

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING - APRIL 3, 1973

CALL TO ORDER
AND ATTENDANCE

Washington County Commissioners hosted a special meeting for the Fair Board, County Department Heads and the Press. The session was called to order by Max Rolih, County Administrator at 12:10 p.m. at the Copperstone Restaurant in Hillsboro. Mr. Rolih welcomed the Fair Board.

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Earl Adams
Dr. Ken McGough
Jim Springer
Joe VanDyke
Joe Evers
Dick Jossy
Ad-line Hesse

WASHINGTON COUNTY OFFICIALS AND PRESS

Max Rolih, Jr., County Administrator
Burt Wilson, County Commissioner
Virginia Dagg, County Commissioner
Rod Roth, County Commissioner
Ken Meng, Dept. of Public Works
Dan Potter, Unified Sewage Agency
Fred Leutwyler, Dept. of Finance
Martin Cramton, Dept. of Planning
Ed Sullivan, County Counsel
Miles Green, Reporter
Lance Mushew, Reporter

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Rolih introduced Mr. Jossy who in turn introduced the Fair Board by name and position held. Jossy said briefly that we have problems and need the help of the County Commissioners to solve these problems.

PROBLEMS THE FAIR
BOARD ARE FACING

Mr. Earl Adams, Chairman of the Fair Board gave a review of problems since new Commissioners were meeting with the Fair Board for the first time. Adams told those present that a number of citizens have been working to establish an Exposition Building on the grounds to facilitate a growing need of recreational demands the Fair Board is receiving. Usage of the present site in 1972 excluding the Fair itself was approximately 120,000. Fair week usage to be at 40,000. Adams stated that we have meet with the Board of Portland Community College on three occasions. The Rock Creek site at the present time is deemed poor because of access problems and lack of sewer and water.

PROBLEMS OF FAIR
GROUNDS

The lack of money was cited as the current problem for improving the buildings and the present site. The most urgent need being adequate sewer and drain systems. Dr. McGough said that the Fair Board Members personally sign notes to the bank and borrow money to keep operating.

OREGON TAX LAW FOR
MAINTAINING THE FAIR
GROUNDS

State Law (565.330) states that in any county the county court may, at the time of making the annual estimate of the county levy for county purposes, include in the estimate and levy a sum not exceeding one one hundred-sixtieths of one percent (.0000625) of the true cash value of all taxable property within the County, to cover the cost of maintaining the county fair grounds and buildings, erecting new buildings and general operating expense. The tax shall be collected in the same manner as other taxes are collected, shall be placed in a special fund to be known as the fair fund and warrants drawn thereon by the county fair board. For Washington County this would gain the fair approximately 108,000. County Counsel, Ed Sullivan cautioned that the Expo Center could cause the Fair to make a profit. The Commissioners felt any funding would have to be outside the 6% limitation because of the County financial problems, thereby requiring a vote.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
CITY OF HILLSBORO CON-
CERNING SEWER HOOK UP

Dr. McGough stated he was a member of the Hillsboro Park and Recreation Committee as well as a Fair Board member and that the Fair Board has discussed some of the following ideas with the City of Hillsboro. In lieu of the \$22,000 the County owes the City the Fair Board would negotiate a long term lease of development of 14 plus acres of ground for 4 lighted ball fields, restrooms, blacktop and storm drainage. All the items to be negotiated.

MEETING DATE
PORT OF PORTLAND

The Port of Portland will hold a meeting with the County Commissioners on April 10, 1:00 p.m. at the Court house. The Fair Board was invited to attend. Jossy told the Commissioners of meetings held years back and said the Fair Board is willing to negotiate any reasonable trade or sale of land as it had been willing in the years past.

PRESENT SITE OF THE
FAIR GROUNDS

Commissioner, Burt Wilson asked the Fair Board members their views on moving the fair grounds to a different location. All Fair Board members favored the present site as it was central in location, people of the County have invested many donations of time and funds in the site, and all felt that the open space was needed. Rod Roth, Commissioner said that he was not suggesting moving the fair but would like an improvement in the present site.

COUNTY BUDGET
APPROPRIATION

Fred Leutwyler, of the County Finance Department said the Fair Board does have a request in the budget for sewer and drainage. The County budget hearing will take place on May 2, 1973. Time and place to be announced. If approved the Fair Board could proceed with plans immediately following budget approval and money would be released July 1, 1973. Mr. Rolih said that someone from the Health Department would be called to a meeting to check status quo of the current problem in connection with holding a fair this year.

QUARTERLY FAIR BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Mr. Rolih said he felt that the Commissioners would find time to meet on a quarterly basis if the Fair Board desired. All present agreed we must meet to keep communication open and to exchange ideas and make decisions on policy areas. Mrs. Dagg, County Commissioner said that in order to resolve the present problems she would be willing to take necessary measures to close the communications gap.

LONG - RANGE PLANNING
MEETING

Mr. Rolih will organize a meeting between county staff members, representatives from the fair board and the City of Hillsboro to begin plans to correct current problems and work on a long range plan for the present fair site.

I.E.D. BUILDING ON
FAIR GROUNDS

Mr. Al Unruh has indicated an interest in moving the I.E.D. Offices from Hillsboro to the fair grounds. Rolih said I.E.D. would need approximately 25000 square feet of space. Fair Board is willing to work with the County and I.E.D. Officials.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed at 1:20 p.m. as the County Commissioners had a meeting scheduled at the Court House at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline C. Hesse

Adeline C. Hesse, Secretary
Washington County Fair Board