

**NCW Fair Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 14, 2024**

<b>Members Present</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Adam Foged <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julia Goodman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Heidi Hedges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Johnson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Matthiesen <input type="checkbox"/> Marie Overton <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Schneider <input type="checkbox"/> Jesse Shafer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamey Jo Steele <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Margaret Viebrock <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Beidler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Whitehall <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheri Bock
<b>Staff</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Morley <input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Sanders	<input type="checkbox"/> Karina Angeles <input type="checkbox"/> Ramon Ramirez
<b>Guests</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the absence of President Adam Foged, and Vice President Jesse Shafer, Secretary Ann Whitehall called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m. She mentioned that if you have items to be added to the agenda, please do so. Adam had other commitments arriving midway through the meeting and resumed his responsibilities as President for the remainder of the meeting.

Sheri moved, and Becky seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 10, 2024. The minutes were previously emailed to all Board members. It passed unanimously. Jamey Jo offered to take minutes during the meeting tonight.

Carolyn gave a brief financial report. It has been a stressful budget season this year. We are projecting a small rollover balance on the 2024 budget.

**Old Business:**

1. Fair Board applications:
  - a. The Board of Commissioners approved Mark Johnson as a board member.
  - b. Liz Marlow will join the Operations Committee.

**New Business**

1. **Committee Reports:**
  - a. **Livestock Committee –**
    - There are five purchasers from the livestock sale who have not yet paid for their purchases totaling \$8,564.50. The sale brought in \$521,751.93 this year; add-on support totaled \$119,459.18 with purchases totaling \$402,292.75. the Livestock Committee will receive \$15,652.56 from the sale representing 3% of the proceeds.
    - Michalla Maupin, the superintendent for the goat barn, put together a proposal for the Livestock Committee to consider regarding allowing horned dairy goats to participate in the fair. She recently learned that 4-H has altered their governance stating that no Cloverbuds will be allowed to show horned goats because of

safety concerns. There are also discussions during committee meetings regarding potential changes to the structure of the Round Robin due to the numbers of participants. Once the Livestock Committee has resolved these to its satisfaction, presentation will be made to the Board for its discussion and decision.

- The renovation of the former Open Class Horse barn has gone about as far as it can presently. Adding a concrete surface opens the possibilities for use of the facility and increased exhibits and allow for sanitization of the surface. Our livestock exhibit numbers have increased considerably and we are at capacity in all existing barns. Utilization of this barn could ease concerns regarding how we decide who can come with their exhibit and turning away others. It was suggested further research be explored on this subject. Decaying boards at ground level were removed and replaced with pressure treated boards to seal the surface to eliminate entry by pigeons and other small critters. After talking with our vet regarding the elimination of biohazard risk, and to eliminate access risk, we have been exploring the cost and secure funding to cement the floor of the barn. Information recently information received indicated a cost of \$8.50 per square foot (estimated around \$27,000) to cover the 31' by 99' surface, before taxes and prevailing wage. The cost is closer to \$35,000 with those added expenses. Grant funding is being explored.
  - b. **Rodeo & Rodeo Committees** – This was not discussed.
  - c. **Entertainment** – The Thursday and Friday evening concerts are booked. Thursday's genre will be hip hop; Friday will be country. Artist names will be announced later.
  - d. **Operations** –
    - The focus group meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 16 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss early drop off (how it went, improvements, changes), online registrations, etc.
    - Superintendents are still needed for the arts and crafts building.
  - e. **Ramon's Report** --
    - The goat/sheep and hog barns have not yet been demolished. The bids came in at more than \$600,000 and are being reevaluated and will request another round of bids.
    - Baking barn update – the train people expressed interest in speaking about upgrades to their area with the fair board. Upgrades are on hold until the train is moved to avoid damaging it.
2. **Super positions needing filled:**
- Open Class Arts & Crafts. Carolyn reached out to Jennifer Andrade, who declined the position.

### **3. Upcoming events:**

- Cowboy Brunch will be held on December 7. They are finalizing the menu. Bob Brown and the FFA members from Mansfield will help again this year as they did last year.
- Cowboy Christmas will be held on December 14.

### **4. Budgeting Updates:**

- Carolyn submitted a proposal for parking lot improvements and the second phase of the horse stalls for the race area to the Board of Commissioners. Both requests were denied.
- Carolyn's proposal for the High-Country Music Festival was denied after having been initially approved.
- Cuts were made to the overall budget, and it was not balanced.
- The need for a paid position to work toward taking over the livestock sale was presented to the Board of Commissioners. After discussion and consideration, they decided to fund \$20,000 toward clerical help for Ann instead of funding a full position.
- Free gate admission on Thursday was approved providing sponsorship was in place to cover the lost revenue.

### **5. Nominating Committee:**

- Board members whose terms are expiring on December 31, 2024, are Ann Whitehall, Chance/now Mark Johnson, and Marie Overton.
- Margaret and Sheri are the leads for the nominating committee. They have met and discussed the need for nominees for the positions of Vice President and President. They propose Adam as Vice President and Leon as President. Voting will be held during the board meeting in January.
- Chance and Jesse have both resigned as board members and as members of the race and rodeo committee.
- There are two open board positions needing to be filled. Please contact Carolyn with suggestions for contacts.

Sheri made a motion that the Board does not meet during the month of December. Bill seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on January 9, 2025.

Ann Whitehall, Secretary