

Minutes of Wednesday, May 17, 2023

El Paso County Fair Board Meeting

Board Members: Mel Trafton, Kate Watson, Grant Harris, Lou Taylor, Ed Dills, Don Watts, Mike Publicker, Amanda Hensen

Associate Members: Jennifer Gates, Jeff Lapsansky, Matt Zeiger

Staff: Carrie Geitner, Andschana Aljets, Seth Taylor, Adam Baker, Jonathan Vrabec

Guests: Patty Woodard

Excused Absence: Michael Miller, Dan Fields, Amanda Sorrell, Jimmy Cochran

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Kate Watson at 6:31 p.m. Everyone was welcomed and introduced. This meeting was held online via Teams.

Meeting Minutes

Mike Publicker made a motion to approve the April 2023 meeting minutes, 2nd by Grant Harris, the motion carried with approval.

Public Comments

No comments.

Board and Staff Comments

Grant Harris requested that any board member that needs a camping spot for the 2023 El Paso County Fair make a request as soon as possible.

Action Items:

5.A. Andschana Aljets presented the Volunteer Service Award and 4-H/FFA Award nominations. Andschana presented a nomination letter from Heidi Sellers, Calhan FFA Advisor, for Trevor Hendrix as the 4-H/FFA Award recipient. Motion to approve Trevor Hendrix's nomination was made by Don Watts, 2nd by Mike Publicker, and the motion was carried with approval. Andschana also presented a nomination letter from Fair and Events Center staff nominating Michael Publicker as the Volunteer Service Award recipient. Motion to approve Michael Publicker's nomination was made by Don Watts, 2nd by Amanda Hensen, and the motion carried with approval.

Fair Board Committee Reports

6.A. Adam Baker presented the Facilities and Grounds report. His report covered updates on a quote for the outdoor sound systems including PA speakers in the Grandstands Building and progress on water filters for the hog barn.

6.B. Andschana Aljets gave the Programming Committee report. Additional events have been confirmed for the fair including educational sessions and fair zone entertainment.

6.C. Seth Taylor gave the Vendor Committee Report. Vendor payments have continued to trickle in as the May 31st deadline approaches.

6.D. Andschana presented the Sponsorship Committee report. As requested, all in-kind sponsors have been added to the report.

6.E. Kate Watson gave the Marketing & Queen Committee report. Kate asked to send her any potential 2024 queen candidates as the applications will be opening soon.

Miscellaneous Reports

- A. Seth Taylor presented the Non-Fair Programming & Facility Use report. All board members were invited to the 2023 Summer Vibes concert on May 26th. Seth also recapped recent events on the grounds including Back to Eden classes and auto races.
- B. Jonathan Vrabec presented the 4-H report. Jonathan was proud to report that approximately twenty 4-H youth will represent El Paso County at state this year. 4-H is also excited to announce they will be searching for another county specialist and hope to have the position filled by August 2023.

Next Meeting: Fair Advisory Board meeting, June 21, 2023 @ 6:30pm – Swink Hall

Kate Watson adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.