

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 19, 2012

Board Members Present: Gerry, Dale, Josie, Greg, Gretchen, Sarah

Members Absent: Justine, John

Others Present: Marcie Breshears, Marissa Brown, Lydia Widmer, Dan Berry & Sharon Nighswonger

Gerry began the meeting at 6:40pm.

The meeting began with a presentation by Marissa Brown (a senior at DHS) to put together a showcase of local talent on Friday during the fair. She wants to call it "Lincoln County's Got Talent". It won't cost the fair anything and she will organize it with the help of Sharon. It will be held during the day in a 2-4 hour block of time. It can be determined how long based on how many acts are participating. **A motion was made by Dale & 2nd by Josie to approve the event. It passed unanimously.**

The May minutes were approved unanimously.

It was brought up that Rocklyn Medical has not paid for their bucking chute sign. Sharon will contact them by the end of the month to see if they want to renew or not.

Mark DeWulf indicated he wanted a sign, but have not heard back from him.

Rodeo Royalty tryouts will be held on July 9, to assure that we will have a Rodeo Queen for Pioneer Days.

Gretchen reported that she is now certified for judging canning, through WSU Extension. She wants to have people bring in their pressure dials at fair and have them checked. It could be done in the Canning Department.

We are missing superintendents in the following departments: Canning, Vegetables, Round Robin and 4-H Family Living. It has been advertised in the Advertiser.

Lydia is ordering ribbons, but only rosettes this year. We have a surplus of flat ribbons.

Greg mentioned contacting Bob Martin about assisting with the BBQ chicken dinner.

It was suggested to include a history of the fair that used to be published in the premium book. The last remembered edition of it was prior to 1995. Sharon will look for it upstairs and Gerry can then update it. It would be a great item to go in the supplement if found.

Josie reported there is no livestock judge yet.

Dale reported Helen Sandygren died and suggested that a memorial announcement be placed in the premium book. There will also be a plaque added to the Memorial Wall in the Home Arts building.

The new display case is in the Home Arts building. Sharon will order a plaque for the case saying, "Donated by the Gene Talkington Family".

Odessa Office Equipment wants to help bring in more rough stock riders; especially bareback riders and saddlebroncs.

Sharon will email Dale the rodeo sponsors so he can approach other businesses about donating.

Josie will see if Davenport Ambulance will help sponsor the beer garden. She suggested a \$500.00 donation to them from the proceeds.

Greg will help Dale with the lines for the RVs.

There was discussion about moving the carnival to the end of the midway if they come. We have to wait to see if they come and if so, how many rides they bring.

We need to have an electrician fix the power box by the Silver Horse barn. Greg mentioned that Bill Strite is a retired electrician.

Gretchen will talk to Lily and have the artwork revised for the premium book.

Greg mentioned a couple of new ideas to have during the fair—an obstacle course and mud run. We will look into them for next year. They would take some planning.

Sue Lani Madsen sent a proposal to the office wanting to put on a Republican Forum at the fair on Thursday after the chicken dinner. **After much discussion it will be held in the auditorium and they will be charged \$15.00 an hour and given 3 day passes for their guests. Dale made a motion to that effect & Josie 2nd. It was passed, with one no vote.**

We will have a work crew volunteering during the last week of June. It is a VBS crew from Renton who are doing community service projects around Davenport for the week. Some of the potential projects that came up were: move and paint railroad ties to the front of the main building, dig a hole for the new water meter, weed horseshoe pits and clean off stage. All of these projects are contingent on how many days they are available and how many people are here.

There was discussion about Kelly Hensley's Dance Academy fees beginning in September. That topic was tabled until next meeting.

It was moved by Josie and 2nd by Dale to allow open kids showing market animals to sell them during the Livestock Sale this year. It will be re-evaluated after fair and if all goes well, it will be part of the sale process for future years.

Sharon will look for individuals or a group to be the bathroom cleaning crew this year.

It was suggested to have Marcie contact Chase Hubbard to see if he would like to perform during the fair.

Josie would check with her relatives and see if they would like to come back and perform as well.

Gerry is working with Public Works to get a new map of the fairgrounds.

There was discussion about getting a fax for the office. We can't use a designated fax machine because it would use another phone line since our voice mail won't allow it to work. Sharon researched some fax services that can be used on line. **It was approved unanimously to order the service.**

The three grant items were sent in by the deadline. 1) Back flow valves for all the faucets on the grounds and a new water meter. 2) New fixtures for the restrooms on the grounds. 3) Paint the roof of the main building.

There has been \$3180.00 collected in donations so far this year.

The next meeting is Tuesday, July 17th at 6:30pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Nighswonger
Fair Secretary

Lincoln County Fair
July 17, 2012

Board Members Present: Gerry, Josie, Gretchen, Justine, Sarah and Greg,
Members Absent: John and Dale
Others Present: Carol Beaver, Kim & Sean Groh, Marcie Breshears, Lydia Widmer, Dan Berry and Sharon Nighswonger

Gerry began the meeting at 6:40pm.

The meeting began with quite the discussion about exhibitors having to pay for shavings for the fair this year. Carol's concerns were that the kids were going to have to buy 3-4 bundles just to get the barns ready for the cattle and that doesn't include extra needed during the fair. She also pointed out, that the beef kids always have to pay more for things than other livestock exhibitors.

