

Elbert County Fair Board
August 17, 2020

Meeting called to order by President Tammi Schneider.

Present: Nancy Ramsour, Trevor Smith, Will White, Aaron Thieman, Dan Carpenter, Vicky Whitman, Dave Rook, Jill Duvall, Sheri Trehal, Troy Kelty, Garrett Miller, Ben Duke, Tammi Schneider, Chris Carnahan

Excused: Scott Maranville, Rod Sigmon

Approval of 8/17/2020 agenda and 7/20/2020 Fair Board meeting minutes.

Guests:

-Quentin Miller: Expressed some concerns about fair format, communications that took place about why the fair wasn't "normal," and actions taken by the executive board; he apologized for some of his actions and frustrations at and with the fair/fair board. Tammi asked him how we could do better; he assumed that it was never proposed to the county to have a normal fair, and he apparently got different information from various Fair Board members about how decisions had been made. Tammi explained the negotiations with the county that had taken place; Fair Board serves at the pleasure of the county and for the residents of the county. Kali explained how the finances work between Fair Board budget and Extension funds.

-Michael Sarabia (here in place of Bobby Chevarria), Fairgrounds Report: community came together to accomplish the limited fair. Tammi asked him to pass on to his supervisor that things went well; she will pass on some suggestions to his department for next year. Ben asked that thanks be passed on to county administration.

-Kali Benson, Extension/4H: Kids headed to State Fair this week. Fair was good for 4H'ers to be able to see friends and interact. Thanked Fair Board members for attendance at first weekend of fair.

-Jim Duvall (Parade Superintendent; report follows under New Business)

-Treasurer's Report: Sheri Trehal reported that the post office box in Kiowa (Box 561) needs renewal; Will White made a motion to add Tammi Schneider and Sheri Trehal's names to PO Box (remove Kristi Strachan) when box is renewed. Seconded and passed. Also, county has Covid money to assist with live-streaming/webcast/market sale consulting & platform. At this time, we have approximately \$35525.12 left in our budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Review 2020 fair: Had thousands of viewers watching various venues at the fair via the live-streaming of the events; positive response; should be included in future fairs. Ideas tossed around to consider for scheduling/planning for positive changes at future fairs. Need to get input from parents, superintendents, 4H leaders, etc. as we plan ahead. Potential rework of schedules to be discussed at September meeting. Nancy expressed her thanks to Debbie Maul for assistance with Open Class; numbers were down this year. Need to educate the county better about Open Class as an avenue for community participation; participants liked being in the fellowship hall again. Positive feedback from food trucks. Partnership with Rose's Ice Cream appreciated. Parade went well; Jim Duvall reported that some of the positive changes will be carried forward. Stallions will be allowed in the parade at the discretion of the adult participant (18 years and older). Tammi thanked the Fair Board members for all the help making this year's fair as normal as possible.

-Dates for 2021 fair/Grand Marshall: July 31-August 8 will be 2021 fair dates. Ric Miller was chosen as Grand Marshall for 2021; Tammi will contact Ric.

-Discussion of fairgrounds improvements needed by end of year: Tammi will speak at BOCC meeting on August 26. Some suggestions: more widespread wi-fi on fairgrounds, arena surface, lighting, floor of horse pavilion so it can be more fully utilized, more bleachers, possibly an additional building. Any other suggestions, please get them to Tammi before the BOCC meeting on 8/26/2020.

Next meeting: September 21, 2020.

Jill Duvall
Secretary
Elbert County Fair Board