



## **DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- RODEO COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

**JAMES R. SULLIVAN EVENTS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOMS**

### **MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Tom Harris, Scott Candelaria, Debbie Mills, Hayden Schmidt, Jennifer Foss, Deb Dilley, Josiah Fredericks, Gabe Ryan, Michelle Bartlett, Gary Turner, Rob Tkach.

**Meeting:** John read aloud a thank you note from Summit Pro Rodeo.

**Pro Rodeo Tour:** John explained this year the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo will be included in the PRCA Pro Tour, also called the NFR Playoff Series. This honor comes with added media money from the PRCA in the sum of \$15,500; \$8,000 of which is required to go towards the contestant payouts, the other \$7,500 is to be used at the Rodeo Committee's discretion. Each rodeo that is in the Pro Tour was given the same amount of money. John stated that he spoke to Tim regarding the 2023 budget and whether it has been approved and it has not yet. As long as the budget request for 2023 are approved, the Rodeo Committee recommends using the additional \$7,500 for added purse money as well as adding an additional \$500 to make an even \$8,000 additional payout. More to come on this topic once the budget has been approved.

Michelle let the committee know that the Guest Services Committee is looking at raising ticket prices across the Fair. Michelle asked the committee if they would be comfortable with raising the ticket price for the rodeo performances. The Committee agreed that this would be acceptable with the increased cost of everything these days.

**Hospitality:** Debbie gave an update on plans for Cowboy Hospitality for 2023. The Committee is looking in to having Texas Roadhouse, Romo's Tacos, Angie's, and breakfast burritos again. Jennifer and Debbie met with the owners of Wide Open Saloon and they would like to look at bringing their pizza food truck on Thursday. The Committee agreed to keep the number of meals the same as last year. Debbie also brought up that they will need to find a solution for tables in the tent as the ones used in the past are no longer available.

**PRCA Youth Camp:** The PRCA has agreed to do the Youth Camp again this year. The Committee agreed to keep everything the same other than cutting back the time of the camp by one-hour, 12-3pm before to 12-2pm now. The Committee recommends not donating the

proceeds back to the PRCA for 2023. Michelle will confirm that a tractor will be available for the event as well.

**Recap of Volunteer Night:** Scott and Debbie agreed that the sponsored meal at The National Western Stock Show for contestants went well. There was a lot of support from Fair Board. The Committee would like to have a new banner or chloroplast sign made each year with our logo, dates, and stock contractor. The Committee also agreed that it would be great to coordinate what shirts the Committee wears if they sponsor again in 2024, possibly the denim shirts as no other rodeo committee wears denim shirts.

John let the Committee know that the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo took third place for our ground in our circuit for 2022. He will bring the plaque to Fair Board.

Deb asked the Committee if they would ever consider adding breakaway as an event during the PRCA rodeos. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of adding breakaway to each rodeo. Everyone agreed that now is not the time to add in the event as we would like to establish the rodeo within the ProTour first. There is also an issue of parking and space for the contestants as the Fairgrounds is landlocked.

**Next Meeting: March 1, 2023**

**Comments:**