



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- RODEO COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 AT 6:30 PM

KIRK HALL

MINUTES

Attendance: Craig Sloan, John Adams, Gabe Ryan, Scott Candelaria, Pat Candelaria, Jack Orr, Phillip Woodrick, Jennifer Foss, Debbie Mills, Synneva Knopp

Meeting

The Rodeo Committee went around the room reviewing everything they thought went well and things that need to be improved for 2021.

Successes of 2020

John Adams said he was thrilled the rodeo was able to happen for both the contestants stake as well as the fans. Even with the smaller audience, the people that came were very responsive, loud and true rodeo fans. He also stated that Hometown Rodeo went really well and changing the order of the events made things go more smoothly and he received a lot of positive comments about that. Gabe Ryan said he thinks the rodeo went really well considering all the restrictions that were in place.

Jack Orr said he thinks everything went well and that everyone better vote for Trump or there might not be a rodeo next year.

Scott Candelaria stated he hopes that contestant hospitality can go back to normal for 2021, but that Debbie did a great job for what she was able to do. Most rodeos didn't have hospitality, so all the contestants were very thankful there was anything at all.

Craig said he spoke to several first-time contestants and they said they were really impressed with the Douglas County rodeo and would be attending again in 2021. Everyone was very thankful for what the Rodeo Committee was able to put on.

Pat Candelaria said that Payson Peterson did a great job and that she would like to see him come back next year. She also said having the Cowboy Channel livestream the rodeo performances was awesome. She stated that Phillip Woodrick is going to be her backup for Hometown Rodeo and take care of things while she is gone. Hayden Schmidt volunteered to help Monty Anderson.

Synneva said the Rodeo Committee did a good job and thanked them for their work and flexibility. Debbie Mills gave a shout out to the County Staff and the County Commissioners because without their support, none of the successes the Fair Board has this year would have been possible. Debbie shared ticket sale and Cowboy Channel statistics in addition to providing a report from Susan Kanode. She also informed the group that the Mountain States Circuit Finals are not allowing any spectators but will communicate if there were any awards won.

Improvements for 2021

John Adams spoke with a Director from the Mountain States Circuit who let him know there was a problem with one of the chutes sticking and suggested that the manufacturer, Priefert, be contacted because they will fix it or trade it in for a new chute. John let the committee know that he has a call in to Priefert and will touch base with County Staff when he has more information.

Pat Candelaria said for next year that the teams for the Cowhide Race need to be staged on the same side every time because it makes it easier for the team in the Crows Nest to see what's happening and for the announcer. For example, the first team always needs to be staged on the left and the second team always on the right or vice versa. Just so it's consistent. She also reminded the committee that the banners need to be moved up on Chute Number 1 because Hayden wasn't able to jump up as quickly and get his footing.

Phillip Woodrick stated that the plastic signs that were added to the inside of the chutes did not hold up and recommended a different material is used next year. He also let the group know he noticed there were pieces of woods missing out of the slide gates and the chutes need to be inspected next year before the rodeo to make sure they are in good condition.

Jennifer Foss said that she spoke with a vet from Littleton Equine and she said that phone calls are a better way to communicate with the staff instead of emails. said that phone calls need to be made and not emails. She also mentioned that if COVID is still present for the 2021 Fair that the security company hired for the Fair needs to be given better instruction because they kept telling people to not gather in groups and to wear face masks even if they explained they were Fair Board Directors or helping their kids. She said the security company was even telling the vet and her family to move to the grandstands. She explained people were getting frustrated and offended. Debbie said that the vets should be treated like VIP's. John Adams said he was offended people wouldn't listen to the rules and they should have respected the parameters set in place that allowed Hometown Rodeo to take place.

Scott stated that the numbers on the outside of the bucking chutes need to be inspected because some of the screws were loose.

Other/Any Concerns Not Mentioned

Debbie Mills informed the committee that there is a slight possibility that the Hall of Fame may be still be hosted at Douglas County.

Jack Orr told the committee that he was at the Greeley Stampede and thought their replay screens were impressive and that they should look into getting something like that for their rodeo. He said they were very large and hung from cranes- John responded saying the County won't typically allow anything to be hung due to the liability. Jack said maybe the County should change their mind.

Next Meeting:

November 9, 2020