

**NCW Fair Board Meeting  
Thursday, October 12, 2023**

<b>Members Present</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Foged <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julia Goodman <input type="checkbox"/> Leon Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Hedges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chance Landon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Matthiesen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marie Overton <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Schneider <input checked="" 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"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ramon Ramirez
<b>Guests</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joshua Lair, WHRA	<input type="checkbox"/>

Adam called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He mentioned that if you have items to be added to the agenda, please do so.

Jamey Jo moved, and Jesse seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 14, 2023, as presented. The minutes were previously emailed to all Board members previously. It passed unanimously.

Carolyn gave a brief overview of the financial report, copies of which were provided to board members. A copy is attached to the Minutes. Storage is starting to come in.

**Old Business.**

1. **Capital Improvement Project Update** – All of the projects have been completed except for applying sealant to the wood on the new horse stalls and the deck of the beef scale.
2. **Fair Recap** – Final numbers are not yet complete from this year’s fair. Based upon the figures included in the Budget to Actual provided to members, it has been a successful year. Many income categories exceeded budgeted amounts. For the most part expenses were kept in check.
  - a. **Event recap**
    - i. **Big Air** – this was successful and well received. Depending upon the concert situation during the 2024 fair, we may schedule this event for another date.
    - ii. **Concert** – It appeared that everyone enjoyed the concert. They were personable and seemed to enjoy being there. The stage worked well but is more expensive. The situation this year with the artists was an anomaly.
    - iii. **Race & Rodeo** – More tickets were sold for Sunday than usual, which made up for the shortage of sales on Saturday. Things moved along well.

- iv. **Livestock Sale** – This was successful again this year. Checks are coming in from purchasers. When sufficient funds have been received to cover the expense to exhibitors, payment will be issued to them.
- v. **G.O.A.T. Experience** – This was well received. It would be wonderful to further expand the experience, but we need to use smaller goats and without horns.
- b. **Department of Ag Evaluation** – Carolyn has challenged the fact that we had no modern-day farm equipment on display and one other area. She was successful in overcoming those deficiencies in the report.
- c. **Barn Supers and Judges** – Carolyn would like to schedule a “super school” on site in early spring and invite barn supers and assistants. We can brief them on procedures, expectations, etc. We would like to obtain some new judges for some still life areas and perhaps some training and expectations can be provided to them as well.
- d. **Safety Issues** – We need to form a committee, or assign someone the responsibility to check that batteries in AEDs are operational; fire extinguishers are inspected, etc. This may become part of the responsibility of the Operation/Safety Committee.
- e. **Issues that need to be addressed before 2024** –
  - i. Potential acquisition of additional AED units.
  - ii. Someone on-site during move-in weekend with the full-time responsibility for camping areas.
  - iii. Camping registration – no more “grandfathered in” spots. Open registration to the public for registration on a first come, first served basis. If a larger spot is needed, they need to be sure to purchase two next to each other.
- f. **Positive notes** – Notes received from East Wenatchee Grange were forwarded to the barn superintendents to whom they were addressed.
- 3. **WSFA Convention** – This will be held in Pasco, WA on October 19 through 21. There is an option available for attendance on Super Saturday only. If you are interested, please let Carolyn know. Those registered are Ann, Lori, Adam, Carolyn, Ramon, Karina, and Nikki.

## **New Business.**

1. **Guest presentation by Joshua Lair, President of Pro WHRA (Wild Horse Racing Association).**

Joshua mentioned that he is a 4-time World Champion in the sport, the oldest rodeo sport. They have their own liability insurance; they have an affiliation with the Wounded Warrior Project to raise money for PTSD. Placings are paid first, which is backed up with time. They use the “three jump rule” and use a break away rope. If we pay now, the sanction fee is \$150. Horses must weigh 1,000 pounds at a minimum. It is mandatory

that a vet is on site and that they complete a survey of the event. Back numbers would be provided to use with our logo. The purse expectation is \$1,000 for rookie only; different purses for a rookie/veteran team. There is one event each day.

## 2. Committee Reports:

- Livestock Committee -- A copy of the Minutes from the Livestock Committee meeting held on August 31, 2023, were previously emailed to board members for review regarding proposed amendments to various portions of the registration guide, as follows:
  - An increase in the minimum weight for beef was proposed increasing the minimum weight from 1,000# to 1,100# as well as an increase to the maximum weight from 1,550# to 1,600#. After discussion, Margaret made the motion to approve this modification, it was seconded by Bill. The motion passed.
  - Due to space limitations for beef, it was proposed that verbiage be included regarding registration of multiple beef per exhibitor. We'd like to include the stipulation that multiple animals may be denied depending upon capacity of the barn. There was a total of 57 beef registered this year. Jesse made the motion to approve the verbiage addition under livestock rules; Chance seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
  - Under livestock rules regarding beef, the registration guide currently states that scurs longer than 2" will not be permitted. We propose to add the following statement: **If there is a question about scurs you will be asked to leave the check-in line. Scurs will be measured. If scurs exceed 2", your animal will be rejected at check-in, and you will not be allowed to participate in any events with that animal.** Jesse made the motion to approve the modification to the verbiage; Chance seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
  - Due to space limitations for swine, it was proposal to allow each exhibitor bringing swine to register only one animal. There are 74 stalls in the swine barn; we had 94 swine registered this year. Bill made the motion to include verbiage in the registration guide limiting the number of swine one exhibitor may register; Sheri seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
  - It was proposed that an increase to the maximum weight for swine be increased from 290# to 310#. The minimum weight of 235# would remain as previously stated. Bill made the motion to increase the maximum weight for swine; Sheri seconded the motion. The motion passed.
  - The schedule for goats on Thursday and Friday has proven to be unworkable for several years. It was proposed that the schedule be revised as follows:
    - Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. – market judging, FFA, 4-H, and Grange Youth.

- Thursday 12:00 noon – fitting and showing for FFA, 4-H, and Grange Youth (senior and intermediates only)
- Friday morning 9:00 a.m. – fitting and showing for FFA, 4-H, Grange Youth (clover-buds/beginners, and juniors only); also, Open Class, all ages.
- Friday 12:00 noon == conformation
- Friday afternoon 4:00 p.m. – Round Robin

Bill made the Motion to revise the schedule as detailed; Lori seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- It was proposed that the entry time for livestock be made consistent with the schedule for entering other exhibits. Jesse made the motion to permit the registration of livestock beginning at 1:00 p.m. (rather than 3:00 p.m.); Sheri seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- It was proposed that verbiage be included in the General Rules for Livestock section of the registration guide that all Quality Assurance paperwork must be in the hands of the barn superintendent by Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. Failure to do so will result in rejection from participation with their animal in market judging to qualify for the livestock sale. A motion by Jesse to include the foregoing verbiage in the General Rules for Livestock in the registration guide; Sheri seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Quality Assurance paperwork is supposed to be completed at the time the exhibitor purchases/acquires the animal from the breeder/seller.
- Margaret requested that information be provided to her as soon as possible so that it can be disseminated through the 4-H information system to exhibitors, as well as updating the registration guide.
- Race & Rodeo – Chance and Becky had nothing to report.
- Entertainment – Adam mentioned that he and Carolyn would be meeting with Romeo on Friday during the WSFA convention in Pasco.
  - The concert went well. Adam is going to the State Fair Convention and will work toward trying to get entertainment lined up for next year.
- Operations/Safety – There was nothing to report.

### 3. Upcoming Events:

- Cowboy Brunch, December 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - Food by donation
  - A sponsor was obtained for photos; also looking for other sponsors.
  - Looking for volunteers to help.
  - This is included in the budget and must be held to fund budgeted purses.
- Cowboy Christmas, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are on sale now.
  - Western theme Vendor opportunity (food & merchandise)
  - NFR finals watch party.

- Horse trailer bar.
- Western theme.
- Age 18+.
- Looking for volunteers.
- Friends of Fair will be able to apply for the liquor license. Ann is to contact Danika Frasier to see if she would be interested in bartending.

**4. Future events on the calendar for 2024:**

- Dueling pianos, April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Junk Rodeo, June 1<sup>st</sup> (vendor sale; all things eclectic)
- Monster Trucks & Freedom, June 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Women’s Event (name TBD), July 13<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Future events to get on the calendar:**

- Volunteer Appreciation Event
  - Proposed dates: any weekend in February
- Super School/Judge Training
  - March 30<sup>th</sup>? Or a weekday evening?

**6. Budget Presentation:** Carolyn has presented the proposed budget to the Commissioners for 2024. A copy was provided to members of the Board. Although there may be some minor adjustments, she believes that it is complete.

**7. Department of Ag Grant Submission:** Ramon reported that the Commissioners, as well as the Friends of the Fair, are on board to provide some matching funds in support of the Fair’s grant request submitted to the WSDA. Three projects were proposed:

- Goat/Sheep/Swine building
- Roof replacement on 4-H building
- Remodel of Maudes bathroom.

**8. Rate increase for Community Hall rentals:**

- \$2,000 increased to \$2,500 for a 3-day rental.
- Removal of off-season rate.

There being no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m. The next meeting will be held on November 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Ann Whitehall, Secretary