

**LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD MINUTES**  
**April 11, 2008**

Gerry began the meeting at 6:50 pm. In attendance were, Emily, Stephanie, Taylor (our royalty), Lydia, Kathy Eastman, Gretchen, Phil, Colleen Houger, Mike & Connie Stauffer, Dan, Josie, Sarah, Brad Watkins and Sharon.

The royalty reported that they either had or in the next few days will have visited all of the Lincoln County schools to promote the premium book cover contest. The girls came dressed in their new pink shirts that they will be wearing to the Pasco rodeo on April 19<sup>th</sup>. They said at this time they are planning to attend the Creston, Wilbur, Grand Coulee and Spokane events.

The girls reported that they received donated vinyl lettering for the trailer. They will be taking either 1 or 2 trailers to the events.

They have received donations from the local Lion's Clubs. They are also working on a fund raiser called "Tough enough to wear pink."

Sharon will send a Lincoln County Fair commercial vendor contract to Connie so the girls can pass them out at events that they attend.

There was additional discussion about the sponsor flags. Gretchen moved and Phil seconded the motion that returning sponsors pay \$75.00. Any new sponsor will need to pay \$100.00—that includes the cost of making the flag. The motion passed unanimously.

The NN Bar Ranch needs to have their lettering stand out more. Also a couple of the flags need mending. Sharon will call Janet O'Neil about that.

There was much discussion about how many flags will work. The board decided anymore than 10 is difficult for the girls to enter and exit the arena with in a timely manner. One idea was suggesting the flags be posted. We will wait and see how many flags we actually have before we make any decisions.

Gerry read an email from Dale saying that Al Earl (Pro West) suggests that we not put out the livestock contract out for bid. Gerry quoted Al as saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Gretchen moved that we leave the stock contract as is, Josie seconded. It also passed unanimously.

Kathy Eastman brought copies of the revised livestock rules. They were handed out to everyone. If anyone has any changes please let her or Sharon know. There was a question about the health section for the animals. It was decided to leave as is. It was also suggested to add all of the information for each species in their individual department. This will make it easier for exhibitors to find information.

**Please bring your changes to the next meeting.**

There was discussion about horned goats. There is nothing in the premium book about them. Sharon will call Beck Hansen and see what she recommends. With meat goats becoming popular, more are being shown with horns. The decision will be tabled until the next meeting.

A question was asked---should white ribbon animals go through the sale? No decision was made.

Sharon will call Jan Brisboom about this year's fair. We just need to verify he is on board this year.

Brad Watkins talked about lambs having the genetic calipyge gene that does not show up until the animal is slaughtered.

Kathy will check with Carol Beaver to see if there will be ultra sounds this year. The name of the person who has done it in the past is Bob Paticini. It is important to stress to the kids, parents, superintendents and judges that the ultra sound is indeed a tool to be used. It is not a way to judge the specific animal. Josie will make sure the information gets to the kids and is not kept from them.

Brad said that the fair will be able to use Davenport's scale again this year and is fairly certain Reardan's will also be available. He requested that the scales be calibrated on the Monday of fair week.

There was discussion about the Davenport FFA scale and how long it would remain at the fairgrounds after the fair. It was not decided and will be tabled until the next meeting.

The royalty discussed using the arena for practice. At this time the arena is too wet and is unsafe. To prepare for upcoming events they will be using George Chrisman's arena.

There was discussion about the food vendor that Becky works with. Phil reported that they want to be a part of our fair. They are very flexible and are willing to work with us. The board suggested strawberry shortcake, cobbler with ice cream, pasta, salads, corn on the cob and baked potatoes. Sharon will send our list to them with a vendor contract.

Dan let Colleen know which barns need signs. The LCLC will make more signs for the barns that need them.

Colleen asked if there will be a teen dance again this year. She said it was absolutely disgusting. The kids were nasty dancing. After much discussion, it was decided to post the bi-county rules outside the auditorium and in the premium book. It was also suggested we have responsible adults in the dance to enforce them. The dance is too large of a money maker to shut it down.

Lydia reported there differences in how the superintendents use ribbons. There is no rhyme or reason how the ribbons are given out. Each department seems to do them differently. How do we educate the superintendents? Gerry asked Lydia to look at the trend from the past couple of years and let us know.

There was discussion about the trend over the past few years of the lack of white ribbons awarded. No conclusion was made.

Lydia also brought up there is a girl registered in 4-H with a mini horse. She will check into rules for minis. There will have to be another section added to the premium book.

There was discussion about having kids' games on Sunday morning. Events like a 3 legged race, sack races, etc. were mentioned. Who would head them up?

Josie reported she will put seeds in the flower out front of the main building this year.

Sharon read the letter to Robin Nachtigal about the cost increases to hold the barrel races here. A copy of that letter will be kept with the minutes. It was noted that the tractor driving rate would be \$10.00 per hour if someone connected with the fair drive it. It was moved by Phil and seconded by Josie, it passed unanimously.

She also read another letter addressed to Monte from a Taste of Italy. His concession money will be refunded to him. After doing some investigating, it turns out he does not have a valid business license or insurance. A copy of that letter will also be attached.

Sharon read another letter from Debra & Dan. The content of the letter is that they are upset that FFA kids have been awarded their donated belt buck, when they feel the 4-H kids have done a better job. They would like the sheep overall showmanship buckle only go to 4-H kids, not FFA kids. After much discussion, it was decided to have Sharon write a letter to them and explain that it is for the overall showman. The letter will be brought to the next meeting.

Sharon reported on the demo fair computer program she has been looking into. She said because of the amount of exhibits, it will cost around \$1400.00. There will be more discussion at the next meeting.

The Washington State Fairs Association is asking us to fill out a survey about potential grant ideas and costs. It will be forwarded with the minutes.

There is insulation now in the main building. Casey's Roofing has been paid \$14,000.00 toward the total grant amount of \$40,000.00.

Discussed the Saturday dance. It was decided that The Joe Slick Band is too expensive—they are \$1400.00 for one day plus hotel rooms. Gretchen will check with Kelly Hughes and let Sharon know. If his band is not available, the Two Dudes will be called.

Phil will call about the petting zoo. The people from Ritzville may do it. Does Cat Tales have anything? There is Brad Fitzgerald at Valley. We should know more next meeting.

Dan reported he is waiting on confirmation of a few names for the "Friends of the Fair."

He also let everyone know that the faucets are fixed in the RV Parking area.

Would Gerry contact Lowell and see if he has the Fair's two pipe wrenches and yellow chain? The last they were seen was in Lowell's golf cart.

As of 4/23/08 we have collected \$1925.00 in contributor money. It is quite a bit lower than last year.

Our next meeting will be Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Nighswonger