

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD  
September 17, 2020

The Douglas County Fair Board meeting was called to order at 6:32pm on, September 17, 2020 by Pam Spradlin, Chairperson. The meeting was held in Kirk Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Associate Members Present:**

*Anneliese Phippen*  
*Dick Sabulsky*

**Staff Present:**

*Laurie Anderson*  
*Michelle Bartlett*  
*Kirsten Cowan*  
*Mike Ehmann*  
*Tim Hallmark*  
*Synneva Knopp*  
*Luanne Lee*  
*Nicole Speeding*

**Standing Members Present:**

*None*

**Board Members Absent:**

*Monty Anderson*  
*Arlie Gordon Jr.*  
*Tom Harris*  
*Jack Orr*  
*Shawn McWhorter*

**Associate Members Absent:**

*Barry Borges*  
*Nick Candelaria*  
*Matt Coyle*  
*Darlene Craven*  
*Deb Dilley*  
*John Holst*  
*Chayce Lutz*  
*Laura Martin*  
*Scott McHenry*  
*Kyle Moore*  
*Patti Russell*  
*Jessica Smith*  
*Todd Spencer*  
*John Woodrick*  
*Phillip Woodrick*

**Staff Absent:**

*Barbara Drake*  
*Tony Spurlock*

**Other Guests:**

*Bailey Fischer*  
*Sophia Foss*  
*Danny Talbert*  
*Grace Pool*

## **Public Meeting**

**Public Comment** – None

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes** – Phil moved to approve the July minutes. John seconded—All approved.

**Treasurers Report** – Wes gave an overview of the revenue and expenses for the 2020 Fair. He let the board know that there are still a few more revenues and expenses to come in.

**Fair Management Report** – Michelle reported statistics from this year's Fair.

Synneva went over the committee and Fair Board meeting schedule again. She reminded the board that if their committees would like to meet in the off months, they are welcome to do that, they just need to send staff an agenda to post 24 hours before the meeting and minutes to post on the website after the meeting. She also let the committee know that staff will still be applying for IAFE awards this year, even though it wasn't a normal year.

Mike informed the board about improvements done to the grounds including the fence and gate near the Multi-purpose Barn and Pavilion.

## **CSU Extension Director Report**

**4-H Council** – Grace gave an update on the last meeting. They discussed Achievement night plans and how things will change due to COVID-19. The date will be Wednesday, October 14 in the Events Center with only 175 people able to be present.

**4-H Leaders Council** – Kirsten reported that the 4-H Leaders Council met via Zoom and discussed how Fair went and the changes from COVID-19. Pat asked what feedback Kirsten had received from Leaders Council about Fair. Kirsten responded that everyone thought that Fair went well, but that they would like better communication about what is being planned for Fair in the Future. Nicole also stated that the kids would like to see a shorter Livestock Sale night. Phil and Pat both explained that a shorter sale night is not possible, especially when the sale returns to having a buy-back sale.

**Staff Report** – Kirsten gave an update on record books for 2020. There was a change in the due date this year, and only five books were not turned in. Many seemed to like the change, while some organizational leaders felt it was too cumbersome to check the books twice. Moving forward, if record books are not turned in, the exhibitor will not be eligible for a project the following year. The enrollment deadline for this year will begin around November 1. The entry fee will remain the same, however the entry fee for Cloverbuds will be decreasing to \$20 just for this year due to COVID-19. Please also remind everyone that there are financial assistance programs available through 4-H. If people have questions, please have them reach out to either Kirsten or Nicole.

Kirsten also reported on updated COVID-19 guidelines for all 4-H programming. At this time, up to 25 youth are permitted to meet in one area at a time. Leaders and parents (to observe only) would not be counted to this number. Everyone should always maintain 6' of distance. Face masks are mandatory while inside and mandatory while outside if 6' of distance cannot be maintained. Current CSU COVID Liability Forms required for all youth and adults present at event. For larger clubs or clubs that would have more than 25 youth,

they need to contact the agents and the requests will be taken on a case by case basis and should not happen without a discussion with the agent. If anyone has questions, they should contact Kirsten for anything animal related and Nicole for general projects.

