

Elbert County Fair Board

Minutes, June 17th, 2024

Fellowship Hall

Members present:

Tammi Schneider
Will White
Amanda Love
Sheri Trehal
Dave Rook
Troy Kelty
Scott Maranville
Garrett Miller
Matt Summers
Trevor Smith
Aaron Thieman
Vicki Whitman

Excused:

Ben Duke
Ralph Hinton
Chris Carnahan
Kristi Strachan

- Call to Order by Tammi Schneider at 07:03 pm
- Pledge
- Approval of Agenda 6/17/2024 addition per Tammi Schneider, Entertainment for 2025
 - Motion to approve minutes with addition by Will White, 2nd by Aaron Thieman- agenda approved
- Approval of Minutes – 5/20/2024- Motion to approve minutes by Will White, seconded by Garrett Miller- Minutes approved
- Guests: NONE
 - (any guest not listed below must stand, give name and address and may address the board in 5 minutes or less) *guests not present at this time of the meeting and not listed below may not address the board. After this period of the meeting has ended guests may not address the board or comment on subject matter during the meeting.

A) **Extension/4-H Report – Kali Benson**

- a) Fair entry open- remind that fair entry needs to in by July 1st
- b) All Fair books are on extension website
- c) Kali has also made videos to help with enrollment for fair
- d) Cake decorating contest last week
- e) 5 kids and state officer going to State conference tomorrow 06/18/2024
- f) County Shoots are starting Saturday
- g) All awards are in and ready for fair
- h) Room dividers are in for the fair
- i) Superintendent meeting on July 16th
- j) Tammi discusses with Kali about new livestock rules that have been changed and importance of getting these out to leaders to relay to 4-Hers
 - i) Kali states that communication to superintendents, leaders' council and 4-H leaders has been done with hopes that all exhibitors review the Fair book and new rules
 - ii) 4-H Fair book is located on the fair website as well

B) **County Facilities Report- Tammi**

- a) Tammi and Will met with Gary at facilities for the fairgrounds
 - i) Tammi is meeting every other week to discuss grounds plans for fair
 - (1) Parking lot being completed by fair time
 - (a) Pedestrian walk-way installed for safety
 - (b) About 400 spots now compared to around 900 previously
 - (c) Will still need the barrels from Troy and the rope for the south/east parking
 - (2) Painting completed on the grounds, mowing still needs to be completed
 - (3) Campground is filling up
 - (a) Open camping and dry camping is still not full yet
 - (b) Parking passes still limited to 2 per campsite- in special circumstances can ask for extra
 - (c) New lighting installed in campground
 - (4) Bleachers are almost completed- this will help with more seating
 - (5) There is now extra lighting in beef barn and electricity thanks to Friends of Fair

Old Business

A) **Drug Testing Committee Report**

- a) Committee- Will White reporting on discussion on drug testing that the committee discussed for the 2024 Fair

B) **Drug testing process**

- a) reached out to Texas A & M regarding testing- unable to get a response from them
- b) Discussed process with local vet and discussed with Elizabeth locker regarding their testing
- c) Trevor Smith discussed his meeting with Colorado State Fair
 - i) They do a random sampling on sale animals only
 - ii) They do blood and urine and if they come back positive they do tissue testing- the turn around time is about a week

- iii) At Texas A & M they can do blood, urine, fecal, and hair sampling
- d) The committee is struggling with the navigation of the path for the “what if” a sample comes back “hot” (positive)
- e) Will White discussed the drug testing process with El Paso- they reported that every “hot”/positive test in El Paso when speaking with them has ended up in a court case
 - i) They are doing blood, urine and then take tissue as well
 - ii) The vet that covers El Paso said he could cover our fair for \$1000
- f) Per Tammi Schneider when speaking with Arapahoe County- they also have had court cases when a positive test has come back, we would need to consult with our legal
 - i) Also, not all counties in Colorado are doing drug testing at their fairs- neighboring counties such as Douglas county are not testing
 - ii) Per Will White- would like to get barn security figured out first, talk with Texas A & M, get things figured out with legal
 - (i) Tammi thinks it is important for the market sale committee to be involved in the process of the drug testing
 - 1. Vicki and Sheri speaking on behalf of Market Sale Committee that discussion of drug testing being covered by the market sale committee- they will need to have more information and meet to discuss further
- g) Per Fair board President Tammi Schneider- she does not think that we can implement this process for the 2024 Fair
 - i) Further discussion needs to be tabled until after the 2024 Fair. We can aim for further discussion regarding drug testing, processes, cost etc in September
- C) Barn Security
 - a) Security would need to be implemented first with “barn hours” where the barn is closed/shut down without other personnel present
 - b) This would/should be initiated this year even without drug testing
 - c) Security cameras est \$11,000
 - d) Personnel- per Trevor Smith- Contemporary Services Inc., could work for overnight security
 - i) Minimum of two people for Monday
 - ii) Minimum of four people for all barns Tuesday, Wednesday
 - iii) 9pm-7a.m. for these personnel on the grounds. \$38/hour per person- \$3800 total for all nights

