

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 9, 1977

CALL TO ORDER
AND ATTENDANCE

Fair Board Chairman Joe Evers called the special meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. in the Port of Portland Conference room. The meeting was hosted by the Washington County 4-H Leaders and Advisory Committee members. The meeting was attended by the following persons:

FAIR BOARD

Joe Evers
Ralph Holland
Jim Springer
Jerry Boyer
Chuck Colegrove

MANAGEMENT

Richard Jossy
Adeline Hesse

GUESTS

John Leffel, County Livestock Agent
Norm Perkins - 4-H Advisory
Jean Payne, 4-H Home Economic
Advisory
Jeannie Erhardt - 4-H Small Animal
Dene Mallory - 4-H Livestock Adv.

GUESTS

Al Flory, 4-H Agent
Caroline Cannon, 4-H Agent
Sonja Simpson, 4-H Chrm.

PREMIUM PAYMENTS

Mrs. Hesse read Fair Board minutes of February 2, 1977, stating the Fair Board issued a policy saying 4-H premiums must be paid. Discussion then centered on legality of Extension agents being involved in the handling of Fair funds. Possibilities of paying other than computer system or writing checks was discussed at length. Cash payment seems to be the most expedient method of payment at this time. Voucher system requiring signature of person receiving funds would leave an adequate audit trail. Fair Board and Leffel asked for history regarding variance in point value over the last three years. Mrs. Cannon stated the variance has been 3¢ to 5¢. 4-H Leaders expressed a positive attitude regarding disbursing cash funds and including a dollar figure in the premium list in place of the point system. Since \$400 has not been picked up in 1976 4-H premiums it is felt that these funds could be included in the 1977 budget and would provide an adequate cushion.

Leffel stated concern on listing dollar figures in the 4-H premium book because they would be less (dollars) than FFA. Manager Jossy said he felt that the 4-H persons and Fair Board have an adequate knowledge for explanation of FFA competition (only one blue ribbon, red, etc., is awarded) vs. the danish system where the judge selects the number of blues, reds, etc., he sees fit. FFA premiums for several years have run approximately \$1,200.

RELEASE OF ANIMALS
AND EXHIBITS

Night watchman hired by Fair Board is on duty until Sunday morning. The information is stated in the open class premium book, but has not been transferred to the 4-H book. This needs to be done for the 1976 4-H premium list. In addition, all general rules from the open list should be transferred to the 4-H list. Ms. Simpson will accomplish both.

RELEASE OF ANIMALS
(CONTINUED)

According to Dene Mallory, 4-H Livestock Committee has voted to ask the Fair Board to hold all livestock until Sunday morning. The Fair agreed to the request. It was suggested that the 4-H barn superintendent should be kept the extra night. Between Sheriff's patrol and barn superintendent good security and watch will be maintained.

PREMIUM BOOK
MAILING COSTS

Flory reported that each individual county is being held accountable for amount of penalty mailing used and therefore the extension budget can no longer afford to mail premium books to 4-Her's in the County. Alternatives discussed included picking up premium books at the 4-H (extension) office, having leaders distribute the books at meetings, or print a larger quantity and leave books at most banks in the County.

Including the 4-H section in the open class book was discussed. The 4-H section is not put into the open class book because of the added postage expense, printing and number of additional copies that would be required. Fair Board felt that those 4-Her's with individual projects would have the most difficulty in obtaining needed information and did not favor leaving the books at advertisers or banks.

The Fair management is in the process of applying for a non-profit third class bulk mailing permit and would be glad to forward permit information for 4-H use. Postage will be paid from the fund given to the 4-H program and permit fee will be handled as an open class expense. Mrs. Cannon reported current cost of mailing one copy of the 4-H premium list has been \$1 to \$1.25. Fair Board feels that cost can be reduced to approximately 4¢ to 8¢ per copy. Currently 1,500 copies are being mailed.

BUDGET PROCEDURE

Flory asked if the Fair Board felt a formal budget procedure was necessary since Fair Board has been critical of how funds have been spent. Fair Board would prefer to continue giving 4-H a budget figure and having them disburse as necessary. Fair Board is concerned because the amount of premiums paid are half of what they were two or three years ago. Perkins representing the Horse Advisory said he would like the individual project areas to receive designated premiums funds to do with as they wished. The Fair Board is not in favor of giving funds to a project area. Audit track would be impossible and it is the direction of the Fair Board that premiums will be paid.

RELEASE OF ARMORY
PROJECTS

Ms. Simpson said that it has been a problem to have livestock released before exhibits in the armory because persons do not want to wait until 10 p.m. Also, after style revue many exhibits are removed and the show is not very attractive. If livestock is kept until morning, perhaps the problem will not be as great. Springer reminded the group that the public pays gate admission until 10 p.m. and it behoves the Fair Board to keep the Fair in tact.

FAIR BOARD REQUESTS
HELP RE: LOADING

Fair Board asked the 4-H Livestock Committee to try to put together any organized plan of loading animals after the county fair. In the event that loading is done on Sunday morning, the problem would be reduced as all entrances would be open.

4-H HORSE CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPATION

Perkins asked the Fair Board if the 4-H champions absolutely had to have run-offs the first day of the Fair. He said they would rather not come to the Fair at all. Flory cautioned that an actual vote had not been taken of the horse leaders and therefore he preferred the total group be involved in such a decision. The Fair Board will consider the idea at a future Board meeting. Several Fair Board members indicated they would like the championships to remain as part of the Fair.

MILK PARLOR DONATION

Evers shared with the Fair Board and Group that donations have been made toward building a Grade A milking parlor to meet federal standards. Possibility the Evers family will build the parlor as a memorial to Albert Evers. He asked Fair Board to provide the money for power and drainage.

4-H THANK YOU

Ms. Simpson thanked the Board for coming to the meeting and participating.

BUDGET FOR FAIR

Lack of funds is the major problem the Fair Board is facing and the details of such were discussed. 4-H Leaders offered any help they could give. The Fair Board will be in touch with the Leaders.

ADJOURNMENT

Evers adjourned the meeting at 10:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline Hesse

Adeline Hesse, Office Manager
WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR