Washington County Fair Board Work Session September 7, 1988

ATTENDANCE

Fair Board
Jeanne Leeson
Lloyd Baron
John Meek
John Thomas
Rocky Williams

Staff Cal Wade Ron McAuley Sue Oxendine

FAIR CRITIQUE

Questionaires were sent out with a newsletter. Some responses have been returned. Overall the comments were favorable. Biggest complaints dealt with parking, entertainment times, lack of bleachers at the horse show, and the 4-H Dairy Judge. Baron suggested providing a judges list to 4-H or censoring the list 4-H gives the fair office. Poor judges reflect on the entire fair.

Meek stated improvements are needed in the following areas: Rodeo - too long between events; parking, communications with the EMT, and the gate system in the pit area.

Williams would like to see more seating in the arena, a spruced up and decorated Main Exhibit Building - he suggested landscaping the center of the building with trees, fountains, benches; the pig races closer to the main gate, faster moving rodeo, improved footing in the warm-up arena, improved parking and security, and better lighting.

Thomas mentioned a goat obstacle course might be a fun event to consider. State Fair had one and it attracted quite a crowd. He feels camping charges are too high. Thomas also stated chaos reigned during the livestock release; a better system of loading and traffic control needs to be devised. Livestock gates should open earlier for those who need to milk and Open Class registration papers should be checked.

Baron suggested color coding the gates. He also agreed that improvements are needed in parking, judges, and booth decorations. Further improvements are needed in restroom cleanliness and solutions to mudholes around the barns, particularly the Swine Barn. He thought the entertainment was good and overall the grounds looked good.

Leeson wants something done with the Touch-N-See. She had many complaints of animals being abused and no one supervising the exhibit. She felt the security lax, Home-Ec Department colorless and dull, and bathrooms needed a thorough floor to ceiling cleaning. Many of the fair ads failed to mention the rodeo. Leeson also would like to see entertainers who appeal to a younger (teenage) crowd and home-ec contests with celebrity judges everyday to draw a crowd to the Home-Ec display. Arts and Crafts needs more pizzaz too. A booth selling film would be a nice addition to the fair.

Wade would like to have a fair booth next year. Jackets, pins and caps could be sold. The boosters would perhaps staff the booth. Wade stated the single biggest problem at the fair was security. Problems were also experienced with parking and electrical. His suggestions for 1989 included numbering poles in the parking lot, writing Tri-Met and the county to encourage a bus run, hiring or recruiting a volunteer to change the readerboards daily, and hiring an assistant for Chris Cullen. Tents for additional show rings or eating areas have been ordered.

Other fair items discussed: The possibility of adding a family pass, placing a ticket board outside the booths so fairgoers can see which passes are honored, further clarification of the Premium Book, installing pressure valves on the horse barn faucets, placing the pig races in the Dog Tent area and coordinating race and show times, having more pre-fair publicity regarding exhibits and using State Fair as a guideline for livestock classes. Theme suggestions have been submitted by the Superintendents. Themes will be voted on at the October 6 dinner. The cost of new fair decorations will be explored by staff. There are companies who rent and put-up decorations.

BUDGET REVIEW

The Board discussed and compared Washington County premiums with Multnomah and Clark Counties. They mutually agreed that our premiums need to be raised in certain areas. Wade & Oxendine will work up changes to present to the Board.

MAIN EXHIBIT BUILDING

Wade asked Ed Shepherd and Jim Godfrey for information regarding new steel and wood tresses in the Main Exhibit Building. The wood beams could be left and new steel tresses tied into the beams. The removal of some posts in the center of each section would leave a 60 x 80 free span. Estimated costs per section - \$7,500 for material plus labor, steel posts and installation. Estimated costs for the entire building - \$45,000. Using laminated beams the projected costs would be \$23,000 for all 3 sections plus installation and posts.

No costs for reasphalting or concrete flooring have been received. Wade will continue to pursue lower estimates. A sprinkler system may be required by the City - this should be checked. Baron expressed concern that spending money to remodel old buildings is prolonging the day to build a pavilion. Meek agreed saying it is important to start the market and feasibility study immediately and put the issue before the voters.

ELECTRICAL

Lines to be buried are confirmed. Circuits need to be straightened out and more exterior overhead lighting installed.

CHUCKWAGON

The Chuckwagon is in desperate need of remodeling. The new hood should be installed but can't until the roof is remodeled. Cost

estimates will be obtained immediately so work can be done prior to the rainy season.

RESTROOMS

The Raganeese trailer will be converted this winter. Additional restrooms near the Arts & Crafts Building will be needed if the building is kept.

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WATER LINE

Repairs are needed. A new line will be laid through the main area of the fairgrounds. A line to the Cloverleaf and the caretakers' trailer will also be installed.

SEWER LINES

Problems exist in the portable food booth area. Board members discussed using sewer outlets for the waste water dumped by the food booths during fair. French drains are another possibility. A RV waste water dump outside the fenceline was also suggested.

EQUIPMENT

A larger weed sprayer is needed. McAuley has requested a 14" or 16" double axle low flat bed trailer. Wade & McAuley will pursue the acquisition of one.

RV HOOKUPS

Electrical hookups were added prior to fair along the Main Exhibit Building. A waterline should be laid along the building prior to chipsealing. Wade believes this to be the ideal place to park RV's during winters.

FAIR BOARD CONCERNS

Entertainment times: The recommendation was made by Meek to change the times of the celebrity stage shows to 6:30 PM and 9:30 PM. The Board concurred. Another thought was to change the livestock auction to Saturday afternoon. Wade reported the Livestock Assocition is already considering a schedule change.

Greenhouse: Meek suggested building a greenhouse to enhance the Floral and Land Products Departments. He thought the greenhouse could be a built, planted and maintained by a community group or garden club.

The Floral Department should be consulted on the design, landscaping and placement of the greenhouse and floral building.

Admission: The Board discussed the possibility of raising the admission and or parking fees. The use of 2 for 1 coupons could be encouraged by utilizing sponsors. These could be used as advertising tools by the sponsor. The Board agreed to discuss admission fees as an agenda item at a future fair board meeting.

AGENDA

Washington County Fair Board Regular Meeting

11:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 7, 1988

- 1. Call to order.
- 2. Public Welcome. This time is provided for members of the audience to comment on any item(s) on the agenda. Audience members are also welcome to comment at the time the agenda topic is being discussed by the board. It is respectfully requested that those addressing the board state their full name for the record.
- *3. Bills for approval (enclosure, page 3 6)
- *4. A. 1988 Balance Sheet
 B. Financial Recap (enclosure, page 7 12)
- *5. August 16, 1988 Fair Board Minutes (enclosure, pages 13 15)
- *6. A. August 1988 Off-Season Calendar (enclosure, page 16)
 B. September 1988 Activities Calendar (enclosure, page 17)
 - * Consent Agenda: Any item may be removed for separate consideration upon request of any board member or any member of the audience.
- 7. Fair Organizations' Report:
 - A. Fairgrounds Booster Report
 - B. Rodeo Board Report
- 8. <u>Maintenance Report:</u>
- 9. Old Business:
 - A. Fair dates
 - B. Chip Seal
 - C. Elect pole area to be paved
 - D. Plow livestock parking
- 10. New Business:
 - A. Grounds vacuum
 - В.
- 11. Non-Agenda Items:
 - Α.
 - В.
- 12. <u>Announcements:</u>

AGENDA - PAGE 1

- A. Fair Board work session will immediately follow regular board meetingB. Next regular board meeting, October 5, 1988, 4:30 p.m.

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Carnival: Everyone felt the quality of the carnival was down. Complaints were also heard from the public regarding the start time for the carnival's opening day. Wade explained about the safety standards and travel regulations governing the carnival. These affected the start time. Wade will arrange a meeting date for Funtastic to meet with the Board to discuss concerns.

Oregon Fairs Convention: December 4, 5, & 6, at the Portland Red Lion.

1989-90 Budget: Wade asked the Board for some spending guidelines for the 1989 fair. The Board recommended a budget of \$150,000 for fair entertainment and advertising.

Meek stated the rodeo should be billed as a top rodeo with top cowboys & stock. With this in mind the Board discussed the possibilities of adding additional bleachers. The Fair Boosters have extra money - perhaps they could be approached. The Rodeo Board should be asked to redesign the arena and utilize portable pens.

Funding of major improvements: May 1990 or November 1989 is the time to go before the voters for the Bond Issue. Prior to these dates the Fair Board needs to complete the studies for the Master Plan and educate the public as to what is being planned and why. A campaign chairman will need to be hired. Funding will have to be raised, something the Fair Board cannot directly do. The Boosters could raise some funds. Corporate sponsors are also needed for a financial support base.

Irrigation Water: Baron suggested contacting USA (Unified Sewage Agency) regarding the potential of connecting into the water line being drawn up behind Standard Insurance from Dawson Creek. USA would install the main line. The Fairgrounds might have to install a line from the main line.

The work session was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Oxendine Secretary

Washington County Fair Board MINUTES

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Washington County Fair Board held Wednesday, September 7, 1988, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

<u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Fair Board
Jeanne Leeson
Lloyd Baron
John Meek
John Thomas
Rocky Williams

Staff
Cal Wade
Ron McAuley
Sue Oxendine

Connie Potter, The Oregonian John Baggott Pamela Barduson Vikki Thayer, 4-H Leaders' Association

Chairman Leeson called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and welcomed guests.

CONSENT AGENDA

Unidentified line items on the Bills for Approval were questioned. Williams noted two errors in the budget. Wade explained the \$4,000 error was corrected at the county when the budget was submitted. Revenue line item 23, Off-Season Shows/Parking, is not being added by the computer. This will be corrected.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA EXCLUDING THE UNIDENTIFIED LINE ITEMS ON THE BILLS FOR APPROVAL. THESE WILL BE RESUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING. MOTION PASSED.

BOOSTERS

Report approved as read.

MAINTENANCE

McAuley reported August projects consisted of fair clean-up.

1989 FAIR DATES

Since the July 18-23, 1989 fair dates were selected at the August 16 meeting, new considerations have been brought to the attention of the Vikki Thayer, President of the 4-H Leaders Association fair office. and 4-H Camp Director, explained to the Board that there were three major conflicts with 4-H programs with the early date. - this date has been scheduled 2 years in advance and camp would 2 days before the fair causing hardship for 4-H exhibitors and Wagon Train - this is always scheduled to run the 2nd 2) Horse fair would be affected as some exhibitors might week of July. 3) Interstate Exchange. Wagon Train over fair. and county fair are the highlights for the majority of the programs Many may have to choose between participating in the 4-H exhibitors. programs. Thayer also expressed concerns for the floral the fair or

and land products project areas. She believes the quality and number of exhibits will be down.

Thayer also voiced the need to establish a fair date and stay with it from year to year. She reported the Fair and Fair Board is loosing its credibility with the 4-H Leaders Association and parents because of the constant changing of fair dates.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN THOMAS, SECONDED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS TO RECONSIDER THE 1989 FAIR DATES. PASSED.

Meek stated the dates will jump between the 1st & 2nd week of August. The only way to have a fixed date is to go early July or late August. This is due to conflicts with other fairs.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK SECONDED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS TO SET THE FAIR DATES AS AUGUST 8-13, 1989. MOTION FAILED.

Thomas explained that by going the second week in August the fair would overlap Clark County 6 days. By having the fair run August 1-6 there is only a 3 day conflict. This can be worked around with livestock schedules whereas a 6 day overlap would be impossible and many dairy and beef exhibitors would choose Clark County.

MOTION: MOVED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY JOHN MEEK TO HOLD THE 1989 WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR AUGUST 1-6. MOTION PASSED.

CHIP SEAL

Wade has talked with Mike Maloney regarding chip sealing the area between the Main Exhibit and Arts & Crafts Buildings. Estimated cost \$3,500. Prior to the chip seal two projects should be done. 1) Stub a sewer line behind the Arts & Crafts Building. 2) Get rid of the electrical pole between the 2 buildings by either burying the line or stretching it overhead between the 2 buildings.

MOTION: MOVED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY JOHN THOMAS, TO GO AHEAD WITH THE CHIP SEAL, STUB THE SEWER LINE AND REMOVE THE POLE AT THE NECESSARY COST. PASSED.

Wade will come back to the Board if the costs are out-of-line.

LIVESTOCK PARKING

To smooth the 10 acre livestock parking area, Ken Leahy has suggested to Wade the field be plowed, disked and planted into new pasture. Wade has estimated costs of \$150 - \$200 per acre. A fence or barrier will have to be erected to keep cars off the area during winter and spring. Meek suggested contacting the City for assistance with the cost of fixing the parking lot.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON, TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PLOWING AND SEEDING AND TO MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST TO THE PARKS COMMISSION TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST. MOTION PASSED.

LAND SALE

Quadrant will probably sign the agreement for a Seven Day Right of First Refusal. Realtor Mike Tharp is still working on finding an anchor tenant for Quadrant. The property needs to be relisted. Wade recommends staying with Norris, Beggs & Simpson for another six months. Tharp will be invited to a Fair Board meeting to discuss the urgency of selling the property.

GROUNDS VACUUM

A grounds vacuum would solve the problem of small pieces of paper and cigarette butts left on the grounds. Wade has been looking at a Turf Vac that would be towed behind the tractor. He would like to find a used one. New vacuums cost between \$6-8,000.

MOTION: MOVED BY ROCKY WILLIAMS SECONDED BY JOHN THOMAS TO GIVE WADE THE AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE AND PURCHASE A VACUUM OF ADEQUATE SIZE. PASSED.

BENCH & EQUIPMENT RENTAL

Currently there are two policies regarding bench, table & equipment rental. 1) Nothing leaves the grounds. 2) Everything is rented but remains on the grounds. Some organizations such as City of Beaverton and the Blueberry Festival have requested to borrow benches and tables. Wade asked for direction from the Board.

Meek suggested waivers be signed by parties wanting to borrow and renting at a nominal fee to excuse the fairgrounds of any liability. Perhaps a substantial deposit should also be left when the tables & benches are removed from the grounds.

Wade will work up a rental & deposit schedule for the October meeting.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

A potluck dinner is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 1988, at 6:00 p.m. in the Cloverleaf Building to honor fair volunteers and supporters.

CARDS TO BE SENT

Cards and flowers will be sent to Pat Watts, Textile Superintendent, and Irene Jansen. Both are ill.

Regular meeting adjourned to go into work session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Oxendine Secretary

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR BOARD MINUTES

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Washington County Fair Board held August 16, 1988 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

<u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Board
Jeanne Leeson
John Meek
John Thomas
Rocky Williams
Lloyd Baron

Staff Cal Wade Ron McAuley

Guests Lucille Warren

Chairman Leeson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Thomas questioned the method of selecting the 1988 4-H Dairy Judge. He asked if the Fair Board had the right to discuss with 4-H the selection of judges. Wade responded that the 4-H Leader's Association should advise the extension agents which judges are better qualified. The Fair Board concurred that expressed concerns regarding judges will be conveyed to John Baggott and the Leader's Association by Wade and Oxendine. Perhaps in 1989 more judges can be used by both Open Class and 4-H. Thomas suggested possibly scheduling livestock open class to run concurrent with 4-H and FFA shows.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION PASSED.

<u>MAINTENANCE</u>

Late July and early August projects included building a new ticket booth for the Main Gate, paving the walkway behind the 4-H Barn, paving areas around the Swine Barn and getting grounds and buildings ready for the fair.

QUADRANT LETTER

A letter dated July 18 was received by the fair office from Quadrant. They have been unable to find an "anchor tenant" for the property and no longer want to continue with the six month option. Wade would like to offer Quadrant a 7 day first right of refusal in exchange for the use of the Quadrant property behind the Hallmark. Realtor Mike Tharp believes the fairgrounds property should be put back on the market. Williams stated the land is suited for a hotel/motel and might not sell until the fairgrounds is more developed.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON TO ACCEPT THE QUADRANT LETTER AND HAVE WADE WORK WITH REALTORS TO ACTIVELY MARKET THE LAND. A 7 DAY RIGHT OF REFUSAL IN EXCHANGE FOR USE OF THE QUADRANT PROPERTY FOR PARKING WILL BE OFFERED TO QUADRANT. MOTION PASSED.

IRRIGATION

The Board agreed continued watering of the grounds after fair is too costly.

RETREAT

The Oregonian has printed editorials and publicity against public groups using Timothy Lake and other places outside the metropolitan area as public meeting places. The Board agreed to have the retreat scheduled for August 31 - September 1 changed to September 7, 1988 at the fairgrounds. The regular meeting will begin at noon at the fairgrounds office immediately followed by a work session. Dinner will be at Cade's and the meeting reconvened after dinner.

PAY RAISE

A 3.3% Cost of Living increase was granted to all County Employees. Wade approved the increase for permanent staff excluding his own.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY JOHN THOMAS TO APPROVE THE INCREASE FOR ALL PERMANENT STAFF, INCLUDING WADE, RETROACTIVE TO JULY 1, 1988. MOTION PASSED.

1989 FAIR DATES

Fair attendance for 1988 increased by about 15% despite competing against Clark County and the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival. Wade does not feel the fair can continue to compete against these two events and experience any type of growth in the future. After much discussion of possible fair dates the board decided to hold the 1989 fair before Multnomah County.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN THOMAS, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON TO SET JULY 18 - JULY 23 AS THE 1989 FAIR DATES. MOTION PASSED WITH WILLIAMS OPPOSED.

MISSING RADIO

A rented radio was either lost or stolen during the fair. The radio's value is \$875.00. Wade does not want to set the precedent that whoever checks out a radio is liable should something happen to the unit. Board members agreed, and in this instance the Fair Board will pick up the difference between what the private insurance company pays and the cost of replacing the radio.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Wade has purchased a 10' John Deere Culatpack. He would also like to purchase some tent frames. Framework for a 20' \times 48' costs \$372.00; 30' \times 96' costs \$1,589.00. Rental for a tent is \$.50 a square foot. The Board authorized Wade to purchase the frames.

MAIN EXHIBIT BUILDING

Meek suggested chipsealing the West and East sides of the Main Exhibit

Building. Landscaping around the building is also needed. Wade will research the chipseal with Mike Maloney. Meek also suggested a greenhouse near the Floral Building for use by garden clubs might be a nice addition.

FAIR QUESTIONNAIRE

A questionnaire will be incorporated with a newsletter to superintendents and exhibitors and sent prior to the September 7 meeting.

The Board adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be September 7, 1988 at noon.

Respectively submitted,

Sue Oxendine