

# NOTICE OF MEETING

**Washington County Fair Complex Board of Directors**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2009, at 4:30 p.m.**

**NEW LOCATION: CLOVERLEAF BUILDING-**

**Washington County Fair Complex**

**873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hillsboro, OR 97124**

Matt Pihl, President

Don McCoun, Vice-President

Herbert Hirst, Board Member

Dan Logan, Treasurer, Booster Liaison

Renee Cannon, Board Member

Andy Duyck, Washington County Commissioner and Fair Board Ex-Officio

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The Washington County Fair Complex Board is comprised of seven members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Each Fair Complex Board member is appointed for a three-year term.

The Fair Complex Board has the exclusive management of the grounds, and all other property owned, leased, used or controlled by the County and devoted to the use of the Fair Complex, and is entrusted and charged with the entire business management, and financial and other affairs of the Fair Complex.

The Fair Complex, a division of the County, produces the annual County Fair and manages year-round facilities rented for consumer shows, public expositions and special gathering. The Fair Complex Board meets monthly or as necessary, develops the Fair Complex's annual operating budget, and provides overall policy direction for the management of Fair Complex activities and facilities. The Fair Complex's day-to-day activities are the responsibility of the Complex Executive Director, who serves at the pleasure of the Fair Board.

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), this material, in alternate formats, or special accommodations for the meeting, will be made available by calling (503) 648-1416 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting

All public meetings are recorded.

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## **Current Meeting Schedule**

Unless otherwise noted, Fair Complex Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. in the Cloverleaf Building at the Washington County Fair Complex, 873 N.E. 34th Avenue, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124.

## **Regular Business Meetings**

Regular business meetings are the time during which the Fair Complex Board will consider the items published in their Board Agenda at the times noted above.

Generally, Board Meetings are scheduled to last no longer than two hours. At the discretion of the Board Chair, agenda items may be deferred to a later date if more discussion or consideration is required.

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## **Quorum**

To take formal action on any agenda item, a majority of Board members must be present. Once a quorum is established, at least a majority of these members present must vote in the affirmative to move an action or motion.

The Board can still conduct business and discuss agenda items without a quorum present. However, no formal action can take place until a quorum of the Board is in attendance.

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## **Executive Sessions**

There are times when the Fair Complex Board must discuss confidential matters such as lawsuits, real estate transactions (or other sales transactions) and labor relations matters. When the Board calls an executive session (posted on the agenda), it is done under the guidelines allowed for by Oregon State law. Each type of executive session generally fits under one of three types of State Laws that allow such closed sessions. These statutes are indicated on the agenda. Although the press is allowed to remain in the room, they are not allowed to report on executive session issues. The Board recognizes the sensitivity of conducting closed sessions and only conducts them when confidentiality is required (and allowed by law) to protect the interests of the Fair Complex, Washington County and its residents.

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## **Once the Regular Business Meeting Begins**

The Fair Complex Board's formal meetings typically include the following elements:

1. **Call to Order:** At the start of the Board meeting, the Chair (or Vice Chair) of the Board will call the meeting to order. All matters noticed and listed on the agenda, in any category, may be considered for action in any order at the discretion of the Board Chair. Items not so noticed may be discussed at the discretion of the Board Chair, but cannot be considered for action.

**2. Oral Communications for Agenda and Non-Agenda Items** (Fifteen Minute Limit): This is the time when members of the audience may step forward to address the Board on agenda and non-agenda items. This opportunity is time-limited to two (2) minutes per individual at the first Oral Communications period which has a total maximum time of 15 minutes. The second Oral Communications period at the end of the meeting is time-limited to 5 minutes per individual with a total maximum time of 30 minutes for the session. Individuals providing written testimony are requested to provide 15 copies.

**3. General Consent**, also known as **Unanimous Consent**, is a situation when the presiding officer asks if there are objections to a pending motion, rather than taking a formal vote. General Consent eliminates the need for formal votes on matters such as routine procedural questions in which the existence of a consensus is likely. The chair may state, for instance: "If there is no objection, the motion will be adopted. [pause] Since there is no objection, the motion is adopted" On the most routine matters the chair may shorten this statement to four words: "Without objection, so ordered" or even to two words: "Without objection." If no member objects then the motion is adopted, but if any member does declare his opposition then the motion is not adopted and cannot be agreed to without a vote. If any member objects, the chair must state the question on the motion, allow any desired debate and put the question in the regular manner. General Consent does not necessarily imply that every member is in favor of the proposed action; it may only mean that the opposition, feeling that it is useless to oppose or discuss the matter, simply acquiesces. Similarly, when a member objects they may not necessarily oppose the motion itself, but may believe that it is wise to take a formal vote under the circumstances.

**4. Consent Agenda:** The items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be adopted in one motion unless a Board member requests, before the vote on the motion, to have the item considered separately. If any item is removed from the Consent Agenda, the Chair will indicate when it will be discussed in the regular agenda.

**5. Regular Agenda Items:** Unless otherwise noted, regular agenda items will follow in the order listed on the agenda.

**6. Adjournment:** At the conclusion of the items on the Board's agenda, the Board Chair will formally conclude the Board's regular business.

## **Meeting Protocol**

The Fair Complex Board welcomes public attendance and participation at its meetings. Anyone wishing to speak on an agenda or non-agenda item at a regular business meeting should feel free to do so. In doing so, the Board asks that the following guidelines be observed:

1. Please follow sign-in procedures located on the table by the entrance to the meeting room.
2. When your name is announced, please be seated at the table in front and state your full name, home address and organization represented, if any, for the record.
3. Groups or organizations wishing to make a presentation are asked to designate one spokesperson in the interest of time and to avoid repetition.
4. When more than one citizen is heard on any matter, please avoid repetition in your comments. Careful attention to the previous speaker's remarks will be helpful in this regard.
5. Individuals providing written testimony are requested to provide 15 copies.

# NOTICE OF MEETING

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Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

**NEW LOCATION: CLOVERLEAF BUILDING**, Washington County Fair Complex  
873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hillsboro, OR 97124

Matt Pihl, President

Don McCoun, Vice-President

Herbert Hirst, Board Member

Dan Logan, Treasurer, Booster Liaison

Renee Cannon, Board Member

Andy Duyck, Washington County Commissioner & Fair Board Ex-Officio

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**A. Call to Order**

**B. Approval of Agenda—APPROVE BY GENERAL CONSENT**

**C. Oral Communications for Agenda and Non-Agenda Items (Fifteen Minute Limit)**

This is the time when members of the audience may step forward to address the Board on agenda and non-agenda items. This opportunity is time-limited to two (2) minutes per individual. The maximum time for Oral Communications is 15 minutes. Individuals providing written testimony are requested to provide 15 copies.

**D. Approval of Minutes—APPROVE BY GENERAL CONSENT**

**E. Special Reports**

1. Airshow Report—Don McCoun, Board Member
2. Booster/Coalition Liaison – Dan Logan, Board Member
3. Treasurer's Report – Dan Logan, Board Member
  - A. Financial Statements (PDF)
    - Monthly Financial Reports & Balance Sheets – March 2009 (PDF)-**ACTION ITEM: MOTION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED**
    - Other, if any
4. 4-H Report-Pat Willis, OSU/4-H Youth Development Faculty
5. Operations Report-Staff (PDF)
6. Other, if any

**F. Old Business**

1. Redevelopment Update—Details on format for Revitalization Task Force Meeting on May 7, 2009 (PDF)
2. Other, if any

**G. New Business**

1. Discussion on Fair Complex On-Line Information
2. Boosters Request for Guest Services at 2009 Fair (PDF)
3. Boosters Proposal for Fountain Fence (PDF)

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***H Announcements***

1. Calendar of Events (PDF)
2. Facility Schedule for May, 2009 (PDF)
3. Other, if any

***I. Correspondence***

1. Letters and Cards, if any (PDF)
2. Other, if any

***J. Board Oral Communications***

***K. Other Matters of Information***

1. Boosters Meeting Minutes – (April, 2009 not provided yet)
2. Boosters Historical Piece (PDF)
3. Newspaper Articles (PDF)
4. Other, if any

***L. Oral Communications for Agenda and Non-Agenda Items (Thirty Minute Time Limit)***

This is the time when members of the audience may step forward to address the Board on agenda and non-agenda items. This opportunity is time-limited to five (5) minutes per individual. The maximum time for Oral Communications is 30 minutes. Individuals providing written testimony are requested to provide 15 copies.

***M. Executive Session***

In accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (h), to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of the Board with regard to litigation or litigation likely to be filed; in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (e), to deliberate with persons designated by the Board to negotiate real property transactions; and/or in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (a), (b), (h), or (i), to discuss, review and evaluate employee-related matters. Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (3), it is Board's request that the items discussed not be disclosed by media representatives or others.

***N. Adjourn***

**Minutes**  
**Washington County Fair Complex Board**  
**Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

**Convened:** 4:30 pm

**FAIR COMPLEX BOARD:**

President Matt Pihl  
Vice President Don McCoun  
Treasurer Dan Logan  
Board Member Renee Cannon  
Board Member Herb Hirst

**STAFF:**

Leah Perkins-Hagele, Fair Manager  
Lisa DuPre', Marketing/Events Manager

- A. Call to Order** - President Pihl called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., and noted for the record that all board members are present.
- B. Approval of Agenda** – President Pihl called for any additions or changes to the agenda. Pihl requested that an Airshow report be added under Special Reports.
- C. Consideration of Ex-Officio Position** - President Pihl asked the board for consideration for an ex-officio position and asked County Commissioner Duyck to come forward. County Commissioner Andy Duyck thanked the board for consideration. Duyck explained that over the years there has been a lot of miscommunication in both directions between both boards and this can be dealt with by having him sit on the Fair Board as a non-voting member and be able to answer questions and provide input. This would provide a tie-in between the County Commissioners and the Fair Board.

**Motion by Board Member Hirst to add an ex-officio position to the Fair Board and to appoint Commissioner Duyck. Second by Board Member Cannon. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion to by Board Member McCoun to amend the previous motion by adding the wording that the ex-officio position is to be held by a County Commissioner. Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Duyck joined the Fair Board.

**D. Oral Communications** - President Pihl opened Oral Communications.

1. Jerry Anderson – Washington County Master Gardeners. Anderson gave the board an update on the improvements to the garden area. Anderson explained that originally they were going to have an orchard, now they are going to do a backyard garden to show people how to grow their own food. The Master Gardeners have also been maintaining the landscaping around the Floral building and noted that it is labor intensive. They would like to change the landscaping to an edible garden bed and widen the beds around the gazebo which would complement the fruit and vegetable areas. Anderson requested that the Fair Board have volunteers wash and re-paint the gazebo. Anderson also noted that the food is given to the local food bank. Discussion ensued regarding the master plan.

Pihl closed oral communications.

**E. Approval of Minutes** - President Pihl requested a few spelling and grammar errors in the minutes be corrected. Pihl also requested that the minutes be recorded in a digital format so he could compare them to the transcribed minutes to make sure they match up.

**Motion by Board Member Hirst to approve the March 2009 minutes as corrected. Second by Board Member McCoun. Motion carried 5 -0.**

**F. Special Reports**

1. **Booster Report** – Board Member Logan noted that he was unable to attend the last Booster meeting, but the minutes are in the packet. Board Member Cannon asked about the safety fence that was referenced in the minutes. Logan reported that the fence that surrounds the fountain has been determined to be insufficient. The Boosters are looking at alternatives.
2. **Treasurers Report** – Board Member Logan reported that the financial statements are in the packet and has nothing further to add. Board Member Cannon asked about the Fair Funding. Fair Manager Perkins reported that the status is unknown at this time; however the Oregon Fairs Association lobbyist is reporting that it does not look good. Cannon suggested that this would be a good topic for our Booster group to rally on. Logan noted that the Department of Agriculture is being hit the hardest. President Pihl requested a list of all the expenditures in line item 981000.51285.

**Motion by Board Member McCoun to approve the February 2009 financial statement. Second by Board Member Hirst. Motion carried 5 -0.**

3. **4-H Report** – Pat Willis reported that the Livestock Committee has been meeting every two weeks and there will be a lot of changes for this year. So far about 650 kids are registered and they are expecting about another 100 and they have 200 volunteers. Statistics show that volunteers put in 50-100 hours per year per child. Board Member McCoun asked if the staff could get a

report on how many hundreds of hours are being donated for future reference. Willis noted that in Oregon 1 in 5 kids are involved in 4-H. Board Member Logan asked about 4-H facility use. Discussion ensued.

4. **Operations Report** – Fair Manager Perkins noted that the report is in the packet. Marketing Manager DuPre’ reported that she just secured our facility as a stop on the upcoming Warped Tour.
5. **Airshow Report** – Vice President McCoun reported that this year will be a spectacular Airshow. Robosaurus will be back along with Shawn Tucker, the Thunderbirds and the Dignity Wall. The dates are August 28, 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Other, if any** – None

#### G. Old Business

##### 1. Redevelopment Update –

President Pihl asks about the status of the structures. Fair Manager Perkins explained that County Legal and Administrative Staff gave a stand-down order so nothing is being proceeded with at this time.

