

**MINUTES OF FAIR BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 1993**

FAIR BOARD

John Thomas
Marla Warren
Ken Leahy
George Otten
David Lintz

STAFF

Cal Wade
Ron McAuley
Sue Oxendine

GUESTS

Connie Potter
Jeanne Leason
Eric Apalategui

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Thomas at 4:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: MOVED BY MARLA WARREN, SECONDED BY KEN LEAHY, TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

RODEO BOARD

Warren reported on the January 12 fair board meeting regarding the restructuring of the rodeo board. Dick Eagle was appointed chairman. Others appointed to the rodeo board were George Kneese, Marlene Spadt, Claude Werner, and Rocky Williams.

Miss Rodeo Oregon, Sara Lyle, will serve as hostess for the 1993 Washington County Fair & Rodeo. The Miss Oregon Rodeo Pageant will be held during the rodeo.

February 1 the rodeo board met and selected their committee members. They also discussed the jerk down rule the rodeo has applied for from the PRCA. Wade stated that the new organization looks promising.

FAIR BOOSTERS

The first meeting of 1993 will take place following tonight's fair board meeting. All fair board members were encouraged to join the boosters.

MARKETING

Wade reported for the vacationing Poe that there had been a 648% jump in revenue comparing January 1992 to January 1993. This was accomplished with only one extra use day in January 1993 and indicates the quality of shows at the FairPlex are improving and they are using more facility area.

Wade attributes this growth to having a full time marketing position on staff. The improved quality of the fair and the increased awareness by the public of the usage of the FairPlex has also aided in the growth.

MAINTENANCE

January projects included building ramps for the Arts & Crafts building for handicapped access during fair, painting the inside of the livestock restrooms, installing hardware for handicapped restrooms, overhauling the tow motors purchased at State Surplus, and repairing the wiring in the Main Exhibit Building.

1992/93 BUDGET

Wade stated that the budget has been affected by two major hits - one in expenses and one in revenue.

There is a \$21,700 deficit in payroll costs due to three factors:

1. A full time event person was hired because of the increased usage of the facilities. His salary had been taken into account because he was on the staff as a temporary employee. Once hired full time, he was eligible to receive benefits.
2. Increased medical costs that affect every county department.
3. Under estimating the line item on the original budget.

The change of date of the Air Show has caused a \$30,000 loss in the revenue for this budget year.

Wade gave an overview of additional line items and stated that the bottom line after leaving a \$250,000 reserve is \$11,108. Decisions will have to be as to whether the reserve fund is tapped to complete projects.

An explanation of the revised budget is attached.

MOTION: MOVED BY MARLA WARREN, SECONDED BY DAVE LINTZ, TO ACCEPT THE REVISED BUDGET. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

HORSE SHUTTLE DURING FAIR

Wade reviewed the events from the 1992 fair leading to the death of Charlene Jensen. He notified the board that a lawsuit has been filed and notice was received today. The issue tonight is whether to continue with the horse shuttle.

Dave Lintz stated that this topic should be discussed in Executive Session. Wade replied that in order to do so an Executive Session must be declared in advance for the purpose of discussing the horse shuttle and the fair board's attorney should be present.

MOTION: MOVED BY MARLA WARREN, SECONDED BY DAVE LINTZ, TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE MARCH MEETING AND DISCUSS IT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Governor Roberts has introduced a bill, Bill 183, to take the money designated to county fairs and give to the general fund. The amount in question for Washington County would be just under \$54,000, based on 1992 figures. This represents 10% of the fair budget and is money designated for premiums.

The Bill would affect the Tri-County Lamb Show held here in May. The Lamb Show received \$2,000 from the state which represents 100% of their budget.

Wade has written an informational letter to the legislators

telling of the impact the fairs throughout the state have on the local economies. The Oregon Fairs Association (OFA) is taking an active stand on the issue and is asking for increased funds from the paramutual betting.

Wade requested the board take a pro active stand on the issue especially when talking with Chambers, rotaries, and other groups.

MOTION: MOVED BY DAVE LINTZ, SECONDED BY MARLA WARREN, TO HAVE WADE TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE TO EXPOSE THE ISSUE BEFORE CHAMBERS, ROTARIES, AND COMMISSIONERS WITH THE INTENT OF TRYING TO STIFLE IT. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

SALVAGED BUILDINGS

Leahy has a demolition project for Toshiba. Three buildings need to be torn down or moved. They include a 120' x 200' steel building, a 52' x 54' office building, and a 14' x 50' modular office space. All three must be removed by the end of February.

