

Lincoln County Fair Advisory Board Minutes January 18, 2023

Board Members Present: Brad Ray, Teresa Chrisman, Lindsey Smith, John Merriott, Cody Murdock, Anthony Wicks, Susan Aldridge

Members Absent: Justine Winn, Katie Bageant

Friends of the Fair: Bryce Bailey, James Llewellyn, Joe Chimienti

Others Present: Dawn Canfield, Jesse Quandt

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm.

Minutes for October and December approved. No meeting in November.

Jesse Quandt introduced himself. He will be the performer for the concert on Thursday, August 24th. He will choose the opening band and would like to have space for his own sponsors. He also has worked with North West Stage and Lighting for stage and sound engineer over the years and would like to have them for the concert. The Board agreed to all his requests. Jesse will contact North West Stage and Lighting and ask for them to send a contract to Dawn. Dawn will send an entertainment agreement to Jesse.

Jesse mentioned that he may have a liquor sponsor and asked if there was any problem with that type of sponsor. Bryce said that he will continue the conversation about the sponsor with Jesse.

Discussion turned to ticket prices for the concert. A final decision for price of concert tickets will be set later.

Scott talked about the restroom project in the Main Building. Dawn has been talking with the contractor, Gregg Ek. February 13th has been set as the start date for the dismantling of the restrooms. Also, Scott talked about the resubmitting the paperwork to the State Legislature for the indoor arena project. Should know by July if the State will award the funds for the indoor arena.

Dawn had a few items to discuss with some of the departments in the Premium Book. One item was to change the Adult and Youth Posters to Educational Posters. This change was approved by the Board.

Second item was to remove Division 1: Lincoln County Grange Booths from the Premium Book and remove Division 4: Vendors. Dawn mentioned that only one Grange entered over the last 5 years in Division 1 and only two vendors were the only ones who participated in Division 4. The final decision was to remove the two divisions and rename the department as Booths and Displays.

The final item was to discuss removing all the lots and possible updating Division 6: Garden Sites in the Fruits and Vegetables department page. The approved removing all the lots and updating the division to include anyone not just 4-H members. Dawn will have the changes to the division ready for approval at the next meeting.

Dawn asked the Board for their opinion on what the online end date should be for livestock and some other exhibit entries that are due before the Fair & Rodeo starts. Dawn mentioned that with the new entry program, Fair Entry, the Superintendents will have real time access to their departments. Once Dawn gives the Superintendents permission to access their departments, they can check on the entries for their departments anytime. Discussion started about the end date. Final decision was to set August 11th for livestock and the other entries and August 21st for all online static entries.

Dawn presented an email from Barbara Curtis, Superintendent for the Knitting & Crocheting department. She was asking if the Home Arts building, which houses her department, Quilts department and Sewing department could close their barn at 8:00 pm. Discussion started about when to close barns. **Motion:** Teresa made a motion to allow the department barns to close at 8:00 pm and vendors close at 8:30 pm. Teresa 2nd. Motion passed. One addition was made to what vendors will be allowed to close at 8:30 pm. The Board agreed the Food Vendors should stay open until after the rodeo.

Brad talked about creating a survey to put on the Fair's FaceBook page. He would like to have a survey that asks the public what they would like to see at the Fair & Rodeo. Dawn will create a survey and have questions ready for the Board to review at the next meeting. Lindsey volunteered to help create questions.

Scott mentioned that the Commercial building would not be able to house the inside vendors this year at the Fair & Rodeo. The County needs a place to keep all the broadband supplies for the County wide projects of installing broadband wire. Discussion started about where to place inside vendors. No final decision was made.

Brad talked about the livestock judge. He had his daughter, Amelia, help him find a judge. She did this a community service project. Brad suggested an increase in payment to the judge from \$500 to \$550, for two days, plus airfare, lodging and rental of vehicle. Discussion started about the increase of payment. **Motion:** John made a motion to increase the payment to the livestock judge. Teresa 2nd. Motion passed.

Bryce made a suggest of having a youth ambassador for the Fair & Rodeo as well as a possible scholarship offered to the youth ambassador. Further discussion will continue later.

Bryce provided the financial standing of the Friends of the Fair. The current balance of the Friends of the Fair account is \$43,769.55. Of that total \$25,000 is held for liquor purchase for the beer garden during the Fair & Rodeo, \$18,769.55 is available for spending and \$1,350 is held for the memorial fund for Lydia Widmer.

Bryce would like to have some ideas presented for ways to use the funds held in Lydia Widmer's name. One idea was to fix the arena office that has always been known as Lydia's office by some of the Board and Friends of the Fair members.

Bryce mentioned the Junior rodeo may be three days instead of two. The Junior rodeo will be June 23rd and 24th, with the possibility of going into the 25th.

A suggestion was made about placing magnets, with Sponsors names, on top of the bucking chute for the announcer to see what Sponsor signs are on the bucking chutes. Additionally, there was a suggestion that we take out the window in the announcers stand so timers have a better view of the entire arena. As of right now the window slides open one direction. Dawn will look into the possibility of both suggestions.

Lindsey suggested removing the 4-H horse portion from the Horses & Mules department due to the lack of entries over the last few years and make the department open entry. Discussion started. **Motion:** John made a motion to remove the 4-H horse section in the department and make the department open to anyone. Teresa 2nd. Motion passed.

Lindsey will create an informational flyer and post on the Fair's FaceBook page to get the information out now about the changes to the department.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The next meeting will be March 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Samantha Canfield

WSU Extension/Lincoln County Fairgrounds Office Manager