#### **Motion by Board Member Logan to reconsider last month’s motion for removal of the six structures. Second by President Pihl.**

Board Member Logan asked why staff discontinued the removal of the facilities; they are bound to follow Fair Board action. Board Member Hirst said that the buildings belong to the county not to the Fair Board and that his motion should have been to make the recommendation for the actions to the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Duyck reported that Hirst was correct. The correct process needs to be followed. Board Member Cannon said that she has a problem with rescinding the motion. Cannon stated that she believes that the Fair Board carries the liability even though the Fair Board doesn’t own the structures. The professional report stated that these buildings are unsafe and would only consider rescinding last months motion if the Fair Board doesn’t have a problem with fencing these structures off and not using them for the Fair. Vice President McCoun said that the electrical in the barns could be corrected and asked staff to get cost estimates. Hirst recommended that the Fair Board send a letter to the Board of County Commissioners that would indicate our priorities and state our recommendations. Hirst gave examples such as taking down the announcer stand and using scaffolding, taking down the chuckwagon and having the vendor provide a trailer, taking down the booster booth because it is a health and safety issue. Hirst said to let the Board of County Commissioners make the decision. Hirst agreed that the electrical in the barns needs to be dealt with, this needs to be indicated to the Board of County Commissioners, as well as the scabbed-together sections needing to be removed. Hirst also suggested that they recommend that the ball fields be sold off since the city doesn’t want them. President Pihl stated that the time-line is so far off. If the Fair Board is creating a saleable position, the

motion needs to be rescinded or modified. Cannon asked Commissioner Duyck, less the recommendation regarding the ball fields, is this type of recommendation what the Board of County Commissioners is looking for. Duyck stated that yes; this is what they are looking for. The recommendations need to include financing as well. Cannon stated she would not vote to rescind the motion. Hirst requested that a letter with these recommendations signed by the Fair Board be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners. Hirst also requested a second letter, regarding the possibility of selling the ball fields and using the revenue to build a new exhibition building, be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners. Duyck asked that this be kept separate. The second letter requires more leg-work and would have to include exactly how much money could be made if the ball fields are sold and exactly what would be built. The Board of County Commissioners could then carry it to the Task Force. McCoun stated that he would not vote for the motion on the floor to rescind the earlier motion, it was too hard to get the motion in the first place. Logan said that staff is still under obligation to carry out the orders of the Fair Board. Hirst suggested that the motion be amended to make the recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

**Motion on the floor by Board Member Logan to reconsider the March 4, 2006 motion for removal of the six structures carries unanimously.**

**Motion by Board Member Hirst to amend the March 4, 2006 motion, to send a formal letter to the Board of County Commissioners recommending to remove the meeting room after the fair, remove the remaining goat barn after the fair, remove the chuckwagon after the fair and fence off during the fair, remove the swine barn after the fair, remove the booster booth before the fair, and remove the announcer stand before the fair and use scaffolding. Seconded by McCoun. Motion carried 3-2 with Board Members Logan and Pihl in opposition.**

Commissioner Duyck requested that funding and interim usage plan is included in the letter. Perkins says all Board members will receive a draft copy of the letter to the Board of County Commissioners before it's finalized to give input on it.

**The motion by Board Member Hirst to amend the March 4, 2006 motion, to send a formal letter to the Board of County Commissioners recommending to remove the meeting room after the fair, remove the remaining goat barn after the fair, remove the chuckwagon after the fair and fence off during the fair, remove the swine barn after the fair, remove the booster booth before the fair, and remove the announcer stand before the fair and use scaffolding carries 3-2 with Board Members Logan and Pihl in opposition.**

The Board of County Commissioners would like a comprehensive look at the facilities. Need to decide what to do now that the facility study has been done. A new master plan needs to be done. Cannon asked what the Task Force wants. What does the Board of County Commissioners want to see? Bonding has been discussed, but is it possible? Before the Fair Board makes a recommendation on what to save or not, need to know what the Task Force wants. Duyck stated that the Task Force was not intended to get into that level of detail. It was to develop a plan, not decide what should be kept or not, if that was the case there would be no reason to have a Fair Board. Board Member Logan said he would like an operation review to see which facilities should be repaired or improved for rentals. Need to know where the money should be spent. President Pihl said that the facility report should be part of a formula to determine which buildings should stay or go. Every building needs a timeline. There needs to be an evaluation process and use the report as a piece of the puzzle. Cannon suggested that a work session be scheduled. McCoun requested that staff send an e-mail to the board members tomorrow with the letter of recommendations'. Logan asked Commissioner Duyck if the Fair Board has the authority to spend money on a building that is slated for removal on the master plan. Duyck reported that he would get an answer.

2. **Executive Director Search Flyer from Human Resources** - Board Member Logan noted that HR forgot about the supplemental questions. Logan stated that he called HR and they said that they can either be put in with the flyer or can choose to have them submitted to the first round of applicants. Board Member Hirst suggested strongly that the Fair Board hold off on moving ahead with the Executive Director search at this time. Hirst feels that it's a lot of money for what we have to offer at this time. Hirst noted that the Task Force will be meeting soon and an Executive Director is not needed at this point, the Co-Directors are doing a fine job.

**Motion by Board Member Hirst to table the recruitment for the Executive Director position for the remainder of this year. Second by Board Member Logan. Motion carries 4-1 with President Pihl as opposed.**

Board Member Logan said he is of two minds, this could be a tremendous opportunity for the right person, but there is a lot of work to do as a board right now. Commissioner Duyck noted that HR will wait for further instruction. President Pihl stated that it is difficult to have two equal people. Someone needs to take the reins; the shared position cannot last and creates difficulty. We need to have one single Executive Director; either someone that is hired or one of who we have right now. Logan brought up that the electrical process for the barns needs to be begun. Discussion ensued.

3. **Other, if any** – President Pihl thanked Inez Griffels for providing the monthly Fair History.

**H. New Business**

**1. Other, if any** – None

**I. Announcements** – None.

**J. Correspondence** - None other than what was in the packet.

**K. Board Oral Communications** – None

**L. Other Matters of Information** – None other than what was in the packet.

**M. Oral Communications**

1. Tom Black – Attended the second facility walk-through. The electrical situation in the barns needs to be made safe. Black also noted that a lot of money is spent on salaries and benefits; they exceed the revenue from the hotel/motel tax. Black stated that it's important to move forward and suggested that the board consider hiring a development director to get money from companies like Genentech and Intel and work with private industry.

**N. Executive Session** – None

**O. Adjourn** - With no further business before the Board, President Pihl adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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**Leah Perkins-Hagele**  
**Recording Secretary**

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**Matt Pihl**  
**Board President**



# Monthly Financial Report

Fund=200 (Fairplex), Program=981000 (Fair Complex)

Account	MAR-09	YTD-Actual	Budget	Remaining Budget	% Use
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>		<b>(945,162.00)</b>	<b>(830,029.00)</b>		
<b>Taxes</b>					
41025 Transient lodgings tax	(8,430.05)	(415,525.97)	(680,000.00)	(264,474.03)	61.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(8,430.05)</b>	<b>(415,525.97)</b>	<b>(680,000.00)</b>	<b>(264,474.03)</b>	<b>61.10</b>
<b>Intergovernmental revenue</b>					
43156 Dept Agriculture Lottery Funds	0.00	(49,404.72)	(46,000.00)	3,404.72	107.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(49,404.72)</b>	<b>(46,000.00)</b>	<b>3,404.72</b>	<b>107.40</b>
<b>Charges for seivces</b>					
44511 Camping Fees	0.00	(4,050.00)	(4,000.00)	50.00	101.30
44512 Truck Pull Revenue	0.00	(22,005.00)	(17,500.00)	4,505.00	125.70
44513 Demo Derby Revenue	0.00	(26,481.00)	(38,700.00)	(12,219.00)	68.40
44514 Commercial Booth Rentals	0.00	(94,850.00)	(86,500.00)	8,350.00	109.70
44515 Parking Fees	(2,000.00)	(107,680.21)	(109,000.00)	(1,319.79)	98.80
44516 Admission Fees	0.00	(133,339.47)	(130,000.00)	3,339.47	102.60
44517 Sponsorship Fees	0.00	(70,600.00)	(87,500.00)	(16,900.00)	80.70
44518 Carnival Fees	0.00	(102,412.27)	(90,000.00)	12,412.27	113.80
44522 Entry Fees	0.00	(3,710.00)	(4,000.00)	(290.00)	92.80
44526 Monster Truck Revenue	0.00	(22,885.00)	(27,000.00)	(4,115.00)	84.80
44527 Rodeo Revenue	0.00	(16,469.00)	(27,000.00)	(10,531.00)	61.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(2,000.00)</b>	<b>(604,481.95)</b>	<b>(621,200.00)</b>	<b>(16,718.05)</b>	<b>97.30</b>
<b>Miscellaneous revenues</b>					
48105 Invest interest income-general	(1,049.67)	(13,384.88)	(22,500.00)	(9,115.12)	59.50
48195 Reimbursement of expenses (oper	(0.42)	(37,007.05)	0.00	37,007.05	n/m
48200 Rental income	(6,391.20)	(80,538.68)	(200,000.00)	(119,461.32)	40.30
48205 Concessions	0.00	(108,592.00)	(92,000.00)	16,592.00	118.00
48225 Other miscellaneous revenue-oper	(292.90)	(15,202.50)	(25,750.00)	(10,547.50)	59.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>(7,734.19)</b>	<b>(254,725.11)</b>	<b>(340,250.00)</b>	<b>(85,524.89)</b>	<b>74.90</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>(18,164.24)</b>	<b>(1,324,137.75)</b>	<b>(1,687,450.00)</b>	<b>(363,312.25)</b>	<b>78.50</b>
<b>Total Resources</b>		<b>(2,269,299.75)</b>	<b>(2,517,479.00)</b>	<b>(248,179.25)</b>	
<b>Personal Services</b>					
51105 Wages and salaries	25,222.41	242,572.91	375,895.00	133,322.09	64.50
51110 Temporary salaries	2,744.00	31,154.18	9,776.00	(21,378.18)	318.70
51115 Overtime and other pay	133.36	8,306.58	0.00	(8,306.58)	n/m
51125 FICA	2,128.97	20,783.55	29,506.00	8,722.45	70.40
51135 Employer paid work day tax	14.92	138.75	221.00	82.25	62.80
51140 Pers contribution	4,037.05	36,683.38	60,141.00	23,457.62	61.00
51150 Health insurance	4,918.20	46,476.99	74,592.00	28,115.01	62.30
51155 Life and long term disability insur	64.63	627.01	1,167.00	539.99	53.70
51160 Unemployment insurance	118.44	1,143.79	1,643.00	499.21	69.60
51165 Tri-Met tax	175.64	1,705.47	2,569.00	863.53	66.40
51199 Misc Personal Services	0.00	0.00	14,883.00	14,883.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,557.62</b>	<b>389,592.61</b>	<b>570,393.00</b>	<b>180,800.39</b>	<b>68.30</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>					
51205 Supplies-office, general	0.00	3,358.10	4,250.00	891.90	79.00
51210 Supplies- general	1,164.89	41,644.55	46,000.00	4,355.45	90.50
51270 Postage and freight	(142.50)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
51285 Services -professional services	24,970.00	243,141.09	170,250.00	(72,891.09)	142.80
51295 Advertising and public notice	0.00	127,849.13	138,750.00	10,900.87	92.10
51300 Printing and duplicating	94.66	94.66	500.00	405.34	18.90
51305 Communications-services	220.89	2,873.16	800.00	(2,073.16)	359.10
51310 Utilities	10,397.50	63,571.80	77,500.00	13,928.20	82.00
51320 Repair & maint services-general	881.49	27,804.76	59,200.00	31,395.24	47.00
51340 Lease and rentals - space	3,201.75	32,017.50	0.00	(32,017.50)	n/m
51345 Lease and rentals - equipment	0.00	25,611.81	24,000.00	1,611.81	108.80
51350 Dues and membership	192.00	1,195.25	2,500.00	1,304.75	47.80



# Monthly Financial Report

Fund=200 (Fairplex), Program=981005 (Fair Complex Operations/Interim Income)

