



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025

**DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS – JAMES R. SULLIVAN EVENTS CENTER
CONFERENCE ROOM**

MINUTES

Dean Elliott - Chairperson, called the Douglas County Fair Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on March 20, 2025. The meeting was held in the James R. Sullivan Conference Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

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

Associate Members Present:

*Tori Checkal
Linda Jefferies
Ryan Kennedy
Patti Russell
Dick Sabulsky
Jean Sabulsky
Ted Sorenson
Chris Spyke
Danny Talbert
Monica Wilson*

Other Guests Present:

*Marcus Ballinger
Mercedes Glenn
Tristan Hastings*

Staff Members Present:

*Laurie Anderson
Zach Burns
Tim Hallmark
Sharon Hines
Teresa Kutt
Michelle Mannes
Tori Thelen*

Board Members Absent:

*Jennifer Foss
Phil Riesselman*

Associate Members Absent:

*Clay Adams
Nick Candelaria
Matt Coyle
Deb Dilley
Josiah Fredericks
Lauren Heaton
John Holst
James Jamison
Chayce Lutz
Kyle Moore
Garrett Northrop
Ty Quintana
Gabriel Ryan
Cynthia Tkach
Kate Wormington
Matt Wormington*

6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**Public Meeting****No Public Comment**

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Pat C. moved to approve. Gary seconded. No further discussion. All approved.

Dean mentioned that time will be added to the agenda for committee updates beginning in April.

Treasurer's Report: Wes reported that revenue is currently at \$80,000 and expenses at are at \$184,000 for the year. The supplemental request will go to the BOCC in April.

Consent Agenda. Lori moved to approve. Rob Tkach seconded. No further discussion. All approved.

REGULAR AGENDA**Staff Report:**

Concert Update: Zach reported that Dustin Lynch verbally accepted to perform at the Friday night concert.

OLD BUSINESS**Show Management Rules Update**

The rule update includes that breeding sheep exhibitors must only upload information to the 4-H online portal and not required to attend in person on ID day. Wes motioned to approve. Pat C. seconded. All approve. There was no discussion.

Approval of Superintendents

Hayden motioned to approve the list of superintendents in the meeting packet. Lisa seconded. All approved. No discussion.

PRCA Honor

The PRCA has recognized John, Debbie and Scott's long service to the PRCA with gold membership cards.

Buckles

Dean reminded the board that this meeting was the deadline to order a 2025 DCF&R buckle. A mock-up was provided.

NEW BUSINESS**2025 Schedule Review****Pre-fair Activities**

Some of the days of the week do not align with the date, which Teresa will address.

John: Mutton Bustin registration will be open online from July 1 to July 7. Hometown registration will open on July 8 and close on July 15 at 6 p.m.

Friday, July 25:

Line 65: Make consistent throughout the schedule

Sat., July 26:

Line 112: Mutton Bustin Check-in is 1:00 – 1:30 PM. Changes to be made throughout the schedule.

Sun., July 27:

Line 165: Show ring set-up ends at 7 PM.

Monday, July 28:

Hayden proposes load-in for livestock animals begin on Monday. This will help avoid overwhelming vets, traffic, and animals on Tuesday. The challenge would be the exhibitors of horses and livestock, with the horse shows taking place on Monday. Pat C. emphasized the need for early communication with 4-H families. Wes strongly believes, with respect to fairness, that all animals need to arrive on the same day. Sarah suggests that all animals be checked on Monday and all weigh-ins for all species occur on Tuesday. Danny believes splitting check-ins (Monday) and weigh-ins (Tuesday) would benefit the superintendents and the flow of the process. Scott reminded the group to adjust the schedule of DCSO deputies and that he would be on the grounds to serve as a contact. Rob expressed concern about requiring horse kids and families to go home after the horse shows and return to check in livestock animals later Monday evening. Michelle agreed with Danny that splitting the process would help with the administrative side. Pat C. motioned to move check-in to Monday, with an exception only for Exhibitors showing horses on Monday to check in livestock animals on Tuesday. Rob seconded. Lori S. and Wes oppose. Motion approved.

Tuesday, July 29:

Pat. C. motioned to move the weigh-in to Tuesday for all livestock animals. The time for weigh-ins will be determined later. Rob seconded. No opposed. All approved.

All ultrasound activities on the schedule for Tuesday will be moved to Friday morning.

Wednesday, July 30:

Exceptional Rodeo Set-up update location to Indoor Arena. Add Exceptional Rodeo time to schedule, 10:30-1:00 PM.

Thursday, July 31:

Line 266-267, change end time to 8 PM

Friday, August 1:

Line 296. Change the end time to 8:30 AM in the Pavilion.

Line 323: Change start time to noon. Line 327: End time 1:30 PM.

Line 356: Add LSS to the name.

Line 357: Add Rodeo to pre-show.

Sunday, August 3:

Line 478. The LSS committee will verify the info after the meeting.

Dean raised concerns about when the barns will close, and the animals will be released. With several vendors, stock contractors, and 4-H families trying to leave the grounds simultaneously, he asked how best to coordinate the exits. The fair will remain open until 6 PM on Sunday. Lauri suggests bigger panels be used to keep the public and vehicles out of the area around the barns. People panels are not heavy enough. Zach confirmed that was possible and that staff would be prepared. Wes motioned to close the barns at 3 PM. Pat C. seconded.

After further discussion, Wes motioned to release the animals at 4:00 PM. Scott seconded. Hayden questioned why there is a need for an hour between barn closures and animal release—the barns cannot be cleaned until the animals have been released. After further discussion, Hayden made a new motion, seconded by Lori S., to release the animals at 3:30 PM. The motion was approved.

Adjournment at 7:58 pm

Next Meeting: April 17, 2025, at 6:30 PM

Rules for Citizen Engagement at Fair Board Meeting

To have orderly, efficient, civil, and productive board meetings, the following rules apply to all citizens who 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. The 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.