



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024

JAMES R. SULLIVAN EVENTS CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOMS

MINUTES

Dean Elliott - Chairperson, called the Douglas County Fair Board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. on July 18, 2024. The meeting was held in the James R. Sullivan Events Center Conference Rooms. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

*John Adams
Scott Candelaria
Dean Elliott
Sarah Fischer
Jennifer Foss
Wes Jacobs
Scott McHenry
Debbie Mills
Phil Riesselman
Pat Salazar
Hayden Schmidt
Pam Spradlin
Lori Sorenson
Lora Talbert
Rob Tkach
Gary Turner
Lisa Turner*

Associate Members Present:

*Nick Candelaria
Ryan Kennedy
Kyle Moore
Dick Sabulsky
Jean Sabulsky
Ted Sorenson
Chris Spyke
Monica Wilson*

Other Guests Present:

*Marcus Ballinger
Tori Checkal
Cindy Duckworth
Sofia Foss
Tristin Hastings
Danny Talbert*

Staff Members Present:

*Laurie Anderson
Zach Burns
Lisa Goudy
Clay Gysin
Sharon Hines
Jason Kennedy, DCSO
Teresa Kutt
Michelle Mannes
Tori Thelen
Sheriff Darren Weekly*

Board Members Absent:

*Pat Candelaria
Tom Harris
Gabriel Ryan*

Associate Members Absent:

*Ben Alderton
Matt Coyle
Deb Dilley
Josiah Fredericks
John Holst
James Jamison
Chayce Lutz
Patti Russell
Kate Wormington*

6:05 PM CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**Public Meeting**

Guests at this month's meeting were introduced:

Lt. Laurie Anderson introduced new contacts at the Douglas County Sheriff's Department, Capt. Jason Kennedy and Lt. Sanders, who will do the swing shift during the fair.

Debbie Mills had the 2024 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Royalty Court introduce themselves; in attendance were Queen Attendant Stefanee Whitney; Clair Temme, Princess; and McKinley Holden, Princess.

Public Comment – None

A tour of the Fairgrounds was completed in anticipation of the Fair.

Back to order: 7:15 PM

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – Gary made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Rob. No discussion. All Approved.

Consent Agenda: John asked for the rodeo update to be removed and moved to Other Business on the agenda. Lisa made a motion to approve the consent agenda. John seconded. No discussion. All approved.

Treasurer's Report—Wes reported that year-to-date expenses are \$848,699.93, and current revenue is \$359,798.80, with more expected throughout the Fair.

Reports From Other Groups

CSU Extension—Tori reported that Exhibit Day and interviews are scheduled for Saturday, July 20, in the Events Center.

4-H Foundation – No report

Fair Foundation – Cindy reported that the Cowboy Ball was the top fundraiser and plans for 2025 were underway. On Sept. 14, the foundation will hold the inaugural Cowboy Golf Stampede. Scott recommended that 4-H youth help with the event. There will be no Ghost Town Hoe Down this year. Tom Harris has launched a planned giving program for the foundation. Leg Up program had 6 youths qualify to show at the fair. There will be an increase in funds for Leg Up in 2025. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the program. The chuckwagon and Foundation table will be near the rabbit barn again this year.

4-H Youth Council: Marcus reported that new officers were elected to the council, and shooting sports kicked off the fair a few weeks prior.

Regular Agenda**Staff Report**

DC Safety & Security Manager Jason Petalas and his team will be set up in the basement of CSU.

Clay presented safety training for attendees that covered best practices and plans for the Fair. The ops plan is the same as last year.

If you must call 911, please call the on-site security office also.

Lisa Goudy provided an update on ticket sales. Ticket sales nationwide are down, with an increase in box office sales on the day of the event. All ticket booths will be open for the concert. Rodeo ticket sales are doing better than at the same time last year.

Lisa also provided an update on Volunteer recruitment. The first week has good coverage on critical shifts, but the second weekend, we are low on volunteers for Friday and Saturday. Friday has 23 shifts open, and Sunday has 18. Sheriff Weekly will post volunteer needs on his social media channels. Cindy suggests everyone post to help recruit more volunteers.

Old Business

Back numbers: Debbie was able to secure 640 back numbers for contestants. The material will improve the Tyvex ones that were previously used.

New Business

Avian Flu Update

Hayden provided an update on the spread of avian flu to dairy cows. The 2024 fair will be the first time that dairy cows show will be held in many years. Only one family has cows participating. There have been no other cases of transmission to other animals in CO, but Avian flu can be transmitted to humans and can be transmitted through milk. The fair board must decide if the Fair should proceed with a whole or modified show. Hayden recommends that the public should not touch the cows, that milk should be dumped, and that they should work with the family to mitigate risk. The on-site veterinarian will share information on Avian Flu.

The Poultry Show's plan is to return to a full show with barns open to the public. In the last two weeks, a private facility in Weld County has been closed due to the avian flu. Five to six people at the site tested positive for the flu, and 1.8 million birds were terminated.

Weld County has canceled its poultry show. A modified show would reduce the schedule for the birds on site. Animals would come in the morning and leave at night, with cleanings between each day. No public access to the poultry show would exist, and market sale birds would stay on-site through Saturday morning.

Hayden requests that the Fair Board decide in this meeting whether to continue with a full show or modify it as a precaution. There is no time to wait; the decision should be made tonight.

If Fair continues with the full show, Hayden recommends adding disinfectant shoe mats in the Poultry barns and hand sanitizing stations. There has been no state mandate, but the State has released guidelines for biosecurity.

Wes moved to proceed with the full show, which Lori seconded. Phil and Scott McHenry objected. The motion passed.

Hayden emphasized that Fair Board members should not comment on Avian Flu without knowledge. Scott M. requested talking points be provided. Hayden agreed.

Rodeo

John provided an update to the Rodeo Meeting Minutes. Hometown Rodeo registration will close on Sunday, July 21. After it closes, the committee will reallocate open spaces to events with a waitlist and reopen registration for those spots.

Dean mentioned that the August Fair Board meeting will be moved to August 22.

Adjournment at 8:13 pm.

Next Meeting: August 22, 2024

Rules for Citizen Engagement at Fair Board Meeting

To have orderly, efficient, civil, and productive board meetings, the following rules apply to all citizens that have a desire to address the Board:

1. Citizen comments will be heard during the public comment section at the board meeting.
2. All citizen comments must be addressed to the Board. Directing comments to staff or other members of the public is not permitted during Board meetings.
3. Public comment section is limited to ten minutes collectively.
4. Citizens are asked not to repeat comments made by others; merely indicate their concurrence.
5. Citizens will be asked to use a microphone so that Board members and the audience can hear their comments.
6. Clapping, cheering, booing and the like are not permitted at Board meetings.
7. Failure to abide by the aforementioned rules of engagement is considered disruptive to the public process and will result in a warning to the violation citizen(s) by the Board Chair. If after that warning the citizen(s) continues to violate these rules, they will be asked to leave the meeting. If the citizen does not leave the meeting when asked, the appropriate steps will be taken by the Board Chair to have them removed from the meeting.

Mission Statement: The Douglas County Fair and Rodeo is the premier annual community event in Douglas County bringing together the best of Rural Heritage, Agriculture, Western Sports, Youth and Adult Exhibits and quality Entertainment.