Account	MAR-09	YTD-Actual	Budget	Remaining Budget	% Use
<b>Taxes</b>					
41025 Transient lodgings tax	(8,430.05)	(415,525.97)	(680,000.00)	(264,474.03)	61.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(8,430.05)</b>	<b>(415,525.97)</b>	<b>(680,000.00)</b>	<b>(264,474.03)</b>	<b>61.10</b>
<b>Charges for seivces</b>					
44515 Parking Fees	(1,990.00)	(26,758.35)	(31,000.00)	(4,241.65)	86.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(1,990.00)</b>	<b>(26,758.35)</b>	<b>(31,000.00)</b>	<b>(4,241.65)</b>	<b>86.30</b>
<b>Miscellaneous revenues</b>					
48105 Invest interest income-general	(1,049.67)	(13,384.88)	(22,500.00)	(9,115.12)	59.50
48195 Reimbursement of expenses (oper	(0.42)	(0.42)	0.00	0.42	n/m
48200 Rental income	(6,391.20)	(80,538.68)	(200,000.00)	(119,461.32)	40.30
48205 Concessions	0.00	(1,661.50)	(3,000.00)	(1,338.50)	55.40
48225 Other miscellaneous revenue-oper	(292.90)	(8,815.00)	(15,000.00)	(6,185.00)	58.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>(7,734.19)</b>	<b>(104,400.48)</b>	<b>(240,500.00)</b>	<b>(136,099.52)</b>	<b>43.40</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>(18,154.24)</b>	<b>(546,684.80)</b>	<b>(951,500.00)</b>	<b>(404,815.20)</b>	<b>57.50</b>
<b>Personal Services</b>					
51105 Wages and salaries	17,479.97	167,693.26	260,927.00	93,233.74	64.30
51110 Temporary salaries	2,387.20	20,350.95	0.00	(20,350.95)	n/m
51115 Overtime and other pay	66.68	5,155.10	0.00	(5,155.10)	n/m
51125 FICA	1,514.58	14,561.95	19,962.00	5,400.05	72.90
51135 Employer paid work day tax	10.98	97.57	140.00	42.43	69.70
51140 Pers contribution	2,862.74	25,393.54	41,747.00	16,353.46	60.80
51150 Health insurance	3,368.90	31,836.09	50,937.00	19,100.91	62.50
51155 Life and long term disability insur	44.22	429.70	789.00	359.30	54.50
51160 Unemployment insurance	84.29	782.72	1,050.00	267.28	74.50
51165 Tri-Met tax	124.99	1,195.70	1,739.00	543.30	68.80
51199 Misc Personal Services	0.00	0.00	10,069.00	10,069.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,944.55</b>	<b>267,496.58</b>	<b>387,360.00</b>	<b>119,863.42</b>	<b>69.10</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>					
51205 Supplies-office, general	0.00	2,972.97	4,000.00	1,027.03	74.30
51210 Supplies- general	1,164.89	10,170.97	25,000.00	14,829.03	40.70
51270 Postage and freight	(121.62)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
51285 Services -professional services	24,970.00	36,498.78	30,500.00	(5,998.78)	119.70
51295 Advertising and public notice	0.00	3,011.75	1,750.00	(1,261.75)	172.10
51300 Printing and duplicating	94.66	94.66	500.00	405.34	18.90
51305 Communications-services	220.89	2,616.72	500.00	(2,116.72)	523.30
51310 Utilities	10,397.50	50,570.68	65,000.00	14,429.32	77.80
51320 Repair & maint services-general	694.77	24,954.07	57,000.00	32,045.93	43.80
51340 Lease and rentals - space	3,201.75	32,017.50	0.00	(32,017.50)	n/m
51345 Lease and rentals - equipment	0.00	1,610.10	5,000.00	3,389.90	32.20
51350 Dues and membership	104.50	593.25	1,500.00	906.75	39.60
51355 Training and education	272.00	1,040.00	2,000.00	960.00	52.00
51360 Travel expense	0.00	1,493.34	0.00	(1,493.34)	n/m
51365 Private mileage	32.21	406.64	500.00	93.36	81.30
51420 Insurance	0.00	17,332.43	15,000.00	(2,332.43)	115.50
51465 Postage and freight- Internal	121.62	286.89	500.00	213.11	57.40
51475 Printing- Internal	(94.66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
51495 Telephone monthly- internal	963.22	4,135.14	6,000.00	1,864.86	68.90
51550 Other materials and services	106.25	1,344.03	4,500.00	3,155.97	29.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,127.98</b>	<b>191,149.92</b>	<b>219,250.00</b>	<b>28,100.08</b>	<b>87.20</b>
<b>Other Expenditures</b>					
52005 Bank Service Charge	88.38	4,193.20	3,500.00	(693.20)	119.80
52045 Taxes, assessments, and liens	(554.12)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
52130 Other Special Expenditures	554.12	930.96	32,000.00	31,069.04	2.90
55110 Other debt principal	461.32	81,724.81	107,720.00	25,995.19	75.90
56110 Other debt interest payments	41.83	6,495.63	8,341.00	1,845.37	147.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>591.53</b>	<b>93,344.60</b>	<b>151,561.00</b>	<b>58,216.40</b>	<b>61.60</b>

<i>Account</i>	<i>MAR-09</i>	<i>YTD-Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Remaining Budget</i>	<i>% Use</i>
<b>Interdepartmental Charges</b>					
<b>53010 Interdpt chg-indirect charges</b>	1,694.71	15,252.39	20,510.00	5,257.61	74.40
<b>53015 Interdpt chg-legal services</b>	0.00	10,939.50	8,000.00	(2,939.50)	136.70
<b>Total</b>	1,694.71	26,191.89	28,510.00	2,318.11	91.90
<b>Transfers to Other Funds</b>					
<b>54195 Transfer to Miscellaneous Debt S</b>	0.00	14,175.00	0.00	(14,175.00)	n/m
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	14,175.00	0.00	(14,175.00)	n/m
<b>Capital Outlay</b>					
<b>57115 Machinery and equipment over \$</b>	0.00	35,908.49	40,000.00	4,091.51	89.80
<b>57135 Other capital outlay</b>	4,268.32	18,726.18	35,000.00	16,273.82	53.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,268.32	54,634.67	75,000.00	20,365.33	72.80
<b>Contingency</b>					
<b>59010 Contingency</b>	0.00	0.00	858,105.00	858,105.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	0.00	858,105.00	858,105.00	0.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>76,627.09</u>	<u>646,992.66</u>	<u>1,719,786.00</u>	<u>1,072,793.34</u>	<u>37.60</u>

<i>Total Revenues</i>	(18,154.24)	(546,684.80)	(951,500.00)	(404,815.20)
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	76,627.09	646,992.66	1,719,786.00	1,072,793.34
<i>Ending Balance</i>	58,472.85	100,307.86	768,286.00	667,978.14



# Monthly Financial Report

Period: MAR-09 Currency: USD

Submitted: 22-APR-09 08:39:06

Fund=200 (Fairplex), Program=981010 (Annual County Fair)

Account	MAR-09	YTD-Actual	Budget	Remaining Budget	% Use
<b>Intergovernmental revenue</b>					
43156 Dept Agriculture Lottery Funds	0.00	(49,404.72)	(46,000.00)	3,404.72	107.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	(49,404.72)	(46,000.00)	3,404.72	107.40
<b>Charges for sevicees</b>					
44511 Camping Fees	0.00	(4,050.00)	(4,000.00)	50.00	101.30
44512 Truck Pull Revenue	0.00	(22,005.00)	(17,500.00)	4,505.00	125.70
44513 Demo Derby Revenue	0.00	(26,481.00)	(38,700.00)	(12,219.00)	68.40
44514 Commercial Booth Rentals	0.00	(94,650.00)	(86,500.00)	8,150.00	109.40
44515 Parking Fees	(10.00)	(80,921.86)	(78,000.00)	2,921.86	103.70
44517 Sponsorship Fees	0.00	(68,100.00)	(72,500.00)	(4,400.00)	93.90
44518 Carnival Fees	0.00	(102,412.27)	(90,000.00)	12,412.27	113.80
44522 Entry Fees	0.00	(3,710.00)	(4,000.00)	(290.00)	92.80
44526 Monster Truck Revenue	0.00	(22,885.00)	(27,000.00)	(4,115.00)	84.80
44527 Rodeo Revenue	0.00	(16,469.00)	(27,000.00)	(10,531.00)	61.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	(10.00)	(441,684.13)	(445,200.00)	(3,515.87)	99.20
<b>Miscellaneous revenues</b>					
48195 Reimbursement of expenses (oper	0.00	(77.00)	0.00	77.00	n/m
48205 Concessions	0.00	(105,987.15)	(87,500.00)	18,487.15	121.10
48225 Other miscellaneous revenue-oper	0.00	(4,352.55)	(10,000.00)	(5,647.45)	43.50
<b>Total</b>	0.00	(110,416.70)	(97,500.00)	12,916.70	113.20
<b>Total Revenues</b>	(10.00)	(601,505.55)	(588,700.00)	12,805.55	102.20
<b>Personal Services</b>					
51105 Wages and salaries	7,742.44	74,879.65	114,968.00	40,088.35	65.10
51110 Temporary salaries	356.80	10,803.23	9,776.00	(1,027.23)	110.50
51115 Overtime and other pay	66.68	3,151.48	0.00	(3,151.48)	n/m
51125 FICA	614.39	6,221.60	9,544.00	3,322.40	65.20
51135 Employer paid work day tax	3.94	41.18	81.00	39.82	50.80
51140 Pers contribution	1,174.31	11,289.84	18,394.00	7,104.16	61.40
51150 Health insurance	1,549.30	14,640.90	23,655.00	9,014.10	61.90
51155 Life and long term disability insur	20.41	197.31	378.00	180.69	52.20
51160 Unemployment insurance	34.15	361.07	593.00	231.93	60.90
51165 Tri-Met tax	50.65	509.77	830.00	320.23	61.40
51199 Misc Personal Services	0.00	0.00	4,814.00	4,814.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	11,613.07	122,096.03	183,033.00	60,936.97	66.70
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>					
51205 Supplies-office, general	0.00	385.13	250.00	(135.13)	154.10
51210 Supplies- general	0.00	17,461.54	15,000.00	(2,461.54)	116.40
51270 Postage and freight	(20.88)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
51285 Services -professional services	0.00	78,390.97	62,250.00	(16,140.97)	125.90
51295 Advertising and public notice	0.00	97,454.19	107,000.00	9,545.81	91.10
51305 Communications-services	0.00	256.44	300.00	43.56	85.50
51310 Utilities	0.00	13,001.12	12,500.00	(501.12)	104.00
51320 Repair & maint services-general	186.72	2,458.50	2,200.00	(258.50)	111.80
51345 Lease and rentals - equipment	0.00	24,001.71	19,000.00	(5,001.71)	126.30
51350 Dues and membership	87.50	482.50	1,000.00	517.50	48.30
51355 Training and education	466.50	1,132.50	2,000.00	867.50	56.60
51360 Travel expense	0.00	3,254.55	4,000.00	745.45	81.40
51365 Private mileage	0.00	339.29	200.00	(139.29)	169.60
51420 Insurance	0.00	17,076.03	15,000.00	(2,076.03)	113.80
51465 Postage and freight- Internal	20.88	20.88	300.00	279.12	7.00
51475 Printing- Internal	0.00	803.88	1,000.00	196.12	80.40
51495 Telephone monthly- internal	0.00	780.51	1,000.00	219.49	78.10
51550 Other materials and services	(194.50)	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
<b>TOTAL</b>	546.22	257,299.74	243,000.00	(14,299.74)	105.90

<i>Account</i>	<i>MAR-09</i>	<i>YTD-Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Remaining Budget</i>	<i>% Use</i>
<b>Other Expenditures</b>					
<b>52005 Bank Service Charge</b>	0.00	250.00	0.00	(250.00)	n/m
<b>52130 Other Special Expenditures</b>	0.00	2,941.70	650.00	(2,291.70)	452.60
<b>52146 Entertainment Expenses</b>	0.00	86,547.09	105,000.00	18,452.91	82.40
<b>52147 Open Class Expenses</b>	0.00	44,336.61	30,000.00	(14,336.61)	147.80
<b>52148 4-H Expenses</b>	0.00	22,819.17	16,000.00	(6,819.17)	142.60
<b>52149 FFA Expenses</b>	0.00	10,680.45	4,000.00	(6,680.45)	267.00
<b>52150 Truck Pull Expenses</b>	0.00	10,404.94	12,000.00	1,595.06	86.70
<b>52151 Demo Derby Expenses</b>	0.00	18,860.48	22,000.00	3,139.52	85.70
<b>52152 Monster Truck Expenses</b>	0.00	20,750.06	22,000.00	1,249.94	94.30
<b>52153 Rodeo Expenses</b>	0.00	19,931.61	22,000.00	2,068.39	90.60
<b>Total</b>	0.00	237,522.11	233,650.00	(3,872.11)	101.70
<b>Interdepartmental Charges</b>					
<b>53010 Interdpt chg-indirect charges</b>	1,694.71	15,252.39	20,510.00	5,257.61	74.40
<b>53015 Interdpt chg-legal services</b>	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	1,694.71	15,252.39	21,510.00	6,257.61	70.90
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	13,854.00	632,170.27	681,193.00	49,022.73	92.80

<i>Total Revenues</i>	(10.00)	(601,505.55)	(588,700.00)	12,805.55
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	13,854.00	632,170.27	681,193.00	49,022.73
<i>Ending Balance</i>	13,844.00	30,664.72	92,493.00	61,828.28



# Monthly Financial Report

Period: MAR-09 Currency: USD

Submitted: 22-APR-09 08:39:06

Fund=200 (Fairplex), Program=981020 (Fair -Frite Lites)

<i>Account</i>	<i>MAR-09</i>	<i>YTD-Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Remaining Budget</i>	<i>% Use</i>
<b>Charges for sevicees</b>					
44514 Commercial Booth Rentals	0.00	(200.00)	0.00	200.00	n/m
44516 Admission Fees	0.00	(133,339.47)	(130,000.00)	3,339.47	102.60
44517 Sponsorship Fees	0.00	(2,500.00)	(15,000.00)	(12,500.00)	16.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	(136,039.47)	(145,000.00)	(8,960.53)	93.80
<b>Miscellaneous revenues</b>					
48195 Reimbursement of expenses (oper	0.00	(36,929.63)	0.00	36,929.63	n/m
48205 Concessions	0.00	(943.35)	(1,500.00)	(556.65)	62.90
48225 Other miscellaneous revenue-oper	0.00	(2,034.95)	(750.00)	1,284.95	271.30
<b>Total</b>	0.00	(39,907.93)	(2,250.00)	37,657.93	1,773.70
<b>Total Revenues</b>	0.00	(175,947.40)	(147,250.00)	28,697.40	119.50
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>					
51210 Supplies- general	0.00	14,012.04	6,000.00	(8,012.04)	233.50
51285 Services -professional services	0.00	128,251.34	77,500.00	(50,751.34)	165.50
51295 Advertising and public notice	0.00	27,383.19	30,000.00	2,616.81	91.30
51320 Repair & maint services-general	0.00	392.19	0.00	(392.19)	n/m
51350 Dues and membership	0.00	119.50	0.00	(119.50)	n/m
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	170,158.26	113,500.00	(56,658.26)	149.90
<b>Other Expenditures</b>					
52130 Other Special Expenditures	0.00	8,257.54	3,000.00	(5,257.54)	275.30
<b>Total</b>	0.00	8,257.54	3,000.00	(5,257.54)	275.30
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	0.00	178,415.80	116,500.00	(61,915.80)	153.10

<i>Total Revenues</i>	0.00	(175,947.40)	(147,250.00)	28,697.40
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	0.00	178,415.80	116,500.00	(61,915.80)
<i>Ending Balance</i>	0.00	2,468.40	(30,750.00)	(33,218.40)



**Balance Sheet**  
 Washington County  
 Current Period: MAR-09

Date:2009-

Currency: USD  
 Fund=200 (Fairplex)

	MAR-09 YTD - Actual	MAR-08 YTD - Actual	Variance	Variance %
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash and investments	788,429.94	797,555.89	(9,125.95)	(1.14)
Cash restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Property taxes receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Assessments receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Accounts receivable	29,931.20	18,727.95	11,203.25	59.82
Investment interest receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Contracts receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Due from other funds	(10.00)	(10.00)	0.00	0.00
Other assets	27,403.12	19,402.37	8,000.75	41.24
Assets held for resale	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>845,754.26</b>	<b>835,676.21</b>	<b>10,078.05</b>	<b>1.21</b>
<b>Liabilities, Fund Equity and Other Credits</b>				
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Accounts payable	1,867.40	0.00	1,867.40	n/m
Accrued payroll liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Accrued self-insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Accrued OHP IBNR Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Amounts held in trust	801.50	801.50	0.00	0.00
Due to other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
Tenants and other deposits	300.00	0.00	300.00	n/m
Deferred revenue	31,099.80	34,844.80	(3,745.00)	(10.75)
Other long-term obligations	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/m
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>34,068.70</b>	<b>35,646.30</b>	<b>(1,577.60)</b>	<b>(4.43)</b>
<b>Fund equity:</b>				
<b>Fund balances:</b>				
<b>Unserviced fund balances:</b>				
Undesignated	811,685.56	800,029.91	11,655.65	1.46
<b>Total fund equity</b>	<b>811,685.56</b>	<b>800,029.91</b>	<b>11,655.65</b>	<b>1.46</b>



**Balance Sheet**  
Washington County  
Current Period: MAR-09

Date:2009-

Currency: USD  
Fund=200 (Fairplex)

	MAR-09 YTD - Actual	MAR-08 YTD - Actual	Variance	Variance %
Total liabilities, fund equity an	845,754.26	835,676.21	10,078.05	1.21

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex  
873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124  
Phone: (503) 648-1416  
Fax: (503) 648-7208  
[www.faircomplex.com](http://www.faircomplex.com)

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** April 27, 2009

**To:** Washington County Fair Complex Board

**From:** Leah E. Perkins-Hagele

**Re:** May 2009 Operations Report

**Maintenance** – The staff has been working with the superintendent of the fair-time grange exhibits, together they have designed and built new grange booths that will be more efficient for storing in the off season. Staff is working on installing a new livestock tie-rack where the old goat/sheep barn used to be located. Staff is also continuing their work with spring clean up of the grounds and providing support service to the rental program.

**Equipment** – The Ford Ranger truck will be replaced this month with a used Ford Ranger from the County Fleet.

**Electrical** – The electrical system in the 4-H barn is being upgraded and will be completed prior to the Fair.

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex  
873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124  
Phone: (503) 648-1416  
Fax: (503) 648-7208  
lisad@faircomplex.com  
www.faircomplex.com

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** April 29, 2009

**To:** Fair Board  
Washington County Fair Complex

**From:** Lisa DuPre'  
Marketing & Events Manager

**Re:** May 7, 2009, Fairgrounds Revitalization Task Force Meeting

The Fairgrounds Revitalization Task Force is being brought back together for the first time since the November, 2008 General Election, and the failure of the bond levy for Phase I of the Master Plan for the Fair Complex.

The Task Force will be co-chaired by Washington County Commission Chairman Tom Brian, and Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey, as the Task Force make-up is said to be by "position" and not by individual, so while Tom Hughes Co-Chaired the Task Force with Chairman Brian when the Master Plan was created, he is no longer in office, and Mayor Willey will now assume the position as the lead representative for Hillsboro.

The meeting will be facilitated by Washington County Assistant Administrator Rob Massar. At the previous Task Force meetings, this duty was handled by consultant, Steve Siegel.

The general plan for this meeting is to go over what has transpired since the Task Force last met, looking at the Master Plan and discussing how to move forward after the failure of the bond levy in November.

The meeting will be from 6 PM to 8:30 PM on Thursday, May 7, in Rooms 113-B & C at the Hillsboro Civic Center on East Main Street.

April 10, 2009

Matt Pihl, President  
Washington County Fair Board  
873 NE 34th Ave  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Dear Matt,

In my meeting with Leah Perkins after the last month's Fair Board meeting we discussed the idea of the Boosters operating a Guest Service's Kiosk for the fair. The Boosters did that several years ago and it seemed to meet with great success.

The idea would be to have a location to welcome guests to the fair, answer questions regarding the fair, provide some basic services for their stay, and provide a small space for them to relax. We would further like to illustrate some of the history of the Washington County Fair over the past century. The hope is to connect with citizens and to invite their involvement in documenting the past and becoming a part of the future.

To clearly illustrate that the Fair Board and Fair Boosters are interested in building bridges we would like to invite the Fair Board to participate as they see fit.

The location should either be located near the main entrance or at a central location on the fairgrounds. Since, staff has indicated that the current meeting room has no real use we would suggest that the Meeting Room might serve as the location for this guest services kiosk. I would envision adding an awning to provide shade and a place to rest.

Would you add this to the Fair Board's May agenda for their consideration and action? If favorable that would still give us time to do a great job for this year's fair. If you have any questions prior to that meeting, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Lyle Spiesschaert, President  
Washington County Fair Complex Boosters  
PO Box 2679  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

# **Water-feature Fence Proposal**

**Background:** The Fair Boosters installed The Fair Complex Water-feature located on the east side of the Clover Leaf Building in 2006 via a signed MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding) between the Boosters and Fair Board. At that time a split rail cedar fence was installed to keep the public separated from the water-feature. This fence was designed as a temporary structure until the appropriate permanent fence could be designed and installed. {See Attachment}

**Current Situation:** The Water-feature has been operating well and showcases a welcoming entrance for Fair Complex Visitors. The split rail fence installed as a temporary structure is now in need of a replacement structure. The Boosters are interested in gaining permission and authority from the Fair Board to install a permanent fence that will both increase the safety of the public and also enhancing the overall appearance of the feature.

**Details of the Proposal:** The Boosters would remove the old split-rail fence and replace it with a steel powder-coated permanent fence. This fence would be constructed in eight-foot segments and is designed to enhance the appearance of the water feature and also provide an added layer of security for the public. {See Attachment} This water-feature water level is regulated via a float valve. In addition an overflow drain is being installed to prevent the depth at any point to exceed 18 inches. Therefore according to City of Hillsboro Chapter 15.12 of the Code referring to Pools and Ponds this water-feature is not subject to fencing code requirements. {See Attachment} However, we have designed this fence to be in voluntary compliance. The Boosters will also seek approval of the fence design by City County Insurance Services. In a letter dated August 20, 2008, John Zakariassen, Risk Management Consultant indicated his concern regarding the current fence. {See Attachment} We would request seeking reimbursement of our construction costs from the new Risk Management Grant program outlined in that letter.

**Costs:** The costs to have the panels and gate fabricated and powder coated would be approximately \$3,000. The Boosters would donate their labor to remove and discard the current fence and install the new fence and would further donate additional costs associated with the installation.

**Timeline:** Providing preliminary approval early in May, the Boosters would plan to have the fence constructed, painted and installed at least one week prior to the 2009 Fair.



Current View of Existing Fence



View of Partial Section of Proposed Fence

Subject to approval and agreement the fence will be constructed in 13 8' sections with two 4' sections including one as a gate at the Cloverleaf Building. The sections will include alternating twisted upright tubing with an overall height of 42". The fence will be powder-coated in probably a Pewter Gray/Black.

## Chapter 15.12

### POOLS AND PONDS

#### Sections:

- 15.12.010 Fence or wall required.
- 15.12.020 Fencing standards.
- 15.12.030 Gate standards.
- 15.12.040 Fencing for ponds.
- 15.12.050 Compliance.
- 15.12.060 Date of compliance.

#### 15.12.010 Fence or wall required.

Every person in possession of land within the corporate limits of the city of Hillsboro, either as owner, purchaser under contract, lessee, tenant, or licensee, on which is situated a swimming pool, or wading pool, either fixed or portable, of a depth at any point of eighteen inches or more, shall erect and maintain on the premises upon which the body of water is located an adequate fence or wall sufficient to make the pool inaccessible to small children. (Prior code § 10-7.1)

#### 15.12.020 Fencing standards.

The fence or wall, including gates therein, shall be solid wall, picket, vertical board, or chain link type construction and shall completely surround such body of water. The enclosure shall be not less than three and one-half feet above the underlying ground with openings, holes, or gaps therein no larger than four inches in any dimension except for doors or gates; except, however, that if vertical board or picket fence is erected, the horizontal dimension shall not exceed four inches; provided, further, that any permanent structure may be used as a part of such enclosure. (Prior code § 10-7.2)

#### 15.12.030 Gate standards.

All gates or doors opening through the enclosure, except the door of any dwelling occupied by human beings and forming part of the enclosure required in Section 15.12.010, shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device capable of and

maintained so as to keep the door or gate secure closed at all times when not in actual use. Self-latches shall be set at a minimum height of three and one-half feet above the underlying ground and otherwise made inaccessible from the outside to small children. (Prior code § 10-7.3)

#### 15.12.040 Fencing for ponds.

A. Every person in possession of land within the corporate limits of the city of Hillsboro, either as owner, purchaser under contract, lessee, tenant, or licensee on which is located a fishpond or other artificial body of water, excepting swimming and wading pools, either fixed or portable, of a depth at any point of eighteen inches or more, shall erect and maintain on the premises upon which the body of water is located, an adequate fence, wall, or covering to make the body of water inaccessible to small children.

B. If fence or wall is used, it shall conform to requirements set forth in Sections 15.12.020 and 15.12.030 of this chapter.

C. If a covering be used, it shall be constructed and maintained of a mesh type, allowing a maximum opening of four inches in any dimension, capable of supporting a minimum weight of seventy-five pounds in clearance of the surface of the underlying water. (Prior code § 10-7.4)

#### 15.12.050 Compliance.

All plans submitted after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter to the city for pools so constructed shall comply with the above set forth requirements together with any others which have heretofore been or shall hereafter be enacted. (Prior code § 10-7.5)

#### 15.12.060 Date of compliance.

Any person or persons maintaining pools as described in this chapter shall comply with the provisions of this chapter on or before April 30, 1962. (Prior code § 10-7.6)



Main Office: 1212 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: 503.763.3800 • Fax: 503.763.3800  
Toll Free: 1.800.922.2684  
Claims: PO Box 1469, Lake Oswego OR 97035  
Phone: 503.763.3875 • Fax: 503.763.3901  
Toll Free: 1.800.922.2684

Property, Liability, Workers' Compensation and Employee Benefits

August 20, 2008

Leah Perkins, Executive Director  
Washington County Fair  
873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Dear Leah,

Thank you for taking the time to visit with me and your agent, Jerri Yamasaki, on July 10, 2008. The purpose of our visit was to update and establish a new risk management plan, update the Best Practices Survey, and conduct a walk-around inspection of the Fairgrounds property. We also discussed the new Risk Management Grant program and the parameters and conditions for submitting the application. Washington County Fair is eligible for \$7,448 to spend on approved general and/or auto liability projects as reflective in the Risk Management Plan developed.

**Risk Management Plan**

Enclosed is an updated risk management plan, a document we use to track the goals and recommendations discussed and agreed upon. As we discussed, the RMP is a working and flexible plan to use over the course of this fiscal year FY 2008-09. If there are items listed that you disagree with, or time lines in question, please advise me of those, and we will work to resolve any issues. The final plan will be one that we both agree upon. An updated copy of the Best Practices Survey is also enclosed.

**Claims/Trends**

In reviewing the claim history for property, general liability, and auto/APD coverage, from fiscal year 2004-05 thru 7-1-08, only 3 claims were filed. Two of the claims involved vehicle accidents in which a Fair employee in a rented bus hit two parked vehicles amounting to \$5,988 being paid. A second vehicle accident occurred in which a Fair employee back a trailer into a parked vehicle. Total damages were \$645.20. Management of property and liability exposures is working well and we encourage you and staff to continue with the present policies, processes, and operations being used. We applaud your success in managing the exposures and keeping claim frequency and severity at very low loss ratios.



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**Best Practices**

During our meeting we discussed the Best Practices Survey. I advised you I would update the survey since we changed our system to only red flag the non-compliance responses and partial responses. Furthermore, I discussed how the "Not Applicable" responses would not be reflective in the overall calculation of percentage of compliance. I have updated the survey and enclosed it to this correspondence. You may also access it through the CIS web portal. Washington County Fair has now risen from a compliance rating to the standards of 22%, to a new and recalculated compliance rating of 81%. Congratulations and keep up the good work Leah!

Some areas of note in the Best Practices Survey that should be addressed are as follows:

- 1) The Fair does not have a written employee vehicle use policy in effect. Consequently, many standards in policies, processes, and operations are not being met.
- 2) Due to the level of high hazard exposures, (a result of normal and customary County Fair events and activities) a written "Special Events" policy and program should be implemented that is geared towards managing risks and exposures.

**Facilities and Grounds Inspection**

During our walk-around inspection of the Fairgrounds, the premises and buildings were found to be in very good condition. They are well maintained, clean, and organized. One area of concern involved the water fall pond and lack of measures to keep children and adults from climbing in, on, and around the pond and rock structure.

The water fall pond was put in by a volunteer organization and donated to the County Fair. It is located outside of the Event Center and is approximately 20' X 40'. The rocks elevate to an approximate height of 5' and water is circulated with a pump that provides a 4' drop down the front face of rocks into a holding pond. The structure is made from rocks, many having sharp, jagged and protruding edges. The water also traverses around the backside to an outer perimeter stream that dumps into the holding pond at the bottom of the falls.

During special events, and especially the annual Fair, children and adults have been observed climbing on the structure, wading in the pond, frolicking across the top, and jumping from the rocks into the pond. Consequently, serious injuries to children and adults may occur with slips on the slippery rocks. Potential head injuries may also occur from jumping off the rocks, losing balance, or tripping, and hitting the rocks throughout the structure.

A small split rail fence is currently installed around the outer perimeter of the pond structure; however, it is too low and does not keep children and adults out. The fence is also falling apart. If a taller fence were constructed, with the same design and materials, it still would not keep children and adults from accessing the area.

Currently, there are no signs posted to keep people out of the pond, nor warn them of the inherent dangers. Placing an employee or security guard at the location, at all times when functions, activities or events occur, would be cost prohibitive and not feasible.

Based upon my on-site inspection and observations I will make the following recommendations for consideration and implementation:

- 1) Install a three foot tall fence around the perimeter with a style and design that prevents children from crawling through the fence or sitting on top of it. Materials to



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- use should be selected based upon contributing to the beauty and aesthetics of the structure.
- 2) Signage should be posted on the fence and the side of the building that prohibit access to the pond and warn of the dangers. Signs should be in both English and Spanish.
  - 3) Consider stocking the pond with Koi fish. The common carp is a hardy fish, and Koi retain that durability. Very seldom do children or adults enter into a pond stocked with Koi. They are more apt to observe and visualize the beauty of the Koi pond than to jump in and wade around. Parents are also more apt to watch their children to ensure they do not enter the pond when Koi are present.

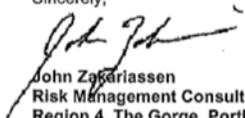
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Koi are cold-water fish, so Koi ponds often have a three foot or more of depth in areas of the world that become warm during the summer. In areas that have harsh winters, ponds that are a minimum of 3 1/2 feet are most common. Koi's bright colors put them at a severe disadvantage against predators; they sometimes become a visual dinner bell against the dark green of a pond. Herons, kingfishers, raccoons, cats, foxes, and badgers are all capable of emptying a pond of its fish. A well-designed outdoor pond will have areas too deep for herons to stand in, overhangs high enough above the water that mammals can't reach in, and shade trees overhead to block the view of aerial passers-by. It may prove necessary to string nets or wires above the surface. Koi are an omnivorous fish and will often eat a wide variety of foods, including peas, lettuce, and watermelons.

CIS does not provide Washington County Fair with Workers' Compensation coverage and therefore I did not conduct an employee health and safety survey.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to meet with me. Should you have any further questions, or need assistance on any matters, please feel free to contact me at 1-503-763-3852 or by e-mail at [jzakariassen@cciservices.com](mailto:jzakariassen@cciservices.com).

Sincerely,



**John Zakariassen**  
**Risk Management Consultant**  
**Region 4, The Gorge, Portland Metro**  
**City County Insurance Services**  
**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1469, Lake Oswego, OR 97035**  
**Direct: 1-503-763-3852**  
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**Website: [www.cciservices.com](http://www.cciservices.com)**

Cc: Penny Marlette, Risk Management Services Manager  
Ray Liu, CIS Account Underwriter  
Jerri Yamasaki, Marsh



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***Calendar of Events  
May 2009-October 2009***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>May</b>		
1-3	OFA Spring Managers' Conference	Coos Bay, Oregon
6	Board Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (4:30 PM)
6	Booster Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (7:00 PM)
25	Memorial Day	Office Closed
<b>June</b>		
3	Board Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (4:30 PM)
3	Booster Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (7:00 PM)
<b>July</b>		
1	Board Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (4:30 PM)
1	Booster Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (7:00 PM)
3	Fourth of July Holiday Observed	Office Closed
6-12	4-H Horse Fair	Barns, Arena, Show Rings
13	Fair Set-up begins	Entire Complex
30-31	Washington County Fair	Entire Complex
<b>August</b>		
1-2	Washington County Fair	Entire Complex
28-30	Oregon International Airshow Parking	All parking lots
<b>September</b>		
2	Board Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (4:30 PM)
2	Booster Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (7:00 PM)
7	Labor Day	Office Closed
<b>October</b>		
7	Board Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (4:30 PM)
7	Booster Meeting	Cloverleaf Building (7:00 PM)

# WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX

## Facility Schedule, May-2009

*(Highlighted events are no-charge)*

### Friday, May 01, 2009

Main Exhibit-South Gem and Jewelry Show

### Saturday, May 02, 2009

Main Exhibit Hall-North Hillsboro Glass & Pottery

Friendship Square Plant Sale

### Sunday, May 03, 2009

Friendship Square Plant Sale

Quadrant Property Rally Cross

Main Exhibit Hall-North Hillsboro Glass & Pottery

### Wednesday, May 06, 2009

**\*\*Entire Complex 4-H Night**

**\*\*Cloverleaf Building Fair Board Meeting/Boosters**

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience Class

### Saturday, May 09, 2009

Main Exhibit-North Family Health & Safety Day

**\*\*Cloverleaf Bldg. 4-H Small Animal Show**

**\*\*Barns Sheep and Goat Weigh-In**

### Wednesday, May 13, 2009

**\*\*Entire Complex 4-H Night**

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience Class

### Thursday, May 14, 2009

**\*\*Entire Complex NORSAR Training**

### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience Class

**\*\*Entire Complex 4-H Night**

### Wednesday, May 27, 2009

**\*\*Entire Complex 4-H Night**

### Saturday, May 30, 2009

Main Exhibit Hall & Lawn World's Largest Yard Sale

### Sunday, May 31, 2009

Quadrant Property Rally Cross

## **WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR HISTORY**

The Washington County Fair Boosters have embarked on compiling and printing A history and photo journal of the Fair's first 150 years. The project is expected to be published by July 1, 2010 and is hoped to accurately illustrate the times, places and faces of this county premier event as it has evolved though out the county.

Memorabilia, Stories, photos, etc. are welcomed.

Please contact Inez Griffels by email at [fairhistory@gmail.com](mailto:fairhistory@gmail.com) or send to:

PO Box 1487, North Plains, OR 97133

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

At the conclusion of the 1951 Washington County Fair held at Shute Park, the community was asked to help **MOVE** the fair to the new site on Cornell Road, across from the airport (present site). The call was put out for volunteers.

The first building moved to the current property was the "Ticket Booth".

The fair board got "Volunteer Insurance" to cover all those that helped out.

The Fair Office was moved and used many years, ending as the Rodeo Office/Museum, before being neglected and reduced to ashes. In the 50's buildings had value. Some were dismantled and reconstructed. The following is a time line of completion prior to the 1952 County Fair.

In addition to the Ticket Booth, Fair Office (Rodeo Office/Museum), and a Quonset, the Cattle Barns were started in May 1952, the Cornerstone was put in place on the Exhibition Hall June 1952 and the roof was put on July 24, 1952. The Cattle Barns and the Exhibition Hall were completed August 7, 1952. The FFA Barn was dismantled from Shute Park location and erected south of the Cattle Barns. The cattle barns were placed an exact distance apart for them to be hooked together at a later date with a roof to add two additional aisles for cattle. (More on this topic next month)

By: Inez Griffels  
February 25, 2009

Sources: Hillsboro Argus, Capital Press, Fair Board Minutes

**OSU EXTENSION FACULTY  
SERVING WASHINGTON  
COUNTY\***

**Staff Chair, Washington and Multnomah**  
Patrick Proden 821-1113

**4-H Youth Development**  
Patrick Willis 821-1120

**Citizen Involvement (CPO)**  
Linda Gray 821-1123  
Patt Opdyke 821-1124  
Margot Barnett 821-1114

**Family and Community Health**  
Jeanne Brandt 821-1117

**Nutrition Education Program**  
Janice Smiley 821-1110  
Maureen Quinn 380-9456

**Watershed Health**  
Samuel Chan 722-6718

**Commercial Horticulture** 678-1264

**Agriculture**  
Field Crops and Soils  
Nicole Anderson 821-1127  
Community and Urban Horticulture  
Weston Miller 650-3124  
Small Farms  
Nick Andrews 678-1264 x 149  
Commercial Tree Fruits/Nuts  
Jeff Olsen 434-7517  
Dairy  
Troy Downing 842-3433  
Livestock, Forage crops  
Gene Pirelli 623-8395

**Master Gardener Hotline** 821-1150

**General Information** 821-1150

\*All 503 area code Email format:  
[firstname.lastname@oregonstate.edu](mailto:firstname.lastname@oregonstate.edu)

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington>

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and Washington County cooperating.

# OSU to You

April / May 2009

OSU Extension Service engages the people of Oregon with research-based knowledge and education that focus on strengthening communities and economies, sustaining natural resources, and promoting healthy families and individuals.

## New Focus on Field Crops

The Agriculture Program is pleased to announce that **Nicole Anderson** has joined OSU Extension in Washington, Polk and Yamhill counties. Nicole brings a long list of skills and expertise to Extension Agriculture to further the aim of promoting improvements in the economic, environmental and social well-being of Oregon citizens. Nicole has worked in agriculture for many years, most recently at Janus Youth Programs- Urban Agriculture Services in Portland.



There she managed an agriculture program that supports low-income growers to produce food for home consumption and small markets, led horticulture trainings, provided technical field assistance, and organized all aspects of crop production. Before diving into field crops, Nicole spent several years as a graduate student studying soil ecology and nutrient management at Washington State University. She later went on to spend several years investigating soil management practices on coffee farms with the USDA in Latin America. She is eager to begin conducting field research projects and organizing educational programs for commercial wheat, grass and clover seed producers in the North Willamette Valley. Welcome Nicole!

## Extension Service Featured at Better Living Show

The Better Living Show is the Northwest's largest sustainability show attracting 20,500 attendees during March 27-29, 2009 at the Portland Expo Center. OSU Extension service sponsored the Seminar Series for the show, coordinating 38 presentations on a wide range of sustainability topics- from gardens to electricity from waste water to food preservation. The Seminar Series showcased 18 presentations from OSU faculty. Over 950 people attended presentations.



Additionally, the OSU Solar Trailer was parked in front of the Expo center helping to educate the general public about solar electricity and promote OSU and Extension Service's leadership in sustainability. OSU Extension's booth on the main floor of the show was staffed full-time, providing an opportunity to engage 2700 attendees. Overall, this event was a successful and high-profile opportunity for outreach and engagement for OSU.



Photos: OSU Solar Trailer (left). Washington County faculty Jeanne Brandt demonstrates safe, healthy food preservation (right).

## Upcoming Events

**April 2.** Peonies. Master Gardeners. 7 pm. Extension Office.

**April 4.** Spring Odyssey 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show. 8 am – noon. Fairgrounds.

**April 4.** 4-H Poultry showmanship clinic. Noon- 4 pm. Fairgrounds.

**April 18.** Clean and Healthy Homes, classes for residents of Tualatin Valley Housing Partners, Fircrest and Merlo Station Apartments.

**April 22.** Mold and indoor air quality issues. Workshop for housing pros. PCC - Rock Creek, 8:30 – 12:30.

**April 25.** Washington County Master Gardener Plant Sale. Kinton Grange.

**April 25.** 4-H Super Saturday. Learning event for 4-H'ers, leaders and parents. 8:30 – Noon. Extension Office.

**May 7.** Heirloom Vegetables. Master Gardeners. 7 pm. Extension Office.

### OSU Master Gardeners Standing By!

Trained volunteers answer phone and walk-in questions for local gardeners

Monday – Friday  
9 am – noon and 1 – 4 pm  
503-821-1150

Insect I.D. and management, garden soil preparation, plant selection, lawn care, disease I.D., organic gardening top current questions being asked.

In 2008, Washington County Master Gardeners responded to over 4500 calls from local gardeners.



Multnomah County Master Gardener Office is now open in the headquarters of the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, which is providing the equipment, phone line and office space as part of a new partnership. Phone: 503-445-4608

## CPOs Host Urban and Rural Reserve Discussions

Citizen Participation Organizations (CPOs) throughout Washington County are hosting discussions regarding which lands should be preserved for the next 40-50 years as Rural Reserves, designated for the agricultural industry, forest land, or natural resource protection. They are also engaging residents in discussions about which lands should be designated Urban Reserves or potentially available for development over the next 40-50 years. The discussions will inform County and Metro decision-makers as they move toward decisions by December 2009. Information is kept at [www.co.washington.or.us/reserves](http://www.co.washington.or.us/reserves)

## Nutrition Ed Partners with Adelante Mujeres

Women at Adelante Mujeres are finishing an interactive nutrition series on economical and healthy cooking as part of their adult education. An education, empowerment and enterprise organization for Latina Women and their families, Adelante Mujeres, promotes work which translates to the idea "Upward and Flourish, Women." The partnership with OSU Extension Service allows women to integrate how to eat well and budget economically as part of the learning rotation in the Forest Grove Education Center. Instructor Matilde Rodriguez combines cooking and research-backed health information to focus on family wellness. The classes are well received. Executive Director Bridget Cooke asserts "It's hands-on and team-building and still doing math and reading (while) cooking in ways that are healthy and simple since they are students." Cooke also affirms that "the students asked for help and support in making healthy meals for their children in their new home country. Many of the students are very conscious of obesity and diabetes and this responds to their concern about healthy lifestyles. The students come away feeling like 'I can do this' and also prepared their recipes at home. We definitely like this collaboration."

## Agricultural Commodity Sales and Harvest Reported

Washington County farmers report annually on the value of their crop and livestock sales and the acres harvested. Below are the 2008 estimates.

Nursery crops	128,340		
Greenhouse crops	32,470	Cattle	3,528
Grain & hay	22,016	Dairy products	12,595
Grass & legume seeds	41,409	Other animal products	3,527
Small fruit & berries	22,841	<b>ALL LIVESTOCK</b>	<b>\$19,650</b>
Woodlots/Christmas trees	8,999		
Vegetable & truck crops	2,778		
Tree fruit & nuts	14,852	<b>ALL CROPS &amp; LIVESTOCK</b>	
Other crops	8,703		<b>\$302,058</b>
<b>ALL CROPS</b>	<b>\$282,408</b>		

Washington County farmers reported 79,614 acres harvested in 2008. Top 5 crops were:

Grass and Legume seeds	39,130 acres
Hay and forage	13,350
Grains	12,650
Tree fruits and nuts	7,808
Small fruits	3,310



Source: Extension Economic Information Office, Oregon State University, 2/4/ 2009

Washington County OSU TO YOU is a bi-monthly publication of the OSU Extension Service in Washington County highlighting the activities and accomplishments of local programs. More information on all program areas and events can be seen on our website at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington> or our location at 18640 NW Walker Road, Suite 1400, Beaverton, OR 97006 (CAPITAL Center Entrance D1).

**OregonLive.com**

Everything Oregon

## Hillsboro Argus

### Fair board drafts list of fair safety priorities

Tuesday, April 07, 2009

By Kurt Eckert

The Hillsboro Argus

The Argus

With the promise of more clearly defined direction from county commissioners and a fairgrounds renewal task force, the Washington County Fair Complex Board of Directors backed off considerably Wednesday from a controversial March decision to demolish several fairgrounds buildings.

Under the friendly watch of Commissioner Andy Duyck, the fair board instead voted 3-2 to draft a list of priority safety concerns as the 2009 county fair looms in July.

The destruction of the fairgrounds' sheep barn March 5 was the beginning of the fair board's original plan to knock down several buildings deemed dangerous in a report from architects Scott Edwards. But the speed of the action engendered shock from the commissioners, and resurrected rancor from several fairgrounds stakeholders, Duyck said.

Duyck, who sat on the dais, but did not vote, said the Fairgrounds Revitalization Task Force would meet in May, and suggested the architects' study be used to determine building conditions and repair costs to prioritize a plan of action - including discussion with the task force, the Boosters and the general public.

"We didn't have any problem with the decision you made; we felt it was not the correct process," Duyck said.

Fair Board member Herb Hirst admitted he erred in March when he made a motion to get rid of the goat and sheep barns on the southwest side of the fair site, the rodeo arena announcer's platform, the concrete meeting room at Friendship Square, the old Chuck Wagon restaurant building, the Fair Booster food booth and the Swine Barn outer structure.

"The erroneous part was I should have made it 'We recommend to the county commissioners,' " Hirst said. "As a fair board, we have no legal standing to take down county buildings that don't belong to us. It's that simple."

Fair Director Leah Perkins said staff supported not doing anything at least until the fair is over.

The new plan outlines the following priorities:

The announcer's booth won't be used for the 2009 fair. It will be covered with banners, and announcing will be done from adjacent scaffolding.

The Chuck Wagon food booth will close, and its regular vendor will use a trailer.

The Swine Barn will use tenting for coverage, as it did in 2008.

The Fair Booster food booth will be closed for health and safety reasons. A workable alternative will be found.

"These are the biggest issues we have at the moment," Hirst said. "There's obviously not enough money to do everything."

Board Vice President Don McCoun said regardless of task force input, the architects' report made clear electrical and structural dangers needed addressing. He said the board needed to investigate the best way to spend the \$300,000 allocated in the budget for capital projects. That could include a new electrical system, or revamping the Cloverleaf building, which got the most positive review in the report.

"Regardless of which way the task force goes, we have a problem," McCoun said.

Board Member Dan Logan and board President Matt Pihl dissented with the decision, saying a hastily composed list didn't go far enough.

Pihl said a report to commissioners should include timelines for every structure on the property, and more comprehensive study of each building's outlook and future.

"The architecture report is only a piece of the puzzle," he said.

Duyck said the elements were beginning to fall into place, but the commissioners would also like a comprehensive report.

"The architects' evaluation was only the first step," Duyck said. "Now you need to make a plan about what you are going to do."

In other business, the board:

Voted 4-1 not to continue the process for hiring a new executive director until at least the end of 2009.

Heard Hirst's suggestion the county consider selling the ball fields on the southwest corner of the fairgrounds, and use the money to build a scaled-down new exhibition hall.

Pihl said that was so far out on the timeline, it was beyond the scope of the night's discussions.

Duyck said a ballfield proposal would have to be run by the task force, because it's a major modification on the Master Plan. It would have to include a lot more detail on how much money the sale would bring in, and how much a new building would cost, he added.

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# Commissioner poses policy to prevent future fairgrounds schisms

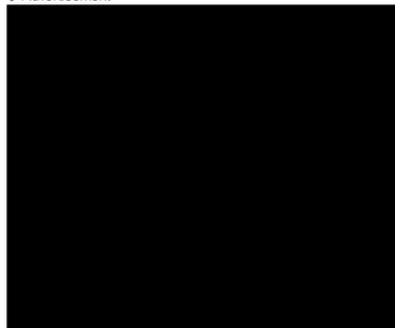
Friday, April 10, 2009  
By Kurt Eckert  
**The Hillsboro Argus**

The Argus

The schisms that seem intrinsic to the management of the Washington County Fair Complex have one county commissioner suggesting laying down the law.

At a county Board of Commissioners work session Tuesday, Andy Duyck, who represents the west side of the county, said he was concerned a fair board member could challenge where the commissioner's rights to make decisions about the 103-acre fairgrounds property begin and end.

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"I'm afraid at some point there's going to be some push back," Duyck said. "We're going to face a lawsuit or have to remove some fair board members."

The county owns the fairgrounds, and established the fair board to help revitalize the grounds and preserve it as a year-round community asset, he said.

While saying he wasn't talking about any current member specifically, Duyck pointed out that fair boards and commissioners past and present have sometimes had contrary agendas. This was illustrated plainly when the fair board voted March 3 to demolish the sheep barn on the property, then went through with it a day later, without commissioners' approval.

Under old state law, a board could act autonomously, but since that statute has softened, the commissioners should also consider passing a resolution to provide disciplinary action to board members who act despite commission recommendations, Duyck said.

Duyck said it was thus doubly important to have a written policy defining the power roles in decisions about the property.

"Do we have anything reinforcing we own the land, and warning the (fair board) not to encumber the land in any way without our approval?" Duyck asked county counsel in attendance.

According to a 1978 document, the commissioners voted to continue the fairgrounds contingent on the cooperation of the fair board and the decades-old Fair Boosters to revitalize the annual county fair and the fairground facilities.

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# Commissioner poses policy to prevent future fairgrounds schisms - Page 2

Commissioner Roy Rogers said the viewpoints of certain fair board members represent residents of the eastern part of the county, like himself, who see the property as an asset, rather than simply a place to hold the fair. The fair board's focus should be on what is the highest and best use for the fairgrounds, he said.

He suggested changing the role of the fair board to a fair commission to oversee the fair. A more comprehensive management system would help look out for the fairgrounds as a year-round community use facility.

"We've got this landlord/lessee relationship kind of confused," Rogers said.

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Commissioner Desari Strader agreed, saying the fair board should at least make regular updates to the commissioners, like other departments and boards.

Fair board member Herb Hirst said he was unsure about Duyck's stance, seeing as county commissioners have made clear they have ultimate authority over the fairgrounds, while the fair board's role is to make recommendations.

"If the fair board has a reasonable solution (the commissioners) are going to go along with it," Hirst said. "There's no reason for them not to."

Hirst said the fair board knows the county fair is only a four-day event. With limited resources, it will make recommendations on what buildings have the most useful life left, and make improvements where possible. But these and other decisions on management style are also the purview of the commissioners, he said.

"The truth of the matter is that if the commissioners decided to sell the whole (property) off, they could.

"Are they going to sell it off? I doubt it," Hirst said. "In the meantime, they're going to try to find a way to fix it up a little bit the best (they) can."

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## County fairgrounds gets a new look

BY PAMPLIN MEDIA GROUP  
The West Linn Tidings, Apr 9, 2009

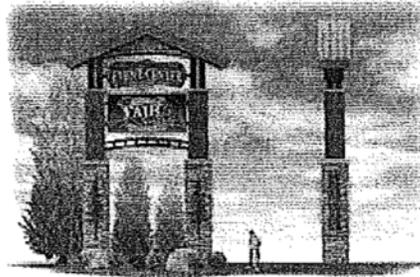
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**PUBLIC NOTICE** NEW

The Clackamas County Fairgrounds has a new image for the 100-plus-year-old facility, along with a new name and logo. The facility has updated its name to the Clackamas County Event Center to better reflect how the facility is used, not only for the county fair. The new logo and event center sign include a tagline reminding patrons that the facility is "home of the Clackamas County Fair since 1907."



SUBMITTED RENDERING

This is an illustration of the new name and logo, which will be installed at the Clackamas County Event Center, formerly called the Clackamas County Fairgrounds. The new sign should be installed by the end of April and a dedication ceremony is planned for May.

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"The Clackamas County Fair is our heritage and our largest event of the year, but we are also host to many other smaller events throughout the year that attract tens of thousands of patrons and tourists to our community," said Rayven Davis, fair manager.

"We felt it was time to change our facility name and image to reflect the diverse nature of our business, from private weddings to public community events," said Heather Alexander, marketing and public information office for the event center.

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Private and public groups rent the event center 52 weekends a year, as well as for various events throughout the week.