Leahy is proposing bringing the steel framework and sprinkler system from the large building to the FairPlex and storing it until it could be erected as either the shell for the Multi Purpose Pavilion or the Livestock Pavilion. Leahy feels the building could be adequate for either with modifications to bring it up to present codes.

The 52' x 54' building is being proposed by staff to replace the existing Floral Building. A four unit modular structure, it is complete with kitchen, bathroom, heating, and air conditioning and could be used to generate additional interim income.

The third structure would be placed adjacent to the rear of the existing FairPlex office as additional office space.

Leahy estimates the FairPlex could save over 50% of the costs for a new Multi Purpose Pavilion or Livestock Pavilion by utilizing the steel framework. He is getting the original drawings from the manufacturing company and each piece will be clearly marked to ease the rebuilding at a future date.

The expense to the FairPlex for the two modular buildings would be hooking up to power and sewer, patching the roof where the one building (Floral) would be split, demolition of the existing Floral Building, hiring an engineer to inspect and approve for structural codes, and cosmetic remodeling of both structures.

MOTION: MOVED BY GEORGE OTTEN, SECONDED BY DAVE LINTZ, TO ACCEPT THE THREE BUILDINGS AS OUTLINED BY KEN LEAHY.

Discussion: Warren asked about the money originally set aside for the Floral Building. Wade stated that these funds were set aside before he had to adjust the budget. Also the estimated cost of a new Floral Building is now \$40,000 instead of the original \$20,000 approved.

Costs of plumbing and electrical will have to be determined and help will have to be hired to demolish the Floral Building. Wade will explore the possibility of restitution workers assisting with the demolition.

Lintz stated that the fair board needs to take advantage of the window of opportunity and go ahead with the projects.

QUESTION: MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY FAIR

The Multnomah County Fair receives income from the Multnomah County Kennel Club. This year the income from the dog track will be down due to fewer dollars generated from betting. This coupled with Governor Robert's proposed bill would force the Multnomah County Fair to operate in the red. Bill McKinley, Multnomah County Fair Manager, has asked the Washington County Fair if there is enough interest in taking over the 4-H and open class exhibits. Multnomah County Fair would in turn give all or part of the racing dollars to Washington County Fair.

This was proposed last year but the Multnomah County Commissioners bailed the Multnomah County Fair out prior to the deadline given by McKinley. If Washington County had taken over Multnomah County Fair we were prepared to go to a ten day fair. This option is not possible for 1993 due to scheduling and timing conflicts.

Lintz and Otten both feel that people would lose interest in a 10 day fair but Wade pointed out that many successful fairs are 10 day. Leahy asked if "bigger was necessarily better". The consensus of the board was to have the staff investigate the proposal further and get additional information before reaching a decision.

HAPPY DAYS

The community committee formed to restructure Happy Days in 1992 met and discussed the 1993 festival. The general consensus of the committee is that Happy Days is over. There are too many events in too short a time span and not enough volunteers to go around. The FairPlex staff is especially feeling the pressure with the Air Show moved to the week before fair.

The suggestion was made that perhaps a sponsor for the fireworks could be found and that plus the parade would be the 4th of July celebration for Hillsboro.

The consensus of the fair board was to go along with the community group's decision.

MOTION: MOVED BY MARLA WARREN, SECONDED BY KEN LEAHY, TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS. 192.610-192.690 FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REVIEW.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Oxendine
Secretary

Dave Lintz left the meeting due to a time conflict.

The board came out of Executive Session and discussed the cost of the Chuckwagon and felt the necessity to do the needed work. Wade indicated that the cost of the remodeling would be approximately \$12,000 - \$15,000.

Wade explained the situation regarding the electrical in the Main Exhibit Building. He hopes the work can be done for less than \$6,000.

Wade also reminded the board of the parking lot improvements if the grant was approved. The matching portion from the fair board would be \$10,000.

Other expenses include miscellaneous electric work for \$1,500, people movers \$900 and miscellaneous paving for \$2,000.

The board agreed all of the work should be done and accepted the fact that the money will have to come out of the \$250,000 reserve.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cal Wade
Executive Director