Gerry explained that costs for everything have gone up and our funding has not. He explained that it needs to be done as a cost cutting measure. There has been much discussion about this topic and he informed the guests that the board voted to charge for the shavings. It was also discussed that we will not allow straw and only pine shavings will be accepted.

Gerry did secure 300 bundles of shavings from Del's in Cheney at ~~\$7.50~~ each.

Carol asked if the "pot holes" in the beef barn can be filled in. She also mentioned at some shows, rubber mats are placed in front of the beef stalls.

Sean mentioned he could provide shavings for people from Ag Link in Almira for \$5.33 plus tax, but they have to pick them up.

Gerry went over an enclosed sheet listing all of the major expenses of the fair. The budget for the fair is \$110,000.00 and \$92,460.00 was listed as yearly expenses to put on the fair. We are looking at ways to cut back on some of those expenses.

There was discussion about how much money the livestock committee takes in and how much is retained yearly. A request has been made of Kathy Eastman to provide a yearly breakdown of the information. It was also brought up that the LC Fair is not the governing body of the sale; they are an independent non-profit organization.

We still do not have a livestock judge. Carol said she would get some names and pass them on to Josie to call.

The minutes of June 2012 were approved with a change that Gretchen is not yet certified as a canning judge. She is in the process of becoming certified.

Sarah reported that the Breshears Belgians will not be here this year. Chase Hubbard will be on tour beginning in mid August and can not appear this year.

It was discussed about the bucking chute signs and who owns them. It was determined that if the fair pays for them to be made, we own them. If a company provides a sign or pays to have them made, it is their property. If the fair pays for them the first year is \$500.00 included the production cost. **A motion was made by Gretchen and 2nd by Justine to change the rates for the signs. The motion approved unanimously. After more discussion regarding this issue, another motion was made by Greg and 2nd by Justine to address the entire issue after fair.**

Justine reported that Bernie Deunwald will be again providing beer for the beer garden. This year wine cooler products will also be provided. It was suggested to contact Kevin at Family Foods or Dawn Bennett to order them.

There will need to be more lighting in the beer garden area.

Josie reported that the Davenport Ambulance paid \$60.00 per day (\$120.00) for the liquor license. The fair agreed to either split the cost or depending on how much is brought in pay for the full amount.

We need more golf carts. We have three and need about 4 more. We will need to order the shuttle cart for the Crazy Ladies.

Greg reported that Gabe Gantz, Jessie Allen and Brad Sweet will be BBQ chicken for the dinner.

Sharon reported that the church ladies probably won't provide desserts this year. Perhaps the Reardan Junior Miss girls could do so---they would then receive \$1.00 per plate sold from the dinner. It was also suggested that the new bakery could be contacted to provide desserts.

Gretchen reported she had a superintendent for 4H Family Living and Fruits & Vegetables. We still superintendents for Canning and Round Robin.

Bailey Wiedmer is our new LC Fair & Rodeo Queen. Her sash was ordered. The belt buckle will be ordered after looking at some samples Justine has. Justine (personally) would like to sponsor a jacket for Bailey to wear at events.

The official crowning of Bailey will be on Friday night at the rodeo.

Jennifer Lewis and Erica Whitmore will be handling the sponsor flags again this year.

Justine will have a script for Bob Garrett before the rodeo, so everyone is prepared.

Marcie and Sarah will handle the hospitality table for the rodeo contestants and helpers this year. It will be too much for Justine this year as she is needed with her 4H group.

Justine cleaned out the center room of the rodeo offices.

Gretchen mentioned that Inga Gray's 4H group could do some work around the fairgrounds.

The misters in the Goat/Sheep and Pig Barn need some attention. Many of them don't work.

Gerry mentioned that there should be a shredder in place in the office, instead of taking the papers up to the commissioner's office and putting them in their shred bin. **It was moved by Justine & 2nd by Gretchen to purchase a shredder for the office. It passed unanimously.**

Gerry would like a work day to place the eco blocks for the loading dock.

There was discussion of the cost of the Dining Room and Kitchen. In the past, each room rents for \$100.00. We have found that if someone just rents the dining room, the kitchen also gets used or vice versa. **Greg made a motion and Justine 2nd that the new rate for the Kitchen/Dining Room is \$150.00. The motion passed unanimously.**

Gerry mentioned that the arena rate should be inline with the open arena rates that have just been established and should be rented at \$7.50 per hour. **Justine made a motion and Greg 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.**

Greg mentioned that it might be of interest to include a fun run into the mix of activities at the fair. Perhaps that could be included in next year's fair.

Sharon mentioned that there is a group of people in the area that travel around the country with their RV's and have wondered why the fairgrounds could not be a destination spot for similar groups. She will check into what it takes to get involved.

Kelly Hensley will be having a dance class in the middle of August for a week to prepare to perform during fair.

There will not be a fair commissioner this year again. Too few commissioners and too many fairs on the same weekend as ours.

We have collected \$3550.74 in donations so far.

There is \$236.56 in the rodeo account. Justine then mentioned she ordered flowers in the amount of \$86.00.

Sharon needs updated bios from everyone for the supplement for the Davenport Times.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, ~~July 7~~ ^{August} at 7pm. It will follow the superintendents meeting at 6pm. Refreshments will be served at the superintendent meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

Following the monthly board meeting, visitors were excused and the fair board went into executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Nighswonger

Kim nominated for fair board member
Food Safety Preservation Assistant