

Lincoln County Fair Advisory Board Minutes September 20, 2023

Board Members Present: Brad Ray, Justine Winn, Katie Bageant, Teresa Chrisman, John Merriott, Cody Murdock, Susan Aldridge

Members Absent: Lindsey Smith, Anthony Wicks; Judy Samek

Friends of the Fair: Bryce Bailey, Joe Chimienti, Libby Murdock

Others Present: Dawn Canfield, Scott Hutsell

Meeting called to order at 6:39 pm.

Minutes for July approved.

Scott updated the Board on the moving of the steel covered structure that has been used as cover for the Showring. Halme Construction will be the company moving and setting the structure near the outside stage. Scott also gave an update on the Indoor Arena project. He has met with Dan Halme to discuss the possibility of using a design build process for the project.

Dawn did have one issue that came to office after the Fair & Rodeo. One of the livestock superintendents talked to Dawn about two FFA exhibitors failing to take care of their animals and the possibility of the two exhibitors not receiving their premium checks. The ruling is in the Premium Book that any "violation of any one of these rules may lead to forfeiture of premium points and removal of exhibitor and exhibits from the Fair & Rodeo." Dawn asked the superintendent for a statement about the violation with the exhibitors but never received a statement from the superintendent.

Dawn asked for clarification on this matter and suggested that some type of form be created for superintendents to fill out when there is a violation of the Fair & Rodeo rules. Discussion started. The final decision was that superintendents need to address the issue immediately to the Fair Advisory Board before any animals are removed from the grounds on Sunday and that a letter needs to be sent to the Medical Lake FFA about the incident.

Brad mentioned the Fair & Rodeo was an overall great success and no complaints were received by Board members.

Justine said that the Horses & Mules department needs a few changes for next year. Only one 4-H parent complained about not knowing that exhibitors could show as a 4-H exhibitor to qualify for Round Robin. Next year will include a division for the 4-H exhibitors.

The Board went over some of the topics in the Identify Discuss Solve (IDS) list compiled by the Board members after the Fair & Rodeo. The first item discussed was the concert. There is an agreement among the members that the Thursday night concerts are not working at this time. There was a discussion about what type of event would work the best for Thursday night. One idea was to have a horse and motorcycle racing event.

The second item was briefly discussed. John mentioned that there needs to be an increase in the added money. Discussion will continue later.

Theresa mentioned that the employee from the crowd control company at the back gate was rude to people on Friday night. He would not let an individual through the back gate. Dawn explained that Friday night was a little crazy with the changing of the gate entrance for the public and there were a lot of people that did not understand why they could not go through the back gate. The crowd control employee was trying to keep non rodeo contestants from using the back gate.

Dawn asked for clarification on gate entries for rodeo contestants. Justine said that all family members of the rodeo contestants should get through the gate. Dawn explained this was the problem encountered at the back gate with the rodeo contestants, how to determine if the individuals with the contestants are family members, significant others or just friends. Dawn further explained that she received a call from the back gate on Friday night with one contestant and his girlfriend arguing with a Fair Office employee about the rights she had to have her five girlfriends go through the back gate and they did not have to pay to enter. Discussion started about what can be done to improve the identifying of individuals entering with rodeo contestants. No final decisions were made.

Discussion started about opening the side gate for all three days. This could help to eliminate some of the confusion for the public about what entrance they should use for the Fair & Rodeo. Additionally, the discussion turned to the East parking lot and blocking the access roads on Wednesday. This could help to eliminate problems with the public parking in spaces needed for the rodeo contestants.

Brad said that most of the trailers on move on day of the Fair & Rodeo followed the enter and exit gate route. There were only a few that did not follow the gate route. Discussion followed about having the gate route in the Premium Book and on the website.

Officer elections will be held at the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

The next meeting will be November 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Samantha Canfield

WSU Extension/Lincoln County Fairgrounds Office Manager