

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD MINUTES

March 7, 2008

Gerry began the meeting at 6:40 pm. We had quite a crowd—our 2008 royalty were all in attendance, as well as the board. Mike, Connie & Stephanie Stauffer, Colleen & Emily Houger, Taylor Rounds, Phil, Dale, Lydia, Josie, Sarah, Gretchen, Kathy Eastman, Dan and Sharon.

The royalty showed their belts and tiaras for their hats. They looked good. The girls reported they were selling pizza kits and Cyrus O'Leary pies as fund raisers. Their shirts and chaps should be done in April. They will participate in "Ride the West," by helping out in Dusty Roller's booth.

Sharon will have the 2008 Premium Book Cover Contest Flyers copied on colored paper for the girls to take to the local schools by March 17th.

They requested use of the arena for practicing runs together as royalty. They just need to call ahead to make sure no one else is booked.

Sharon brought up we have very little entertainment booked so far. We talked to the robot guy from 2 years ago as well as Entertainment Warehouse. So far no others have been scheduled. We discussed having a band we heard at convention as well as Eric Haines, Jeff Evans or Let's Pretend Circus. Sharon will meet with Gerry in the near future.

The grant from the Dept of Agriculture was discussed. Casey's Roofing won the bid. The grant is for \$40,000.00 to have the main building insulated and resided. The large windows in the dining room will be framed in smaller for future replacements that will be energy efficient.

Would superintendents like meal vouchers or a T-shirt? Sharon will find out from each superintendent. Sharon will check on other T-shirt vendors in Spokane. Recommended ones are: Stadium Sports, Burnett Sports, and Action Sportswear.

There was much discussion about the arena rental. When a group rents the arena, the price includes watering it and working it up for the event. The rental fee will be \$125.00 for any non-4-H event. A motion was made by Dale and 2nd by Phil to charge an additional \$25.00 for use of the water truck and \$50.00 for use of the tractor. The motion passed unanimously.

April 5th is move out day for the boats and RVs. Phil indicated he would be here with Dan. Dale and Sharon were unsure.

We discussed the new regulations for the poultry department. The new directives came directly from the Dept of Agriculture. Ramona is aware of them and there will be mention of them in the premium book. A copy of them is included with the minutes.

Are we having the animals ultra sounded again this year? Josie will find out.

We are in need of a cat superintendent. Sharon will put an ad in the paper with any others needed.

Dan will be heading up "The Friends of the Fair." He is looking into getting it going.

There was discussion about the sponsor flags from last year. The sponsor fee was \$100.00 and out of that amount came the construction of it at \$35.00. Are we going to offer the same price as last year, since some of the flags are already made?

It will be tabled until next meeting, Sharon will check the paperwork.

Gerry wants a flag for 2008.

There was some discussion about fundraising. Perhaps an auction or an indoor garage sale? We will have further discussion at a later date.

The Lincoln County Deputies Guild will be purchasing a new sale ring. The ring will cost approximately \$800.00-\$900.00. There needs to be a 4 ft. gate for the hogs and a 6 ft. gate for the steers. We will purchase a sign to say donated by.....

After much discussion, WE WILL NOT BE GOING TO THE INTERSTATE FAIR FOR BORROWED PANELS THIS YEAR!!!! To much work involved and we have panels here that can be used.

We need to know how many pens are generally used by the departments. Josie will talk to Shannon and Jill about the size they need.

Kathy Eastman gave us a report from the Livestock Sale. She wants to have another carwash this year to help support the kids. Kathy is also combining the general livestock rules and livestock auction rules into one category for the premium book. She will be sending them to Sharon, so she can email them to the board members, for input.

Kathy also inquired about a fundraiser for the Reardan H.S. Sophomore Class. She was wondering if they could put on a chicken poop bingo board. It was noted that we have a board that has been used before. At this point it is a go. The question is where and when during the fair.

Dale reported that the rodeo contestants really enjoy our show. For this year we will block off the area by the church for rodeo stock trailers only, prior to fair. Also, this year there will be signs stating all livestock trailers for exhibitors will be parked north of the airport. As per Gerry, vehicles will be towed if they are not parked in the correct areas.

It was suggested that we look into opening up the stock contract for bid. Dale would look into it.

Phil reported that there will probably be no petting zoo this year. Since Becky works in Othello now, it would be too hard for her to do it again this year. Phil said Donna Bidick from Ritzville might be interested, but would need compensation of approximately \$500.00-\$600.00.

Dan reported the tree by Schrek's house needs to be removed. He will also trim the trees by the back fence.

Dan also said that there are metal steps in the "graveyard" that need minor repair that can be used in the front of the stage.

Gerry brought up the Lincoln County Deputies Guild would like to rent the DARE Building to store their union files and have a place for meetings. They are willing to repair/remodel it. The sheriff does not want to relinquish the building. The board offered other suggestions for the guild. It was suggested they rent the upstairs of the main building, have a building brought in similar to the one during the 2007 fair.

The discussion ended with Dale moving that the DARE Building remain the Sheriff's and the guild find another location either on the grounds or elsewhere. Josie 2nd the motion. The motion passed 4 to 1.

Sharon brought up the LC Weed Board stores materials upstairs and according to county rules, we should be charging them for rent. Kevin Hupp has been notified about the decision and is supportive of it. We will charge them \$10.00 a month to be paid once a year. Sharon will invoice them, beginning in January.

Gerry informed everyone that we took out a \$27,000.00 loan to pay the remainder of our bills in 2007. We will be paying back the loan at \$9000.00 plus interest a year for three years. We will be getting around \$33,000.00 from the county beginning this year.

Gerry informed the board that minimum wage had risen higher than what Dan and Sharon are paid. He suggested that their wage be increased to \$8.50 an hour. Gerry also stipulated he would like to look into increasing their wages to \$9.00, after reviewing the budget. The motion was moved by Dale and 2nd by Josie, it passed unanimously.

Lydia brought up an ad for the barrel racing association's newsletter. The ad would cost \$25.00. Dale moved that we place an ad in the publication and Phil 2nd The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Friday April 11th at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Nighswonger