New Business

A) Barn Security

- a) To help with covering costs of security this year or drug testing in the future there is now a \$10 a head fee per head on each exhibitor animal to help with cover this cost
 - i) Exhibitors limited to three animals per species
 - (a) Kali would have exact numbers by July 1st on how many animals are coming in

- ii) Matt Summers discusses a process where these fees could be taken out of the market sale check
 - (a) Discussion continues regarding costs to the exhibitors for in the long run for judges, security, future of possible drug testing
 - (b) Continued discussion regarding cost and numbers of security members
 - (c) Tammi reminds board that Posse and Sheriffs department are already contracted to be here Friday and Saturday night until midnight. So do we need additional number of security for the barns that night?
 - (d) Per Trevor- the first night would cost \$760, second and third night would cost \$1520 for four security officers
- b) Vicki Whitman moves to approve security team at \$38/hr, per security team member for Monday through Saturday/early Sunday morning for security for livestock- partially unknown cost-Second Sheri Trehal (-2 officers, Tuesday- 4 officers, Wednesday- 4 officers, Thursday-3 officers, Friday- 3 officers, Saturday- 3 officers with total estimate of around \$5800) - **Motion passes unanimously**
- c) Barn Hours
 - i) Garrett discusses possibility of taking off limits of barn hours after shows
 - (a) Discussion continues regarding this
 - (2) Matt Summers suggests starting this year with Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday this year to see how security goes
 - (3) Barn hours will need to be subject to change by a super if hours need to be extended
 - (a) Will White motions to add barn hours 10 pm- 6 a.m. barns will be locked down Monday-Wednesday of fair with security presence Thursday- Sunday A.M. for the welfare of the animals- **Vicki Whitman seconds- motion passed**
 - (i) *** Email vote on June 19th, 2024 to have barn hours changed from 10 pm -6 a.m. to 10 pm- 5:15 a.m. **motion passed unanimously**

B) Banner Sponsors and Banner collection/return

- a) We need a process for check in, check out, and process for storage
 - i) Dave discusses that Cowboy Up has around 800 banners and wants to talk with them on how they do this process
 - (1) Per Dave, after speaking with Cowboy up they have no current exact process
- b) We need to also get all fair banners hung- will send out an invite for hanging these
- c) Fair books should be here delivered last week of June, 1st of July
 - 1. Digital as well will be delivered
 - 2. Those will also be distributed

C) Sponsor Gifts (ideas and approval of expenditure)

- a) We would need 7 sponsor gifts- ideas
 - i) Aaron could laser plaques for each business- would need to be paid for \$5 per piece
 - ii) Hats (2) per piece could be done through IC Threads again

iii) Motion per Sheri Trehal for Aaron Thieman to laser plaques for each business and paying \$5/plaque- seconded by Will White- motion passed

D) **Concert for 2025**

- a) Tammi would like to talk regarding who we could afford and who we could bring to 2025 fair
 - i) This year we have already sold 500 tickets for our concert this year for \$10/each with this being our first year charging for tickets
 - (1) Shenandoah is \$28,000, Travis Tritt is \$250,000, Mark Wills \$25,000
 - (2) Blackhawk, Tracy Byrd, Tracy Lawrence were other examples
- b) Further discussion regarding concert artists will be tabled until July 2024 for voting

- Adjournment – motion to adjourn meeting by Aaron Thieman to adjourn, motion seconded by Sheri Trehal- Adjourned at 9:02 pm

NEXT MEETING JULY 15TH

***meeting moved to July 16th to follow superintendents meeting