

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD  
May 21, 2020

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:33pm on May 21, 2020 by Pam Spradlin, Chairperson in the Douglas County Events Center Conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pam started the meeting by wishing everyone well during this challenging time.

**Board Members Present:**

*John Adams  
Ben Alderton  
Pat Candelaria  
Scott Candelaria  
Dean Elliott  
Sarah Fischer  
Jennifer Foss  
Tom Harris  
Wesley Jacobs  
Shawn McWhorter  
Debbie Mills  
Phil Riesselman  
Hayden Schmidt  
Craig Sloan  
Pam Spradlin  
Lora Talbert*

**Associate Members Present:**

*Patti Russell  
Anneliese Phippen  
Scott McHenry  
Rob Tkach  
Pat Salazar*

**Staff Present:**

*Michelle Bartlett  
Synneva Knopp  
Luanne Lee  
Mike Ehmann  
Tim Hallmark  
Vicky Starkey  
Laurie Anderson  
Kyle Christensen  
Kirsten Cowan*

**Standing Members Present:**

*None*

**Board Members Absent:**

*John Anderson  
Monty Anderson  
Arlie Gordon Jr.*

**Associate Members Absent:**

*Barry Borges  
Nick Candelaria  
Matt Coyle  
Darlene Craven  
John Holst  
Chayce Lutz  
Laura Martin  
Kyle Moore  
Dick Sabulsky  
Jessica Smith  
Todd Spencer  
John Woodrick  
Phillip Woodrick*

**Staff Absent:**

*Barbara Drake*

**Other Guests:**

*Grace Pool  
Leann Coggins  
Mark Moore  
Joanna Mauck*

## Public Meeting

**Public Comment** – None

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes** – Pat Candelaria moved to approve the March Fair Board minutes; John Adams seconded. All approved.

**Treasurers Report** – County staff stated that they hadn't sent the budget to Wes beforehand, but approximately \$60,000 has been spent with no revenue collected. Pat Candelaria asked what was included in the money that had been spent. County staff listed various expenses including awards, licensing, rodeo fees and supplies...etc, but that they could provide a detailed list of expenses.

**Fair Management Report** – Staff reported that they have been attending meetings with IAFE, CAF, other County departments while monitoring the latest health orders and requirements to develop various contingency plans in addition to maintaining communication with all contractors, sponsors, vendors and other stakeholders.

### CSU Extension Director Report

**4-H Council** – Grace gave a report on 4-H activities and stated that they would be having a showmanship jackpot show and that June Show would be virtual.

**4-H Leaders Council** – None.

**Staff Report** – Kirsten Cowan gave a general update on how their office is responding to the current restrictions in regards to 4-H events. Kyle said that as restrictions continue to lift, he thinks CSU's guidelines align with Douglas County and the local health department and hopefully 4-H will be able to participate in a safe and approved manner.

### Guest Organization Reports

**Fair Foundation**- Patti Russel stated that the 2020 Wall of Honor Ceremony is scheduled to take place in 2021. She also let everyone know the Blindman Tractor Drive and Pie Eating Competition are canceled for this year. The Livestock Grant Projects are going well. Mark Moore let everyone know the Cowboy Ball has been rescheduled for October 24, 2020.

**FFA** – Ainsley Fischer gave the following report:

"We inducted new officers, we will be having a virtual banquet and there is a plant sale at CALF on May 30th and some of those plants are ours!" Thank you for all of your support!"

### Committee Updates

**Fair Planning Committee**- Dean gave an explanation on why the committee was formed and its purpose. So far, the committee has met on 5/5 and 5/19. Dean explained that a '3 Bucket' plan was being made for each committee: Bucket 1: Normal Fair, Bucket 2: Socially Distance Fair, Bucket 3: Virtual. He discussed some of the challenges identified and possible solutions the committee has come up with based on individual committee recommendations.

Pat Candelaria stated that although she thinks the committee along with staff have been working very hard, she hopes that the entire Fair Board can be united in their decision so no one will be responsible for all the credit or blame.

Shawn McWhorter asked Dean what the timeframe was as far as when a decision would be made. Dean responded that they are pushing for answers as soon as possible, but some committees/events have different deadlines for when decisions need to be made.

Pam thanked both the Planning Committee and Staff for all their hard work.

**Guest Services Committee** – Dean reported that the volunteer schedule is now live on Volunteer Connect and they have had a few volunteers reach out including the LDS church inquiring about volunteer opportunities this year.

**Marketing Committee** – Debbie informed everyone that all marketing and advertising is postponed until there is a clear plan and decision are made. She also said that although we have a handful of sponsors committed for this year, it is unclear what we can offer them in return for their financial support and that will have to be identified as plans unfold. She also let Dean know that Farm Bureau said they would be happy to volunteer and help however they can.

**Royalty-** Debbie moved to approve to extend the 2020 royalty girls' reigns through 2021. John Adams seconded. The motion passed.

**Entertainment Committee** – Lora summarized what Dean had explained in the Planning Committee report. If there must be virtual entertainment only, the committee would like to see a band and Draft Horse livestreamed and if some public is allowed then Lora would like to utilize physical barriers or markings to encourage social distancing when people are watching the concert or Draft Horse performance.

**Show Management Committee** – Ben reiterated what Dean said and thanked everyone for their hard work on the Planning Committee. Shawn asked for an update on registration. Michelle let him know that it's remaining the same, opening on June 1 and closing on June 15.

**Livestock Sale Committee** – Phil stated that Dean gave a good update about the recent efforts of the Sale Committee, but he wanted to thank Michelle for all her efforts and hard work figuring out solutions for the Sale this year. He also made the clarification that it is not the Sale Committee's responsibility to sell the remaining animals from exhibitor. The Sale Committee only makes arrangements for the animals who make the Sale. Phil also mentioned how overwhelmed all of the processing plants are at this time. Scott said that he heard they are backed up until December and Wes said that he heard some were delayed until January 23.

**Rodeo Committee-** Craig thanked Dean and Synneva and summarized what Dean spoke on in his report for the three different recommendations based on the different scenarios. In addition to looking at doing a drive-in rodeo, Debbie said she has made contact with Wrangler and there may be a possibility for using the Wrangler Channel to livestream our performances.

**Executive Committee** – Pam reported that all that was discussed in Executive was already mentioned during the Planning Committee report and in all the other committee reports. She reminded everyone that whatever is going to happen is going to happen and everyone just needs to remain positive and work together.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Pam reminded everyone that Officers will be elected at the next Fair Board meeting in June and that Committee Chair's appointments will happen in November.

**Director Comments**

Phil wanted to remind everyone that all counties are different and that each Fair will have to adhere to their local health department's guidelines.

Pam let everyone know she is planning to run for secretary, Wes will run for Treasurer again, Scott will run for Vice Chair.

Sarah Fischer asked if the Commissioners were going to make a decision and then the Fair Board would have the opportunity to vote again or if their decision would be final. Pam said their decision would be final.

Sarah Fischer asked if the County had requested a variance yet and there was a 'yes' in response, but it was unclear who it came from. There had been a variance requested to open the Park Meadows Mall, but not one specifically for Fair.

Pat Candelaria said that committee meetings may need to be moved up earlier in the month depending on what decisions are made and when action needs to be taken. Pam echoed Pat stating that some special meetings may need to be held.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm