

## Lincoln County Fair Board Minutes September 17, 2019

**Board Members Present:** John Merriott, Katie Bageant, Rebecca Mattox, Teresa Chrisman, Justine Winn, Brad Ray, Lindsey Smith

**Members Absent:** Paul Knittel

**Others Present:** Dawn Canfield, Loren Reinbold, Sharon Nighswonger, Kathy Eastman, Cody Murdock, Scott Hutsell, Tony Merriott, Jolynn Ray, Katie Weiss, Bryce Bailey

Meeting called to order at 6:41 pm.

The new members of the Friends of the Fair were present as the Fair Advisory Board meeting. The new members are Tony Merriott, Jolynn Ray, Katie Weiss, vice president, Bryce Bailey, president. Introductions were made between everyone at the meeting.

Cody Murdock was introduced as a potential Fair Advisory Board member. Scott Hutsell reminded the Fair Advisory Board that any new members would need to be approved by the Commissioners. A letter of interest or resume would be necessary in the approval process.

The minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of July 2019 were approved. **Motion:** Justin made a motion to accept the July minutes. Teresa 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

Brad went over a letter from the Wafa Commissioner, Terry Nichols. The Board had already met with Terry during the Fair & Rodeo and the letter was a follow up of that conversation.

Kathy Eastman presented a livestock sale report from the Livestock Sale on Saturday of the Fair & Rodeo. She also talked about the puppy, donated by Terry Kramer for auction at the Livestock Sale, which was sold four different times before finally being bought by a young man. The sales of the puppy brought in \$1200.00. Terry did have one stipulation on the auction of the puppy, the funds raised would be used for something for the kids during the Fair & Rodeo. Kathy mentioned that there is the possibility of working with the Friends of the Fair with having something to auction at the Livestock Sale in honor of Gerry Stiles.

Kathy talked about the change in the distribution of checks from the Livestock Sale. She said that as the money comes in from buyers she will issue checks to the kids. She will include a letter with the checks explaining the new process.

Jolynn Ray asked Kathy how to get more packers at the Livestock Sale. Kathy said that there were 2 new packers this year but did mention that the packers do not want to come to the sale because it not cost effective for them if they are only coming for one animal. Discussion followed

Sharon discussed the Friends of the Fair Annual Benefit dinner. She did send in the paperwork for a liquor permit for the dinner but the permit requires 45 days before the event and it was less than 30 days to the dinner when she sent in the paperwork. Short discussion followed about what else they could do if the permit was not approved. Final decision was to wait and see if the permit would be issued.

Brad mentioned Pete from the Tribune Smokehouse would like to donate baked beans and homemade pork rinds for the dinner.

Sharon said she has tickets for the dinner for Board members to sell. She also mentioned the Friends of the Fair ordered 10 more tables, 60 chairs and racks for the tables and chairs. The new tables and chairs would allow for all seating in the Auditorium to be with the round tables.

Teresa said she called Voise about the steaks and would need to call in October to verify the number of steaks needed for the dinner. Discussion followed about other menu items and decorations.

Katie asked who was paying for the band at the dinner, the Friends of the Fair or the Fair. Discussion followed about how to pay for the band. **Motion:** John made a motion for the Friends of the Fair to pay for the band. Katie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

Scott thanked everyone for all they did during the Fair & Rodeo. He did mention that the parking & restrooms were a main complaint he heard from fairgoers.

John had a list of concerns and suggestions to help improve some things during the Fair:

- have a list of things that need to be done at the beginning of the Fair
- have a garbage crew together before the Fair
- mentioned that they should issue tickets for shaving bags, up to two tickets and charge for anything above; discussion followed but was tabled
- wanted to know why the PA system was not working at the Arena and there should have been more announcements of events and activities
- suggested that a list be made of expectations of what needs to be done throughout the year on the grounds-Brad suggested making entrances more presentable
- suggested the Board should have a meeting in April or May do a walk through to determine what needs to be done on the grounds
- asked Katie if the Davenport Cheerleaders were interested in having a Haunted House at the Fairgrounds
- suggested setting up working days for the installing the bucking chutes
- talked about shortening the Arena

Katie presented a list of her own concerns and ideas as well as from fairgoers:

- wanted to know why the educational posters were due so early
- a few individuals mention to her that the music on Saturday night was too loud and the Friday night slack was too long
- several individuals complained to her about the problem with people jumping the fence by the horse wash rack
- mentioned that someone talk to her about bringing back the women's mud tug-a-war event
- another idea presented to her was having a kids pinewood derby race for the kids
- wanted to know why the both entrance gates were open for a good part of Thursday of the Fair
- wants to have more premium books printed
- would like to see a sponsorship form online
- suggested possibly giving neighbors to the grounds passes to the Fair
- wanted to know the ruling for not allowing meat pens in the rabbit barn

- suggested moving the Livestock Judging to another day
- mentioned Sammy Cotter could be a possible livestock judge for next year

Teresa had a list of items also but agreed her list had already been discussed. She did have one suggestion: having the garbage crew help on Sunday.

Justine wanted to know if everyone agreed to sending Queen Heather her scholarship in the amount of \$200 or if the amount should be \$250. **Motion:** John made a motion to send Queen Heather a scholarship in the amount of \$200. Teresa 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

Justine mentioned that the new Queen, Queen Whitney could use a few clinics to help her in her role as Fair & Rodeo Queen. She will look into possible clinics Queen Whitney could take.

Justine also talked about the need to get more vendors. Possibly look at lower the prices of the vendor fees.

Brad suggested the Board look into only talking about everything in one night that they try something to discuss business. John suggested they follow an agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Samantha Canfield  
WSU Extension/Lincoln County Fairgrounds Office Manager