add-ons.

**Rodeo Committee-** Craig stated that the rodeo committee had their first in-person meeting and went over the schedule and how following COVID-19 guidelines would impact the performances and contestants. He let everyone know that Mutton Bustin', Beyond the Dirt, Friday Rodeo Performance, ProRodeo Hall of Fame Inductions Weekend, Royalty Luncheon, Stick Horse Rodeo were all canceled.

He also reminded everyone that Hometown Rodeo entries will be taken July 20-22 and the draw will take place on Wednesday at 6:00pm in the basemen of the Extension Office.

**Executive Committee** – Pam reported that all that was discussed in Executive was already mentioned in all the other committee reports.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

### **Director Comments**

Phil stated that the Color Guard will be at the Sale, and Aspen edge is singing the national anthem.

Craig reminded the Board to wear their blue shirts on Thursday, White Saturday and Blue on Sunday. Red for the Sale.

Pam wanted to thank Staff for everything they have done and said making Fair happen this year was not an easy task. She asked about work day and Luanne said it's on the schedule, but there isn't a lot to do as there is on a typical work day.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm