

Elbert County Fair Board
Minutes
October 20, 2024
Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm

Present:

Tammi Schneider
Will White
Chris Carnahan
Ben Duke
Ralph Hinton
Troy Kelty
Garrett Miller
Dave Rook
Trevor Smith
Matt Summers
Aaron Thieman
Sheri Trehal
Vicky Whitman

Excused:

Amanda Love
Scott Maranville
Kristi Strahan

- Called to order by Tammi Schneider at 7:03 pm
- Pledge
- Approval of agenda
 - Motion to approve agenda by Vicky Whitman; seconded by Ben Duke; motion passed
- Approval of minutes
 - Correction to committee members of the Elbert County Commercial Raised Market Beef Division
 - Motion to approve minutes with above corrections by Will White; seconded by Vicky Whitman; motion passed
- Guests:
 - Laci Zion – Elizabeth, CO – No comment at this time
 - Ben Frankin – Kiowa, CO – Commercial Raised Beef Committee
 - Silas Yocum- Elizabeth, CO – Commercial Raised Beef Committee
 - JR Matott – Kiowa, CO – Commercial Raised Beef Committee
 - Dan Carpenter – Kiowa, CO – Friends of Fair – No comment at this time
 - Ric Miller – Kiowa, CO – Friends of Fair – No comment at this time
 - Elbert County Extension – Kali Benson
 - The 2025 year has officially started with enrollment open on 4H online for members and volunteers as of October 1. Please encourage everyone to get on and reenroll.
 - A reminder that there are upcoming camps for 4Hers but they have to be enrolled and accepted into 4H prior to being able to attend camps.
 - 10-13 yr olds have the opportunity to attend the Dare to be You camp, registration is open through the end of this week.

- Gary Woirhaye unexpectedly passed away last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this time.
 - This is a huge loss to our county and the 4H program as Gary was very instrumental in the progress that has been made to the fairgrounds and facilities during the past several months. His team has been great at stepping in to ensure that things continue to move forward towards Gary's vision of the fairgrounds and facility's.
 - The extension office will begin the process of moving back into the office in the next day or two.
 - Beef Weigh-in date will need to be decided in the next couple of months.
 - The county re-posted the extension position and they have (2) candidates the first part of November. Following that, they will hold a public interview and will post the date when it is scheduled.
- Old Business:
 - Ranch Raised Market Beef Program
 - Committee presented a proposal to the board (see attached)
 - JR- Wants to emphasize the purpose and goal of the program is to help and promote the market beef program and to continue to help educate kids.
 - Ben – His vision of the program is to encourage more participation in the 4H program and the market beef program.
 - Garrett – Hashed out some ground rules and is 75% behind the idea. He is reluctant because there is no way to draw a line between ranch raised and show beef. Does not want to open a can of worms without having black and white rules to draw that line.
 - Discussion about if a 4Her purchases a steer from a commercial producer, there would be a committee that visually inspects the animal to determine if it is commercial raised or raised for show.
 - Producer would have to sign an affidavit stating the animal is raised for commercial purposes.
 - Brand inspection would have to be provided with a brand that is registered in Elbert County.
 - Final discussion would be made at the beef weigh in
 - Ben D.- The program is great and fully supports it, just worried about the subjective part of the program and feels it is important that every part of it is objective.
 - Matt – Supports the ranch raised program and feels that it is possible to have a committee make the final determination between commercial raised and show raised because they do that at all the major shows for breed determination and the committee has the final say at those. As long as it is clear this is the final word.
 - This is not a breed that we would be classifying and that makes it hard still.
 - Will – Can it be called Elbert County Born and Raised instead. The producer's origin would have to be Elbert County. This would make it more defining.
 - Trevor- Talked to Silas and thinks the purpose is good. Had a couple suggestions.
 - 1. For example, on Sept. 1 get a list of how many kids are interested in the program and then the committee would find a producer to supply that many cattle. They would all come from the same producer and it would be left up to managing feed
 - What would you do if a kid raises their own?
 - 2. Come up with a point system and mandate Elbert County Raised.
 - Ralph – to build on Trevor's words, Elbert County Raised with more emphasis on Rate of Gain and Carcass Merritt to help balance the weight.
 - Ben- What about the kids that want to raise their own animals. If we tell them they have to buy one from a specific producer, some kids would choose not to participate.

- Chris- Likes the direction we are going but does not want any gray area. Feels if we use the words “born and raised” to begin with it would be more broad and adjustments could be made if needed.
- Tammi – Define “raised” be specific about what that means.
- Dan – Can be changed to “Born and Produced”.
- Tammi – Is there still time to get these details worked out and launch it for this year?
 - Yes, we believe there is.
- Vicky – Would like a definition added to the proposal to clarify the meaning of the program so there is no gray areas.
- Home raised – Home address where brand is registered and producer resides.
- Tammi- Why is there a cash prize for this division?
 - Cash is an incentive to encourage participation
- Tammi – Concerned because no other division at the county fair offers a cash prize. Feels like the prizes should be consistent with all other divisions.
- Kali – Also concerned with backlash if a cash prize is offered.
- Tammi- Tonight we can approve the program and get it rolled out and work out the details in the months to come. This way we do not miss the window of opportunity for the program this year.
- Will moved that with the following revisions made to the Elbert County Ranch Raised Market Beef Division proposal, a division will be added to the Elbert County Fair beginning in 2025; Vicky seconded; motion passed
 - Change the division name to Elbert County Born and Produced
 - replace “raised” with “produced” throughout
 - definition of key words such as produced, raised, etc are added
 - 3B is defined more specifically
 - cash prize is removed
 - These revisions will be made and emailed to the board for approval via email by end of this week.

- New Business

- Market Sale

- Friends of Fair will not be doing the market sale any longer. An era will end and the Jr. market sale will now be under the direction of the Elbert County Fair board.
 - Ric- Gave the history of how and why the Friends of Fair came about. Friends of Fair is a 501c3 that was originally created to help with capital improvements on the fairgrounds and funds needed for the Elbert County Fair. At that time, the board members for the Friends of Fair were also fair board members. Things have since changed and it is time the market sale is overseen by the fair board. Friends of Fair will transfer the remaining funds from their market sale account, after all 2024 expenses have been paid, as well as any other assets that were used for the Jr. market sale to a non-profit of the Elbert County Fair boards choice with the intent of these funds and assets be used for the operation of future Jr. market sales. Friends of Fair will remain a 501c3 and will retain other funds to be used for capital improvements or equipment for the Elbert County Fairgrounds.
- To move forward, the market sale will be overseen by the fair board and a market sale committee will be formed. Tammi wanted to appoint a market sale chairperson that will act as a liaison between the fair board and the sale committee.
 - Will moved that Sheri be the market sale chair person; Vicky seconded; motion passed.
- Tammi would like a new market sale committee to be formed. Anyone that is interested in serving on this committee is asked to submit a resume of sorts to Tammi to be reviewed by the fair board in November.

- Tammi and Ben D. have begun work to set up a 501c3 and an attorney will need to be retained to complete the process. It is estimated that an attorney will cost some where between \$3500-\$5000.
 - Ben D. moved to engage an attorney to guide us and get us to where we need to be for our 501c3 and would approve \$3500-\$5000 to do so; Vicky seconded; motion passed.
 - Garrett – Why can't money continue to run through the Friends of Fair?
 - Ric and Dan both said it would be easier for Friends of Fair to be done with the market sale and the Fair Board create their own 501c3 to run the monies through.
 - The attorney will create the by-laws for the 501c3.
- Aaron Thieman moved to adjourn the meeting; Trevor seconded
- Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm

Next meeting November 18,2024