A new LED message center will be erected later this month to replace the 40-year-old sign marking the fairgrounds at Fourth and Pine streets in Canby. Deconstruction of the old Clackamas County Fair landmark sign began April 1.

"The old sign was failing, and provided a safety risk to staff who had to climb the 20-foot ladder to replace lettering on event announcements on the sign," said Davis.

The new high-tech message center will enable the event center to more efficiently and safely post event notices and information through a computer in its offices.

In the future, safety warnings such as Amber Alerts, weather or traffic emergencies will be posted on the message center.

"The new message center plays an important role in our plans and capabilities to serve as an emergency management center and shelter in the future," said Davis.

The county also will replace the existing livestock barn with a new multipurpose barn, which will have the capacity to serve as a shelter and emergency management center. Fundraising is in process for the new multipurpose barn.

The new message center will be fitted with a remote-activated generator which will enable the sign to be active and providing guidance information to the community in times of emergency.

Construction of the new message center is scheduled for completion by the end of April.

A dedication ceremony is scheduled for May 14 with various county, city and state officials.

The event center is also launching a new Web site, reflecting its new look and focus on its image. The new site is [www.clackamascountyeventcenter.com](http://www.clackamascountyeventcenter.com).

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# Deseret News

## Davis events center gets its third name

By Joseph M. Dougherty

Deseret News

*Published: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 10:08 p.m. MDT*

FARMINGTON — Try to keep track: It was the Davis County FairPark, then it was the Davis County Events Center. Now, it's the Legacy Events Center — Home of the Davis County Fair.

Located at 151 S. 1100 West in Farmington, the Legacy Events Center was rechristened Tuesday. It's the third name in three years for the county-owned events center, which hosts rodeos, animal shows, career fairs and even a surprise birthday party or two each year, as well as its signature event, the Davis County Fair.

Commissioners made the name change official during their regular Tuesday meeting. They said they hope it will help the events center have more success.

Commissioner John Petroff Jr. said some confusion has arisen because of another county facility that hosts events — the Davis Conference Center — in Layton.

Occasionally, the two facilities get each other's phone calls.

Dave Hansen, director of the Legacy Events Center, said the name changed from FairPark to Davis County Events Center because the county wanted to emphasize that the center can do more than just the annual county fair.

"But we started to lose identity with the fair," Hansen said in a news release. "We felt the renaming of our facilities would position it better to the general public and potential clients."

The center is funded entirely by tourist dollars generated from taxes on hotel rooms, restaurants and vehicle rentals in the county, as well as fees charged for rentals at the facility.

The Legacy Events Center, which boasts exhibit buildings, barns and an indoor arena, has been booked nearly every weekend in 2009.

This year's events include the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival, specialty dog shows, the Davis School District's science and history fair, barrel racing and a home and garden show.

E-MAIL: [jdougherty@desnews.com](mailto:jdougherty@desnews.com)

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## Grocer buys right to present the fair



### \$1.3 million, 3-year deal for Albertsons

By Tanya Mannes Union-Tribune Staff Writer

2:00 a.m. April 15, 2009

DEL MAR — The Del Mar Fairgrounds, which put its naming rights up for sale this year, has achieved a lesser goal of selling “presenting” rights to the award-winning county fair for \$1.3 million.

For the next three years, the fair will be known as the San Diego County Fair, Presented by Albertsons.

The supermarket chain's deal with the fifth-largest fair in the country will place its name prominently on fairgrounds signs, publications and ads.

The company will sell fair tickets through 58 stores in San Diego County and in Temecula, and will promote the fair through its advertising and in-store promotions.

While sponsorships are an important source of revenue for fairs, industry leaders say that naming deals are unheard of and presenting deals rare. One example is the Solano County Fair, which in 2004 and 2005 was “presented by Team Chevrolet.”

Tim Fennell, the fairgrounds' chief executive, announced in January that he was renewing an effort he began in 2001 to sell naming rights to the venue, which could make it the first fairgrounds in the nation to do so. He also announced he would seek presenting rights for events.

The fairgrounds' annual revenue is \$57.4 million.

Although no company has signed up yet, the fairgrounds still hopes to sell venue-naming rights for \$1 million to \$1.5 million a year for 10 years. If, for example, Albertsons had purchased naming rights, the property would be known as “Albertsons Fairgrounds of Del Mar.”

“Having a presenting sponsor for the San Diego County Fair is a progressively new idea and provides many opportunities for success for all parties involved,” Fennell said. “Their customers are our customers and this new marriage is a great way to reach out to everyone in the community.”

The 22nd District Agricultural Association, a nine-member board of directors appointed by the governor to oversee the state-owned fairgrounds, unanimously approved the Albertsons contract at its monthly board meeting yesterday.

Lilia Rodriguez, a spokeswoman for Albertsons, said officials are excited about the partnership. "It's a big, family-type activity and that's what we really want to be a part of," she said.

Tickets will be available in stores starting May 6, she said. The fair will run June 12 to July 5.

Rodriguez said the fair partnership is an opportunity to promote the company's "nutrition iQ" initiative to help consumers find healthy foods, such as those that are low-calorie or high in fiber, through easy-to-find tags.

Last year's fair attracted 1.2 million visitors and won 40 industry awards from the Western Fairs Association. The rest of the year, the 340-acre fairgrounds hosts world-famous horse races, bull riding and more than 300 events from concerts to the Scream Zone at Halloween.

Randy Bernstein, a former San Diego State Aztecs baseball player who brokers such agreements through his Los Angeles firm, Premier Partnerships, said the presenting partnership seems like it will leverage the fair's popularity and the reach of Albertsons' substantial advertising budget.

However, it would be difficult to comment further without knowing more about the deal, he said.

"The bottom line is, it's a fair price for a very long-term, credible, community jewel for San Diego," he said. "I think it's very appropriate, and I think both parties will benefit."

**Tanya Mannes: (619) 498-6639;**

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# \$28M trade, convention center in Fairplex's future

Monica Rodriguez, Staff Writer

Created: 04/21/2009 08:39:53 PM PDT

POMONA - With the final financing piece now in place, officials at Fairplex will soon be taking steps leading to the construction of a \$28 million trade and conference center.

The City Council on Monday evening approved entering into two agreements with the Los Angeles County Fair Association that will result in the city providing \$6 million in financial assistance for the center.

The project involves the 35,000-square-foot Building 8.

The building, an exhibit hall near the Sheraton Suites Fairplex, would have a 50,000-square-foot addition built onto it.

The center, with a capacity of 1,000 people, will be used for events such as large banquets, conferences or small meetings that the hotel can't accommodate now.

Councilman Steve Atchley, who represents the area where Fairplex is located, said Tuesday the facility will be a mid-sized offering, something different from the larger Ontario Convention Center.

A center such as this one will attract people to the Sheraton and other hotels in the city as well as increase revenue for the city in the form of hotel taxes, Atchley said.

Those same visitors can then return as part their vacation activities, he said.

The city's involvement has been a key in helping move along the project, which has been in the works since 2000, said Mike Seder, vice president of finance and chief financial officer of the Los Angeles County Fair Association.

A few things must still be addressed, including putting the project out to bid, but the current economic environment could work in Fairplex's favor, Seder said.

"We're very hopeful, we're going to get great bids" and an equally good final product, he said.

Had construction of the center moved forward two or three years ago, when the costs of steel and other building materials were higher, "I fear our project costs might have been much higher," Seder said.

At this point, the goal is to begin construction in August and finish within a year, in time for the 2010 L.A. County Fair, Seder said.

"We definitely want to be the first users in 2010," he said.

Financing for the center comes from several sources including federal grants, assistance from

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Los Angeles County, funds Fairplex set aside for the project and now the city through its Redevelopment Agency.

investment of close to \$9million in wages, she said.

Of the \$6 million, \$2.7 million will come from Redevelopment Agency non-housing bond proceeds and the remaining \$3.3 million will come from the agency's low- and moderate-income housing funds.

In exchange for the \$2.7million, Fairplex will increase the amount it turns over to the city from parking fees from 1percent to 2percent with that amount being no less than \$145,000 a year, said Raymond Fong, city redevelopment director.

In exchange for the \$3.3 million, the city will get affordable rental covenants for 50 spaces in a 140-space trailer park on the fairgrounds, Fong said.

By purchasing covenants, the city will receive credit to increase housing opportunities for very low-, low- and moderate-income renters, Fong said.

The project will also bring with it jobs and help draw visitors downtown, a short trip from Fairplex, he said.

During the construction phase, the center is expected to generate close to 500 jobs and result in about \$18million invested in wages, said Wendy Talarico, Fairplex spokeswoman.

Once the center is operating, it is expected to result in about 280 jobs for the region and an

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## Fair's future at a crossroads

By Logan Neill, Times Staff Writer

Published Saturday, April 18, 2009

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### BROOKSVILLE

The plan is grand. Imagine a 3,000-seat auditorium, a state-of-the-art livestock pavilion, a covered main arena and expanded paved parking facilities. That's what the Hernando County Fair Association leaders envision in the 10-year master plan they presented to the County Commission in October.

The ambitious proposal calls for the eventual replacement of nearly every structure inside the 40-acre fairgrounds along U.S. 41 south of Brooksville. In their place would be facilities that could host a variety of events, from rodeos and horse shows to tractor pulls and concerts.

But there are the obvious questions: How much will it all cost? And who will pay for it?

Hernando Fair President Sandra Nicholson said this week that she can't answer those questions right now, but she acknowledged the cost will likely be in the millions of dollars.

"If you want something first-rate it's going to cost money," said Nicholson, who is also a member of the Hernando County School Board. "In the end, it will be worth it. We'll look back and say it was worth what we paid."

Based on the fair association's profit and loss statements from the last few years, finding the funds could be a challenge. Revenue from the annual Hernando County Fair and Youth Livestock Show (the association's largest single source of income) has steadily dropped in recent years.

In fact, nearly half of the fair association's net income of about \$207,000 last year came from the sale of a 1.6-acre parcel to Hernando County for a road right-of-way.

The association even resorted to renting out space in the offseason to a company that parked dozens of vehicles at the fairgrounds so its workers could perform repairs on its equipment.

Records show that in 2006, the fair ran 10 days and netted a \$153,831 profit. Two years later, when the fair was scaled back to seven days, profits from the fair had shrunk to \$107,712.

Though earnings from this year's fair haven't been finalized, fairgrounds manager Joy Jackson said fair attendance was down about 8 percent from last year.

A makeover of the fair facilities is not a new idea, said former fair president Deb Pedone.

Pedone, who works as an advertising representative for the *Hernando Times*, said that when she took office in 2002

the facility was in a terrible state of neglect. Fences were torn down or missing, roofs leaked and several livestock stalls built during the 1950s were in danger of collapsing.

Along with a swarm of volunteers, Pedone and the fair board went to work patching things up. They also took a serious look the fair's future.

In 2004, the association applied for state grants to build what would be called the Hernando County Agriplex, a multi-purpose facility that included a civic building that would seat several thousand people. But just as it looked like the project might earn a green light, the Legislature killed it.

Nicholson points out that some improvements have already begun. A new, larger rodeo arena was completed in March. Along with other improvements to the facility, the bill for the arena came to nearly \$160,000.

That was paid largely through proceeds from the sale of the property to the county.

That expenditure didn't sit well with past association president and current board member Joe Bernardini.

Bernardini, who is also the mayor of Brooksville, said such large-scale spending needs to be scrutinized more. Though he acknowledges the need for improvements, he favors a more incremental approach.

"It's not prudent to spend money you don't really have," he said. "We have to be good stewards of the association's money."

Nicholson insists the new arena was necessary to attract renters who will want to use the facility for tractor pulls and equestrian events.

"Part of our agreement with the county is that we make such improvements," she said. "Besides, we aren't in the business to build a big bank account. I'd rather see it put to good use."

Nicholson pointed out that the fair association is not in debt, and even has about \$250,000 in reserves.

Falling revenue for the fair, she said, is a reflection of the economic problems facing all of Hernando County. "We're battling the economy," Nicholson said. "Compared to other fairs, we did better than most."

Nicholson, who is in her first year as fair president, said she is trying to improve the non-profit organization's financial health.

Last fall, the association rented part of the facility to amusement ride contractor North American Midway Entertainment, which wanted space during the winter months to do vehicle and ride maintenance.

In March, the city of Brooksville cited the association, saying that the long-term parking of RVs and trucks violated city codes. An attorney for the association countered that the group was exempt from the rules because the property was zoned agricultural, not residential.

The issue between the city and the fair association remains unresolved. But Nicholson hopes the association will be able to extend a long-term contract to North American Midway to use the fairgrounds as a permanent winter home.

"Having them here is important," she said. "The revenue we get helps us tremendously."

Despite the fair's tilting fortunes, Nicholson thinks that improvement plans need to go forward if the facility wants to attract more business and fully serve the community.

"It's doable and we need to do it," she said. "We're a rapidly growing community. We can't afford to act like it's a small town."

