

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD
June 11, 2020

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 7:06pm on May 21, 2020 by Pam Spradlin, Chairperson. The meeting was held virtually. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

*John Adams
Ben Alderton
John Anderson
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
Jessica Smith
John Woodrick*

Staff Present:

*Michelle Bartlett
Synneva Knopp
Luanne Lee
Mike Ehmann
Tim Hallmark
Kirsten Cowan*

Standing Members Present:

None

Board Members Absent:

*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
Todd Spencer
Phillip Woodrick*

Staff Absent:

*Barbara Drake
Kyle Christensen*

Other Guests:

None

Public Meeting

Public Comment – None

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – John moved to approve the May minutes. Craig seconded— All approved.

Treasurers Report – Wes stated that there were a little over \$65,000 in expenses and no official revenue. Debbie Mills stated there is some pending revenue from sponsors who are committed, but funds haven't been received.

Fair Management Report – Michelle announced that committee meeting reminders will start to be sent out to the entire board so people who wish to participate can. Synneva stated she has been working with food vendors to organize a schedule for them to be here during the 4-H Shows and for the rodeos.

CSU Extension Director Report

4-H Council – None.

4-H Leaders Council – None.

Staff Report – Kirsten Cowan gave a general update on how their office is responding to the current restrictions in regard to 4-H events and that if the variance does go through, CSU will be able to fall in step with that. She also mentioned that there is a new agent at the Extension office, Nicole Speeding.

Guest Organization Reports

Fair Foundation- Patti Russel stated that there wasn't any new information since the Foundation hasn't been able to have a meeting yet and Pam added that there was no quorum at the last meeting. The Fairgrounds staff is working on putting together some costs for the Foundation to review to see if they are willing to contribute to Fair this year.

FFA – None.

Committee Updates

Fair Planning Committee- Pam addressed the group and stated that COVID is dictating what is able to be done at Fair and that this year will be significantly different due to the current public health orders. She let everyone know that the Fair Planning Committee has essentially dissolved, and work is being done in each individual committee.

Guest Services Committee – Dean reported that the volunteer schedule is now live on Volunteer Connect and that there is still a need for a significant amount of volunteers to help manage the extra tasks related to COVID-19 despite a lot of the regularly scheduled events being canceled.

Phil let Dean know that the Livestock Sale will need the same amount of volunteers if not more to assist.

Marketing Committee – Debbie informed everyone that the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo was nominated on USA Today's '10 Best' Category and said that everyone should go on Facebook and vote. She let everyone know sponsors are on hold for what they can actually 'sponsor' and what we can offer them, but some are still very interested in partnering this year.

Royalty- Two of the four royalty members will roll over to carry on their reign in 2021. A food drive was held in lieu of the normal Window Painting fundraiser. The royalty members raised over \$1,000 and got 30-40 bags of groceries.

Entertainment Committee – Lora announced that basically all entertainment for this year has been canceled.

Show Management Committee – Michelle is working on compiling all the feedback from Superintendents in order to make necessary changes to the Competition Rules. After the changes have been made they will be submitted for approval. All market rabbits will be terminated after their show and taken to the Birds of Prey.

Pat spoke and said that the changes for shooting sports need to be published as soon as possible because kids are already starting to register for shooting sports and they won't be aware of the rules.

Shawn inquired about the timing of shows and being able to wash the animals after their ultra sound. He said that the animals will have oil in their hair and it is very difficult to wash out. Michelle reminded him that Superintendent meetings were just held so all their feedback and suggestions still need to be reviewed before all the details and worked out and answers will be available.

Kirsten said she is working on the ultrasound schedule to try and have someone here for each show.

Phil asked Michelle if she has a chance to talk to Noah about the Market Show yet. Michelle said she hadn't and there are a lot of logistics to still work out.

Pam reminded everyone to be patient while waiting on answers as there is a tremendous amount of logistics to work out and changes that need to be made.

Livestock Sale Committee – Phil gave a summary on the changes for this year's Livestock Sale: There will be no Market Floor, no Buy Back Sale and increased number of Ring Men and Runners. The normal Buyers BBQ will be more of a boxed lunch style. Buyers have received an email and/or letter informing them there will be a Sale and that more details will be released later on.

Rodeo Committee- Craig announced that the Friday rodeo performance will be canceled, but there will still be Xtreme Bulls, Slack and two Rodeo Performances. Shawn asked how it would work to have Xtreme Bulls on the same night at the Beef show since it is in the Indoor Arena and Craig said it would be in the Outdoor Arena this year. The Rodeo Committee will be using the COVID-19 ground rules and guidelines produced by the PRCA for contestants. Health checks will be performed before contestants are able to enter on the grounds. The committee is working with the PRCA to get approval for capping contestants in the timed

and roughs stock events. The Hall of Fame has still not announced if it will be canceling for this year.

Executive Committee – Pam reported that all that was discussed in Executive was already mentioned in all the other committee reports.

Old Business

None

New Business

Dean was elected as Fair Board Chair, Scott was re-elected for Vice Chair, Wes was re-elected as Treasurer, Pam was elected as Secretary.

Director Comments

Scott asked about the status of the variance. Michelle let him know that it's still being worked on and hasn't been submitted to the State for approval.

Hayden congratulated Dean and said that his position as Chair is well deserved.

Phil thanked the staff and said that Michelle has been working so hard and that the Fair Board couldn't do it without them.

Pam reiterated if anyone feels uncomfortable participating in Fair then to let her or staff know. She reminded everyone that it's important to help each other and that the Fair Board has been doing this for many years and it's going to be messy, but they'll get through it.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm