

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2010

Gerry began the meeting at 6:40pm with Dan, Dale, Phil, Scott Hutsell, John Merriott, Justine, Lydia, Kathy, E., Ashley Lewis, Jennifer Smith, Erica Whitmore, Josie, Sarah, and Sharon in attendance.

Kathy gave the board an end of the year statement reflecting the deficit at the end of 2009 and a positive balance in February 2010. The Bank of Whitman floats the checks for the kids, so they will be able to be paid. Kathy reported that this was the worst year in terms of people not paying their support money. Kathy will be spending some of the sponsor money on a new computer for the sale.

Kathy also mentioned she would like to do away with support cards read during the auction. Instead she would like to have the names of the supporters listed in the paper and on a banner posted during the fair. The community is very generous supporting the kids.

If the auction moves to Saturday, when will the animals be loaded? Who will take care of the animals after the auction? A suggestion is that the animals will be taken care of by the kids until the animals are loaded out Sunday. If the stalls are cleaned out, the kids could receive their support checks on the spot. Kathy will research that entire process.

There was much discussion about including a beer garden during the fair. Justine was going to talk to Al Earl about how they are handled at other fairs. Should we get a group to sponsor it with a percentage of the gross going to fair? John suggested we pay a deposit and then pay for only what is used. Justine and John were going to talk to Ritzville and Moses Lake about the cost and return of their beer gardens.

Gerry recapped the history of why there has not been a beer garden previously. Jan Wiggen, from the Drug & Alcohol Center mounted a campaign in the past to oppose it years ago. Because it is now a county resolution that alcohol cannot be served during the week of the fair, it must go in front of the commissioners to have it changed.

Justine with Scott's help will approach Jan with the proposed plan. What will be recommended is that beer will be served during the rodeo and during slack on Friday and during the rodeo and dance on Saturday. There was much discussion about where it would be located—by the grandstands? sale arena?

Erica inquired about the royalty. She reported that as far as she knew the girls did not have a schedule for upcoming events. Gerry said he would contact Connie to find out if she is still interested in participating as LC Fair & Royalty committee chair.

Erica had not attended the fair in years and was shocked to see what it had become. The general consensus was because of lack of funding and manpower it has been a struggle. Rising costs of services and materials have made it difficult to have extras during the fair.

Scott brought up how will continue to fund the fair with the state and county in the financial shape they are. Should we check into different insurance? talk to Gil about how it is impacted with a 3 day fair as opposed to 4 days?

Dale reported there are people who want to have the Round Robin reinstated during the fair. **A motion was made to have a new superintendent and that it would be scheduled from 4:30-6 pm on Friday. Justine made the motion and Phil 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.** John offered to help with the horses and hogs.

Josie reported that the fair could have the Copper Mountain Band for \$500.00 and 3 motel rooms. They are normally booked for \$2000.00. They would do 2 shows, and hour before the rodeo and from 9 – 12 after. **Dale moved to have them perform and Justine 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.** The female singer with the band would be willing to perform the national anthem. The dance would be held in the grassy area in front of the stage.

The Davenport Ambulance Crew may put on a carnival for the kids on Friday and Saturday only.

Sharon asked that the board make a decision on how much to charge for rental of dishes. The going rate from A-Z Rentals is: \$.35-Dinner Plate; \$.35—Salad Plate; \$.60—Cup & Saucer. It was recommended to have a \$50.00 damage deposit to safeguard the dishes. **Dale moved and Justine 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.**

Vendor Dusty (The Little Red Wagon) will be coming back this year with her novelties. She will be using 3 vendor spots (30 X10) and was wondering if she could get a break on the commercial rent amount. **Dale moved and Phil 2nd that she would be charged \$250.00 (a \$50.00 discount). The motion passed unanimously.**

Sharon reported that Gretchen knows someone that has a bounce house that could be used during the fair. The cost would be \$300.00. The board would like to check to see if there are others cheaper that could be rented.

Gerry reported that the Whistling Midgets would like to make their final performance at the 2010 LC Fair. Gerry will find out more information.

There was discussion about the cost of port-a-potties. How many can be hauled on a trailer? Sharon will check into.

There was discussion about golf carts. It was discussed that if someone wants a golf cart, they need to pay for it. It was tabled until next meeting.

The swap meet and auction will be April 17th. More planning will need to be done at the next meeting. **Phil moved and Justine 2nd that the amount spent on ads would be \$100 for the event. It passed unanimously.**

From the January meeting there was discussion about having kids from Davenport attend the fair during school hours and giving them a class discount. Josie moved and Dale 2nd that the gate price for classes would be \$1.00 per kid.

The next meeting will be March 19th at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Nighswonger