*Logan Neill can be reached at [lnNeill@sptimes.com](mailto:lnNeill@sptimes.com) or at (352) 848-6722.*

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## TAKING A STAND

# Furious Fairfield County residents protest plan to demolish historic grandstand

Monday, April 20, 2009 3:05 AM

BY MARY BETH LANE

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

LANCASTER, Ohio -- The weathered, white clapboard grandstand has stood on the Fairfield County Fairgrounds for a century. Now, many in the community are shocked and infuriated that the fair board plans to tear it down.

"I was appalled," said Lancaster-area resident Janice Siefert, 51. She treasures her collection of snapshots showing herself as a girl and, later, her own children, posing in the grandstand.

"I could not believe the fair board voted to demolish the old grandstand without giving the public an opportunity to save it. That's why people are so hurt."

Now, Siefert and other Fairfield County residents are trying to mobilize support to preserve the grandstand, which was built in 1908. Siefert plans to attend Tuesday's fair board meeting to object to the demolition.

The old grandstand sits on the eastern side of the fairgrounds alongside High Street, where it was moved when a new grandstand was built on the southern side of the fairgrounds in 1928.

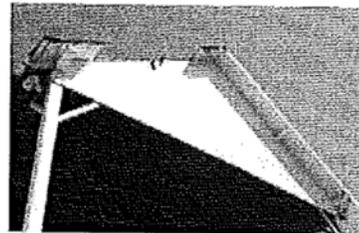
The old grandstand has not been used for about 15 years because of safety concerns, said Fair Manager Dave Benson. The wooden seats are fragile and the stairs are steep, he said.

In July, a windstorm knocked a big sugar maple through the grandstand's slate roof. That destabilized the wooden beams that hold up the structure.



JONATHAN QUILTERDISPATCH

**Janice Siefert is among those opposed to a plan to raze this 100-year-old clapboard grandstand at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds in Lancaster.**



**This part of the old grandstand's roof has not been fixed. The fair board says repairs would be too**

The Fairfield County Agricultural Society discussed repairs, Benson said, but decided they would be too expensive. The private nonprofit organization owns and operates the fairgrounds on an annual budget of between \$750,000 and \$800,000.

Fixing the storm damage would cost about \$100,000 but leave an old, unused grandstand. Fully restoring it to meet the building code would cost an additional \$100,000 to \$150,000.

The society's 16-member board of directors decided the investment wasn't worth it, not when the newer grandstand needs new seats and electrical upgrades estimated to cost \$400,000, Benson said.

The board voted in January to tear down the old grandstand. Then, at the February meeting, the board voted to hold an auction May 2 for the right to remove it.

As word began to spread last month, community agitation mounted.

"I have certainly lost sleep over this," said Benson, who has been involved with the fair since 1950, when he was 11.

Lancaster resident Dan Ahern, who is 68 and remembers attending his first fair in 1943, paused last week in a walk around the fairgrounds to gaze up at the old grandstand.

"My problem is, it was neglected for so long and now you tear it down," said Ahern, who is a member of the Historic Lancaster Commission. "It's so sad to see this happen."

The fair board will meet at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the fairgrounds administration building.

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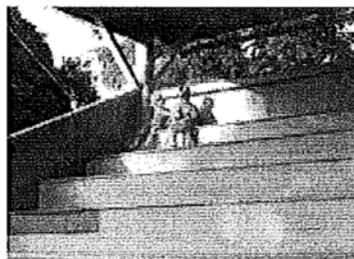
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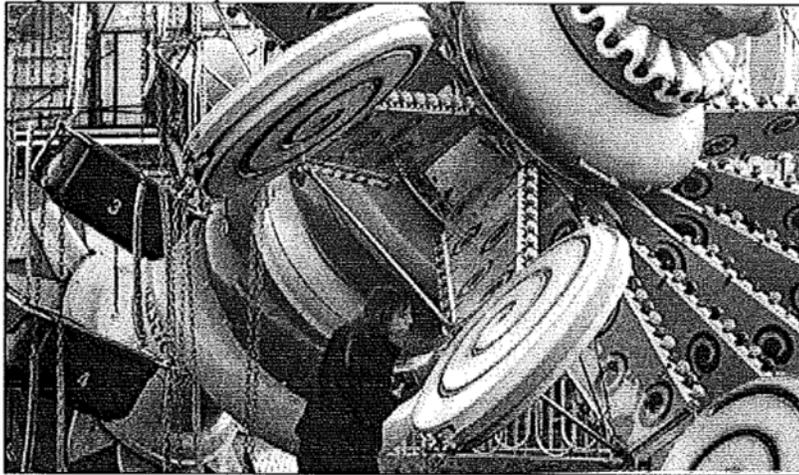


PHOTOS COURTESY OF JANICE SIEFERT

**This photo from 1992 shows Janice Siefert's children -- Brianna was 2; Thomas was 6 - in the old grandstand on the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. Siefert has long been fond of the grandstand.**

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A Puyallup police officer investigates the Lolli Swing ride after it fell over with children on it Friday at the Puyallup Spring Fair. (AP Photo/Joe Barrentine/The News Tribune) (AP)

## Six sent to hospital after Puyallup ride collapses

Friday, April 17, 2009

Last updated 10:37 p.m. PT

By CASEY MCNERTHNEY  
SEATTLEPI.COM STAFF

Five children and an adult were taken to hospitals Friday evening after a ride at the Puyallup Spring Fair tipped over, but the injuries were not life-threatening.

The Lolli Swing, part of the child ride section, had 14 kids on board when the accident occurred about 6:40 p.m., Puyallup Fair spokeswoman Karen LaFlamme said.

"Most of them had bumps and bruises and tears," she said.

One child suffered an unspecified leg injury, LaFlamme said.

Spokeswomen at Good Samaritan Hospital, which received one child and an adult, and Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma, which received four children, said privacy regulations prevented them from discussing injuries or conditions.

Riders on the Lolli Swing must be older than 2-years-old and "able to hang on," according to a Web site for the Oregon State Fair. The ride has swing-type seats that rotate around a central pillar, and has operated at the Puyallup fair for the past five years.

LaFlamme says the ride passed an inspection Wednesday by the state Department of Labor & Industries.

An investigation is under way. LaFlamme says it's possible rain-soaked ground under the ride contributed to the accident.

Funtastic Traveling Shows, the Portland-based ride provider for the Puyallup Fair since the 1950s, had not seen a serious injury aboard a ride in Washington since at least 2002, according to state records.

A Sept. 2007 review of incident records for the seven largest carnival-ride operators working in Washington showed only seven reports of injuries or mechanical failures since 2001, Labor and Industries spokeswoman Elaine Fischer said at the time.

Two of the incidents happened in September 2007 at a Spokane fair. A 9-year-old boy was hospitalized and two 13-year-old girls had a near collision aboard carnival rides.

A photo of the Lolli Swing can be found [here](#).

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*The Associated Press contributed to this report. Casey McNerthney can be reached at 206-448-8220 or [caseymcnerthney@seattlepi.com](mailto:caseymcnerthney@seattlepi.com).*

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# naplesnews.com

## Safety advocates say fair rides, accidents need more oversight

By ELYSA BATISTA

Sunday, April 19, 2009

NAPLES — The investigation into the February accident at the Collier County Fair is done.

But what happens once the report is filed and an answer, if any, is found.

According to some fair ride safety activists, not much.

"There is no information sharing system in place," said Ken Martin with Virginia-based KRM consulting, a safety consultant firm.

Martin added that when state officials from one state have tried to share information with another state, they have been known to get chastised.

However, government officials disagree, adding that they believe finishing the report is just the beginning.

"We do pay attention when an accident occurs," said Doug Rathbun, president of the Council for Amusement and Recreational Equipment Safety.

Currently there isn't a national accident-tracking database in place to cross check incidents that occur across state lines.

"The truth of the matter is that each has its own reporting requirements," said Rathbun, in a recent interview. "There are some states that don't even have an amusement ride inspection program."

For his part, Martin said that for years, the lack of a national database has bothered him.

"That does puzzle me for quite a bit," Martin said.

But that hasn't stopped some state officials from taking matters into their own hands, said Rathbun.

Rathbun said the council, also known as CARES, was created to deal with such issues. The organization has grown from four members in 1996 to 27 in 2009.

"It puts the various managers/chief ride inspectors in a group where we can communicate," Rathbun said.

And it's what happened after the report into the Feb. 5 accident was filed.

"I can't put an exact date on when CARES came into being, but the Bureau was involved in 1997 when I came on board as the Field Administrator," said Florida Bureau of Fair Rides Inspection chief Rob Jacobs in a written statement. "Exchanging and sharing information improves the inspection process."

The nearly two-month long investigation by Florida's Bureau of Fair Rides found no mechanical, structural or electrical problems with the Avalanche, the ride from which 16-year-old Cecilia Amador took a 30-foot fall at the 34th annual Collier County Fair.

Amador fell off the ride at its highest point, when the restraining harness came loose.

The Avalanche is a spinning ride, which holds 24 riders and reaches speeds of 20 revolutions per minute. The ride reaches heights of 29 feet.

In addition, the state found no evidence of improper maintenance, operator error or patron error.

The manufacturer did conclude that it appeared the ride was going faster than the recommended 20 rotations per minute it suggested.

Nevertheless, Jacobs said the bureau could not rule out that speed could cause an intermittent malfunction, but that the investigation had not been able to prove the cause.

Yet questions remain because attempts to duplicate the accident by both the bureau and the Wisdom Company, the ride's manufacturer, were unsuccessful.

"If you can't duplicate it, you can't duplicate it and that can be problematic," said Rathbun, adding that safety officials would much rather know the cause of an accident, rather than having a mystery. "We want accurate information as quickly as we can get it."

According to Jacobs, the state's field inspector spent about nine hours inspecting and testing the ride.

"In coordination with our lead investigator and field inspector here in Tallahassee and the manufacturer, he inspected the entire ride for any deficiencies, accomplished the manufacturer's interlock function test of the restraint system, operated the ride at various speeds, tested the restraint system in an effort to duplicate any slippage or malfunction of the locking mechanism, tested the air pressure system and the emergency stop system," said Jacobs.

In a recent interview, Martin said it's very unusual for a person to be thrown from a carnival ride like the Avalanche.

Martin said it's not that Florida officials are doing a bad job, it's that they're not doing a great job.

"They should have brought an expert in to inspect the ride," said Martin.

He said bringing in the ride's manufacturer, Wisdom, to do part of the inspection could be seen as a conflict of interest.

"It's like the fox guarding the hen house," said Martin.

Martin said he also wondered if there was a computer or 'black box' like record of the ride's actions that day.

"There is much information to be learned from it," he said.

However, Jacobs said there is no such "black box" on the ride.

Overall, Rathbun said he understands why residents would question the report's lack of cause.

"It can be hard for the public to understand," he said.

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Here is a list of ride safety organizations, safety advocates and fair industry sites:

-- Amusement Safety Organization: A California-based nonprofit aimed at reporting on ride safety issues. For more information visit <http://amusementsafety.org>.

-- Council for Amusement and Recreational Equipment Safety (CARES): A voluntary organization of government officials responsible for the enforcement of amusement rides and recreational equipment within their jurisdiction. For more information visit [www.uscancares.org](http://www.uscancares.org).

-- Outdoor Amusement Business Association: A nationwide association of fair, carnival and concessions operators. For more information visit [www.oaba.org](http://www.oaba.org).

-- Saferparks: A California-based nonprofit, which for years advocated for improved ride safety standards. They are no longer active, but their safety database is still operational. For more information visit [www.saferparks.org](http://www.saferparks.org).

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**Fair grandstand event tickets only available online**



Written by Tessa Schweigert  
Tuesday, 21 April 2009

Buying tickets to listen to the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, watch cars crash into each other at the demolition derby and see the mud fling at pig wrestling at the Park County Fair will require something different this year: A computer.

On May 1, all grandstand events for the Park County Fair will go on sale online — and online only.

For the first time, tickets will be available only on the Park County Fair Web site, [www.parkcountyfair.com](http://www.parkcountyfair.com). Fair Manager Steve Scott said the electronic transactions will make it easier for keeping records, help people spread out payments and eliminate the hassle of standing in line.

Scott said he understands that some people haven't purchased tickets online before — and that includes Scott himself.

"I have never bought anything online in my life," he said.

Scott added that the fair office is willing to help folks navigate the new system.

"We'll sure as heck help them," he said.

On the Web site, you can click the link next to the grandstand event you want to purchase tickets for. A seating diagram will show which seats are available. People need to be ready to pay for tickets with their credit card. There is a limit of 30 tickets per transaction.

Once purchased, tickets can either be printed or picked up at the ticket window during fair week, July 21-26.

All tickets will have a bar code and will be scanned as ticket-holders enter the grandstand.

The fair officially opens Tuesday, July 21, and the free stage will be in full swing starting at noon. On Thursday, July 23, free grandstand even include miniature bull riding and miniature donkey polo. Thursday also is the "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" breast-cancer awareness day.

The fair closes on Sunday, July 26 and there won't be a gate charge. A church service will take place at 9 a.m. at the free stage area. The carnival and free stage events will continue until 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Park County Fairgrounds office at 754-5421.

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