

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR BOARD
MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 1989

ATTENDANCE

Fair Board

Jeanne Leeson
Lloyd Baron
John Meek
John Thomas
Rocky Williams

Staff

Cal Wade
Ron McAuley
Sue Oxendine

Guests

Stan Dillon
Jack Fisher
Addie Fisher

The meeting was called to order and the public welcomed by Chairman Leeson.

CONSENT AGENDA

Wade explained the discrepancy between the advertising & booth rental dollars and budgeted amounts. Some money in both categories was collected in the prior fiscal year. This is because the fair is on a cash, not accrual, basis.

Wade stated income is down \$176,900 at this time in terms of year end budget. Still to come in is \$150,000 motel/hotel tax and \$52,000 from the state. Without any rentals this would place the income at \$25,000 over budget by fiscal year's end.

Open class premiums were \$24,584. More funds will be budgeted for 1990.

With the new computer and accounting system additional line items were added. Therefore minus figures are indicated on some line items. Budgeted monies for those items are reflected in other line items.

Professional services were also changed and divided into two categories: fair ops and off season. Combining the two reflects a \$5000 overage.

MOTION: MOVED BY LLOYD BARON, SECONDED BY JOHN THOMAS TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION PASSED.

FAIR BOOSTERS

The boosters will have a booth at the PI. They are lending their popcorn machine to Tuality for a fund raising campaign.

RODEO BOARD

The board selected their three year term directors. They are: Lynn Feinauer, Gene VanKoll, and Claude Werner.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON TO ACCEPT THE DIRECTORS. MOTION PASSED.

MAINTENANCE

September projects included building a storage area in the meeting room for the office, repairing Main Exhibit roof, placing a valve on the water line behind the 4-H barn, preparing for PI, and pressure washing the inside of the Main Exhibit Building in preparation to paint the building.

ECONOMIC STUDY

Carl Goebel presented his final summary to Wade. The board was each given a copy to read and comment on at a later date.

The drawing of the proposed main pavilion was discussed. The board had told George Crandall at an August 16th meeting to go ahead with the final sketches after making revisions to the ends so it would not look so barn-like.

Crandall has spent time revising the final sketches and does not want to spend any additional time under the existing contract.

Goebel suggested to Wade the possibility of hiring another architect if the board wants a different "look".

The board delayed a decision until a future meeting. They want to see Crandall's revised sketches first.

CHUCKWAGON

Lloyd Baron, John Thomas, Ron McAuley, and Cal Wade met with Dennis Putzler to discuss the Chuckwagon remodeling. Putzler is talking with individuals and groups to determine their monetary and time commitment to the remodeling project.

Concerns were expressed about relying on volunteer workers to complete the project prior to the spring and summer rental season.

McAuley will have a professional roofer inspect the roof. There is a possibility the roof will not have to be replaced, only repaired.

Dencille Scheller is assisting Putzler with a materials list. Material costs will be determined along with volunteer commitment before a final project cost is known.

Work would be scheduled for early spring unless the roof does not

have to be pulled off in which case the work could be done during winter.

GREENHOUSE

The grass in the garden and greenhouse site is being killed. Sand and shavings will be worked into the soil in preparation for plantings and beds.

ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCER

Wade has not heard from Ed Dougherty. Clark County called for a reference for Ed.

PI

The move-in and set-up is running smoothly. PI Manager, Murray Fretz, is delighted with how the show is proceeding.

The fair board expressed concerns about the lack of press released from the PI. Members suggested the fair office write and send them to the local papers. The PI has sent numerous releases to livestock journals and papers.

Wade does not want to "step on the PI's toes" but will speak to Fretz about the fair staff helping with local publicity.

OTA GRANT

A letter from Mike Thorn was written to Regional Strategies asking to be kept informed of the progress of the grants. He also stated he was supporting the fairgrounds' plans for buildings.

There has been some talk of revising the ground rules for the regional strategies. In Wade's opinion the purpose is to allow the state to divert some funds into special projects which would benefit the fairgrounds.

PORTABLE RESTAURANTS

Present rates are \$300 for a 10 x 10. Wade would like to raise the rates to 10% of gross with a minimum of \$300 per 10' booth.

Monitoring the booths would be difficult. Cash registers and daily receipts would be required.

Meek suggested adding a clause to the contract to deter cheating. Wade would prefer to base daily reports on those he fully trusted such as Verboort. If one or two booths is significantly low with gross receipts they will be flagged. If a booth is not producing close to the average, then we would suggest a new menu or vacate since public doesn't seem to care for product.

MOTION: MOVED BY JOHN MEEK, SECONDED BY LLOYD BARON TO MAINTAIN BASE RATE OF \$300 FOR A 10 X 10 FOOD BOOTH ON 10% OF THE GROSS.

He suggested leaving regulation of booths up to Wade.

Discussion: Williams state the more rules there are, the more rules will be broken. He would rather have a straight fee.

Baron believes the base plus gross fee structure could help raise the quality of the booths. The fair should try it for a year; a single rate can always be brought back the following year.

The question was called for: three assenting and one dissenting vote.

PI CONTRACT

Both Jr. Show and Fall Show contracts are signed. The money for the Jr. Show should be coming in any day.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

A letter to Jeanne Leeson was written by Bob Ganger. He suggested an additional board be formed composed of fair board and PI board members.

The fair board concurred the PI is a lessee and a special board would be counter productive. Problems arising between PI and fairgrounds should be resolved between managers and PI board & fair board.

The suggestion was made to offer to have a work session between the PI Executive Board and Fair Board following the PI.

Leeson and Wade will respond to Bob Ganger with this offer.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Realtor and promoter, Ross McKechnie presented another option to consider regarding the real estate bounded by Cornell Rd. and the 34th St. parking lot.

A grocery is needed on the fairgrounds side of Hillsboro.

McKechnie suggests leasing 5 acres of the property. The next step would be for the fair board to purchase the land across from the armory along 28th St. This property would insure the visibility of the fairgrounds from the west would be maintained. The armory is another key piece of property the fairgrounds should consider. McKechnie believes the armory's days in Hillsboro are numbered.

The board did not give any direction to McKechnie. Meek would

like to review the economist's report before responding.

Meeting returned to regular session and adjourned at 6:45 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,

Sue Oxendine
Secretary