Nicole echoed Grace about Achievement Night. She also informed everyone about upcoming programming for Youth Development. Starting in October, the 4-H Office will be offering *Douglas County Explorers*, a career exploration course for high school students. Each week youth can pick from 3 workshops offerings, they can participate in just one week or all four. Another program coming in November is *Ready in the Middle*, a program for kids ages 10-12 years to prepare them for natural disasters.

### **Guest Organization Reports**

**Fair Foundation-** Pam reported that Fair Foundation has a hybrid (in person and virtual) meeting next Wednesday, September 23, 2020. She asked Debbie to give an update on the Ghost Town Hoedown fundraiser event.

Debbie informed the board that the event will take place on October 24, 2020. Tickets will be on sale next week and will be \$20 per person. This will be a prelude to the Cowboy Ball next year. There will be a band, but no dancing will be allowed. Trick-or-treat stations will be set up for the kids, so please bring your family as this will be a family friendly event.

Phil updated the board on the Livestock Educational Grant Program (L.E.G. Up). This year the Grant Committee has decided to continue sponsoring two animals in each species. Pam had given the suggestion to add rabbits to the program, the committee will look at this for 2022. Applications are due at the end of September and the giveaway program will be held on November 7. The L.E.G. Up program is designed to only sponsor market animals for the Livestock Sale, so 4-H Foundation has stepped up to sponsor 4-H exhibitors in General Projects, Shooting Sports and Rocketry.

**FFA** – Bailey Fischer stated that FFA did not have a lot to report as they are still restricted to doing everything virtual until further notice. They did have a virtual meeting in September with about 20 participants. This year there are about 60 members. The current Officer team is Hannah Wiskus (Pres) Garrett Northrup (VP) Rebekka Gaulrapp (Sec) Skylar Eaton (Tres) Johanna Aldrich (Reporter) and Jason Simmons (Sentinel). They are hoping to have CDE Teams in the spring; however, information changes daily on whether that will be allowed. Wyatt Sandell represented FFA by competing at the Heifer Wrangle at the Colorado State Fair. She also asked for Fair Boards help in that if they know of ANY virtual games/ workshops/ or events that FFA students may be interested in please let Mrs. Simonds or an officer know.

### **Committee Updates**

**Guest Services Committee** – Dean reported that the committee reviewed all Fair activities that related to Guest Services and discussed ideas on how to better volunteer operations for next year. The committee is working on a new Chair replacement, but that is an open item that is still pending.

#### **Marketing Committee –**

**Royalty-** Debbie let everyone know that 2 out of 4 girls are rolling over to 2021. Brooke and Shelby have other obligations, but Rylee, Queen, and Samantha, Princess, will continue. Debbie made a motion to approve the royalty scholarships for Shelby and Rylee. John seconded. No discussion. The motion passed.

Debbie gave an update on the September committee meeting. The committee discussed and finalized the unused design from 2020 to be used for 2021. They are working on their goals and action items for the year. This will be discussed again at the next meeting. The committee also discussed the Souvenir Program but have decided to table this discussion until the November meeting. This year they would like to focus on educational opportunities for the Creative Arts project, youth outreach and agriculture education. The 4-H Office has extra "4-H Grows Here" signs for anyone who would like to support 4-H. They have had a great response with these and would like to continue that momentum. She also gave an update on this year's TV/Media marketing. The Cowboy Channel livestreamed the Thursday and Saturday performance on Sunday. There were also had several press releases written this year.

**Entertainment Committee** – Lora reported that the Entertainment committee did not meet in September but plans to meet in October. She recapped that there was one band on the Midway stage this year. She looks forward to planning for 2021.

**Livestock Sale Committee** – Phil reported that the committee met in August. This year, 120 animals were sold for a total sale amount of \$401,195.00, with \$287,100.00 being animal sales and \$114,095.00 being add-ons. There were a lot more online buyers than what was expected. In reconciling the Sale, there is approximately \$7,000.00 left to collect. This is a great improvement in prompt payment from years past. He stated that the committee would like to continue with a hybrid online and in person sale next year, however, they would like to go with a different auction company. The one that was used this year did not deliver on what was promised at the beginning. A lot of online buyers had a difficult time because there was a delay in the sale from in person to online. The auctioneers did a great job of drawing the bids out to allow time for those having issues to still bid. This made the sale longer than first thought. He expressed that he was very impressed and that the Sale went better than he thought it would. It takes a village to put on a Sale like this and he thanked everyone involved that made it such a success.

**Rodeo Committee-** Craig reported that the rodeo committee met last week and discussed feedback on this year's Fair. He mentioned that there were issues with the chutes, but that he is working with the Fairgrounds staff to get those issues resolved. He also reported that there was an issue with the veterinarian this year, but that has since been resolved. Everyone worked hard and worked together this year to get things done and he really appreciated that. There was a smaller audience this year, but you could not tell because of their enthusiasm and excitement to even be at the rodeo.

**Show Management Committee** – Ben reported that the committee met at the first of the month. He asked for feedback from the Superintendents, but that they did not have much to say. The feedback that was received was that it was great that we were able to do what we did, and everyone was very appreciative of that. At the meeting, all superintendents were asked to look at their section of the Competition Rules and to turn in any changes, additions, or deletions to the Fairgrounds Office by October 15, 2020. No changes, except those made to State Fair rules, will be accepted after the deadline. He brought up the idea to the board of forming a Competition Rules sub-committee to evaluate the rules. The committee would include at least one person from each of the different section of the rules, i.e. Show

Management, Creative Arts, Livestock Sale, Rodeo, Royalty, etc. He also asked that the committee look at the rules as the rule book could be much shorter.

Pat let the committee know that the awards sub-committee that was formed earlier in the year will be meeting next week to discuss awards, premiums and the process of retiring Fair Board Directors. The goal of the committee is to create a plan on how to make the awards and premiums more consistent across the board.

**Executive Committee** – Pam reported that almost everything that was discussed in Executive was already mentioned in all the other committee reports. She reminded the board of a few action items that will be coming up shortly, including Director/Associate Director re-appointments and Committee Chair appointments. Both take place in November but will be difficult to do at the November Fair Board meeting if there is no meeting in October for recommendations. She also read off the list of Directors whose term expires this year and asked them to let her or Dean know if they would like to continue as a Fair Board director.

At a previous meeting with Commissioner Partridge, he had expressed the want to be an Honorary Director on the Fair Board. He would like to help with Sponsorships and big projects with the Fair Board. Pam tasked the awards sub-committee to investigate the policies and procedures and decide what role would best fit his request.

### **Old Business**

None

**New Business:** Dean informed the Board that Pam had been honored for her time and dedication to the Fair Board at the Board of County Commissioners Business Meeting earlier in the week. Staff played the recorded video of Pam receiving the award. Pam has done so much for not only the Fair Board, but also for the Fair Foundation. Dean asked the board to share their stories and nice thoughts for Pam.

Pat expressed her excitement that Pam would have more time to help her with the Livestock Sale. Phil gave a nice speech for Pam expressing that no one else can spend as much time dedicated to the Fair and Fair Board as Pam. He was unsure how she does it as he wasn't able to devote that much time when he was Chair. She is always supportive and diligently works with the County Staff and Fair Board. Saying thank you isn't enough. Her dedication is what has made the Fair what it is today.

Craig congratulated Pam and expressed his appreciation for everything Pam does and has done. She has set the stage for what a great leader looks like.

### **Director Comments**

None

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm