

NCW Fair Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2023

Members Present		
<input type="checkbox"/> Christy Asmussen <input 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 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
Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Morley <input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Sanders	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Ramon Ramirez
Guests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Due to the absence of Adam, Jesse called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. He mentioned that if you have items to be added to the agenda, please do so.

Jamey Jo moved, and Margaret seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 10, 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.

- Concessions went well; Vendors went well; sponsorship exceeded expectations; race & rodeo events exceeded anticipated revenue.

Old Business – Not discussed.

New Business.

1. Committee Reports:

- Livestock Committee:
 - The fair went well in the livestock area. The barns were full, and things went smoothly.
 - We are working to obtain Judges for next year at this time; under contract or agreed to come back are sheep, goat, and beef. Betsy is working to get a horse judge lined up. Jamey Jo has a line on a swine judge; Sheila is providing a name for a poultry judge to give John Bryant a break, and we hope to have the same rabbit judge here again next year.
 - A brief discussion was held regarding the details of the horned steer that was turned away from the fair.
 - The youth livestock sale was again the biggest one yet. Thus far add-ons total over \$113,00; in addition, the livestock sale brought in over \$301,500.

- A copy of the minutes from the livestock committee meeting held on August 31 was previously emailed to board members. We would like to present items noted for discussion at the October board meeting.
- Race & Rodeo
 - The committee is working to produce ways to make things easier for us after the Monster Truck event.
 - The track was rolled after the concert.
- Entertainment:
 - 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/Ag Evaluation:
 - The fair went well; many positive comments were received regarding the renovated exhibit buildings.

2. Capital Improvements and Project Updates:

- All projects have been completed except for the second layer of chip-seal on the parking lot.
- We will apply for a safety grant from WSDA to be able to construct a new goat/sheep building.
- Ramon has plans to take the carpet off the walls in the Community Hall.
- The plywood on the new horse stalls will be stained/sealed soon. While that is in process, it would be good to seal the surface of the beef scale as well.
- Becky asked about the potential to repair or replace the bathrooms across from the grandstands. There is currently no money available for a project of that magnitude.
- Carolyn mentioned the possibility of obtaining \$1,000 from the Friends of the Fair to be used for Superintendents to “request funds from” if there is a project that needs to be completed in their area. The most deserving project would be granted the request. Guidelines would need to be made as well as a committee formed to make decisions for awards.

3. Fair Recap:

- Big Air was a success; consideration is being made about having it back again.
- The concert was enjoyed by all who attended. The artists were nice, genuine people. The stage expense was worth it.
- Race and Rodeo – attendance numbers were down about 100 on Saturday but it was up about 200 on Sunday.
- The G.O.A.T. show went well. 7 were registered; 5 competed. This is something we hope to continue to build upon going forward. We learned that we need to use smaller goats and hopefully some without horns.

- The Department of Agriculture evaluation was favorable. There are some areas Carolyn intends to challenge during the upcoming convention. Areas of focus as reported last year may have worked against us when we focused upon them.
- Barn supers and judges – In the spring Carolyn would like to hold a “super school.” All the superintendents from this year plan to return next year.
- Safety issues – we need a couple more AEDs around the fairgrounds. They need to remain in designated spots (in areas of high concentrations of fairgoers), so they are easy to locate if needed. We should check with the Masons to see if they might be interested in potentially funding this project. Discussion ensued regarding the formation of a “Safety Committee” to assume responsibility for routine maintenance of fire extinguishers, AEDs, so that they always remain in good working order.
- Issues that need addressed before 2024 -- camping. Spaces cannot get “bigger” unless we reduce the number of available spaces, or we encourage folks to purchase two spaces. We need to have a volunteer who is dedicated entirely to camping. They would need to remain on site during “move-in” weekend and during the fair to manage problems, issues, etc.
- Positive notes
 - Correspondence was received from Lee Hemmer thanking everyone who intervened on his behalf during his medical event.
 - Correspondence was received from the members of the East Wenatchee Grange Youth group thanking the Board for their support of the Grange this year.

4. Washington State Fair Association Convention – let Carolyn know if you are interested.

- The convention will be held October 19 through 21 in Pasco, WA
- There is an opportunity to attend only “Super Saturday.”

There being no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. The next meeting will be held on September 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Ann Whitehall, Secretary