

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm on **October 15, 2020** by Dean Elliott, Chairman, in the Events Center conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Minutes of the September 2020 meeting were accepted. Dean started the meeting by thanking everyone for being in attendance.

Board Members Present:

John Adams
John Anderson
Pat Candelaria
Dean Elliott
Sarah Fischer
Tom Harris
Debbie Mills
Phil Riesselman
Gabriel Ryan
Hayden Schmidt
Craig Sloan
Pam Spradlin
Lora Talbert

Board Members Absent:

Ben Alderton (notification received)
Monty Anderson
Scott Candelaria (notification received)
Jennifer Foss
Arlie Gordon
Wesley Jacobs (notification received)
Shawn McWhorter
Jack Orr

Associate Members Present:

Laura Martin
Scott McHenry
Patti Russell
Rob Tkach

Associate Members Absent:

Barry Borges
Nick Candelaria
Matt Coyle
Darlene Craven
Deb Dilley
John Holst
Chayce Lutz
Kyle Moore
Anneliese Phippen
Dick Sabulsky
Jessica Smith
Todd Spencer
John Woodrick
Phillip Woodrick

Staff Present:

*Kirsten Cowan
Nicole Speeding*

Staff Absent:

*Laurie Anderson
Michelle Bartlett
Barbara Drake
Mike Ehmann
Tim Hallmark
Synneva Knopp
Luanne Lee
Tony Spurlock*

Other Guests:

Danny Talbert

Standing Members Present:

None

Public Meeting

Public Comment – None

Dean started the meeting by saying that Pam did a great job as Chair.

Things will be done differently, not as a reflection on Pam's efforts, but different styles. It will be all about the next step change in the offering of the DCFR and about moving forward. Dean would like to change the meeting structure to use a consent agenda with reports provided ahead of time. Refer to the handout stating effective November 2020. During the meeting if there are questions on an item, that report will be pulled off the consent agenda for later discussion during the meeting. Each Committee decides which 4-5 bullet points to include in their report that is sent in ahead for inclusion in the consent agenda. CSU Extension and Guest affiliates would also provide reports ahead for the consent agenda.

This meeting tonight is all about laying out thoughts to move forward.

Concern that some involved are not on email.

Work hard to have things ahead of time.

Meeting notices have been coming out with very short notices

Dean would like to work in a one-hour format. He is sensitive to everyone's time.

Dean presents:

STRATEGIC PLAN PACKET INCLUDED IN THE HANDOUT

AGENDA

Budget

Focus on Fair

Take away action items to make more productive meetings

Last few years have taught us we can do things differently

Planning meetings each week on Wednesday's with Commissioner Partridge helped for the 2020 Fair

Fair Board came together to make the 2020 Fair happen

GENERAL THEMES

1) 4 LEGGED STOOL

FAIR BOARD

FAIR FOUNDATION

- \$50,000.00 provided to the 2020 fair
- Board enjoyed the Performance Platform
- Volunteered to greet contestants
- Volunteered at the Livestock Sale
- Foundation Board members want to be involved

COUNTY

- New Day there
- Level of engagement is different
- Sensitive to us vs. them – a little bit of that starts with us
- Dean has been telling them what is disengaging

4-H

- Not just during Fair week
- Engage Youth and Parents early on in the year
- Kirsten offered that it would go along way to open communication and create relationships
- Conversation starters – signs with facts
- Pat offered that Fair Board needs to engage with the kids

2) ACCOUNTABILITY

- To each other – County is fielding complaints from Fair Board Directors regarding other Fair Board Directors
- Build camaraderie – A team comes together to do something for the Community; Values its Ag roots

3) ATTENDANCE

- It's 2020, we have technology solutions – if you can't be there, let Dean know
- In person meetings are preferred but not always workable.

MONTHLY FAIR BOARD MEETINGS

- Fair Board is to meet every month
- Committee Chair can decide if committee needs to meet every month
- 3 or more Fair Board Directors – open meeting law applies
- Post Agenda 24 hours ahead, take minutes, and comply
- Have a set agenda to post each month

CALENDAR

- Schedule Fair Board meeting December 17, 2020 and January 21, 2020 (no NWSS)

BUDGET

- Budget was submitted in June based on 2019 for 2020
- Review at the committee level
- Have a strong sense that we need to work on filling the gap between expenses and revenue
- What are we going to add, in a different way, for revenue?
- Pat Candelaria suggested we start by cutting out our meals at each meeting.
- Additional monies will require a supplemental request
- Tim and Luanne are willing to work with us and help us
- Budget Overtime instead of adding in after the fact
- Scott McHenry expressed concern about the model currently being used related to the Saturday night concert and thought we should review that

KEY VISION WORDS – Dean to take notes on this section

Purpose

Vision

How best to deliver?

Homework for Directors: What should be our expectations of Directors?

OLD BUSINESS

Address Director Status for term renewals

NEW BUSINESS

Kirsten announced that Phil was honored at Achievement Night with the Emeritus Award.

Debbie reported 2 upcoming events for the Fair Foundation

Ghost Town Hoe Down on October 24

Dustin Devine Band

Community Gathering – Celebration

Goal is to break even – not a fundraiser

Holiday Marketplace

November 7 and 8

Friday the 6th – move in – help needed from 3-6:00 pm

Limited Vendors – have to follow guidelines – 175 max occupancy (plus “staff”)

Royalty, Creative Arts and the Livestock Grant program will have display booths

Hayden Schmidt brought a motion to recruit and form a sub committee to check, shorten and condense the rules that are targeted to post in January, Motion approved.

Pat discussed that deadlines teach life lessons and there should be no protest for deadlines missed.

Pat Candelaria made a motion that a deadline is a deadline and should not have a protest, Motion passed.

Pat discussed the need to review the rules for the Protest Committee.

Pat reported on the progress of the Award Committee started in 2020.

More information to come next month.

Dean discussed the need to engage Roger in some capacity possibly as an Associate Director or Director after his term ends as Commissioner.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 pm

Notes provided by:

Pam Spradlin

Secretary to the Douglas County Fair Board

Friday, November 13, 2020