

Weld County Fair Board

Monthly Board Member

November 4, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Eli Hatch at 6:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eli Hatch, Tom Bledsoe, Katharine Lotspeich, Christie Gabel, Mike Frink, Isaia Aricayos

MEMBERS ABSENT: Neil Temmer

EX-OFFICIO/STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Eastwood, Keith Maxey, Robby Adams

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: Eli Hatch

ADDITIONS/CHANGES to AGENDA: None

MOTION to approve Consent Agenda by Tom Bledsoe; seconded by Christie Gable. A voice vote was held; all approved and the motion carried.

SPECIAL REQUESTS/GUESTS:

- 1) JENNIFER SELTZER submitted a request to change Meat Goat Breeders Show. The show is during the weekend prior to Fair and has been there for 18 years. Currently use the facility on Sunday only. The request is to have three shows – 2 shows on Saturday, 1 on Sunday and release animals Monday morning by 8 AM. This would mean goat pen set up for Fair would be pushed back to 11 am. The reasoning is that there are a lot of out of state exhibitors and it is difficult to travel just for a one day show and leave that evening. Exhibitors are saying they will not be able to attend due to burden of travel and limited show opportunity.

If change occurs, then Jennifer sees the need to have access to the facility on Friday around noon, then exhibitors would begin stalling after 3 pm. Currently there are approximately 75 entries; and they are hoping to increase it to 100+.

Christie said after receiving the request by the Livestock Committee, she contacted Aaron and Don who are the current goat superintendents if it would be okay to move back stalling from 9 am to 11 am for goats. They said it would be fine. Meat goat exhibitors would vacate by 8 am, giving three hours to clean and prep for Fair.

The Meat Goat show will have a vet check-in similar to other livestock animal shows on premises.

MOTION to accept proposal to have multiple Meat Goat Breeders Show the weekend prior to fair and move Fair check-in on Monday from 9 am to 11 am by Christie Gabel; seconded by Tom Bledsoe. All approved and motion carried.

- 2) SHELBY TVETEN, current Fair Queen, presented to the Board. Upcoming events include CAFS. They will be learning what it means to be Fair Royalty, interview training, public speaking, and

communications. They will be attending Parade of Lights events in Eaton, Greeley and Kersey as well. Through Fair Royalty program participation, she has personally grown in public speaking, communication skills and serving the community. She has started a relationship with the current Rodeo Queen and is being encouraged to pursue that in the future.

- 3) DAKOTA KOS submitted a proposal for the creation of a Fair Royalty Facebook page to promote and support the Fair, sponsors, and the community. She also presented policy language to limit use of page and protect participants.

Jennifer Eastwood stated that Weld County is very strict on social media use and will need to review proposal with the county before any use. At this time, there is an unofficial Fair Facebook page, but not sure how long that would be allowed to continue.

Eli Hatch requested that the proposal first go through the committee then come to the Fair Board for approval or questions. The royalty committee meets this Thursday and will discuss this. If it's something they would like to pursue, then they can submit a request to Board who will discuss the issue with Jennifer Finch at Weld County.

- 4) KELLY SEELHOFF presented to the Fair Board. She is mother of Cammy Seelhoff who was a Royalty participant in 2018 and 2019; an attendant in 2018, then queen in 2019. She has submitted 3.5 pages long letter with concerns and would like her concerns to be considered. The program is amazing for young people and does not want it to go away. Her concern is with favoritism this past year from leader Dakota Kos. She feels she is too young to be in charge of girls almost her age and needs a chance to grow and mature before leading the Royalty Committee.
- 5) DAKOTA KOS stated that she has submitted information to present her side of the story as well and would like to submit for board for review. She refutes any show of favoritism. Letters will be distributed to Tom Bledsoe who is the Fair Board member overseeing committee.
- 6) SHELBY TVETEN also commented to the board regarding the topic stating she thinks they can learn and grow from the past.
- 7) BRIDGET HOLCOMB also commented to the board regarding the topic since she is co-chairperson to the Royalty Committee. She believes the committee can organize and function together to move forward.

Jennifer Seltzer said the Education Committee is scheduled to meet November 18 and need ability to function and move forward.

MOTION by Tom Bledsoe to extend Education Committee ability to operate as normal for 30 days; seconded by Mike Frink. All approved and motion carried.

Point of clarification for letters of intent – letters of intent only for chairpersons of committees to be considered by board due by November 15. Submission of survey by previous board members indicating desire to continue as chairpersons of committee is considered intent.

MOTION by Tom Bledsoe to allow Junior Livestock to operate as normal for 30 days; seconded by Mike Frink. All approved and motion carried.

Volunteer Appreciation Committee – no formal committee will be created. We will ask Cheryl Munger to continue to help committees as a Volunteer Appreciation Coordinator liaison as needed. Jennifer Eastwood will reach out to Cheryl.

MOTION by Christy to extend Royal Committee authorization to continue to operate as normal through December 5, 2019; seconded by Tom Bledsoe. All approved and motion carried.

Livestock Committee: Current superintendents will continue in their capacity. At the December meeting, the board will select chairpersons who will coordinate superintendents at that time. Approval of superintendent changes will need to go through Fair Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) 2020 BUDGET – Jennifer created a budget with her comments indicating possible need for changes next year. MOTION by Christie Gabel to take home budget and bring back to December meeting for review. Seconded by Katharine Lotspeich. Discussion led to rescinding first and second of motion since no motion needed to request board members to review budget, submit questions and changes to Jennifer as needed to present at December meeting.

A minimum of 500 fair books need to be printed. Mid-March is when final edits to fair book is needed – board needs to review and bring back recommendation.

Keith Maxey added that the next year's County budget is set to be approved soon by Commissioners. Budget process begins in May if we feel a need to request additional funds.

- 2) FARM SHOW – dates are January 28 thru January 30 – County Fair will have a booth in the rear, north side of the event center. We will need volunteers to man the booth. We typically have giveaway, informational and promotional items. This year, Theresa Johnson said 4H wants to help volunteer at the event.

MOTION by Tom Bledsoe to partner with Theresa Johnson and 4H Exec and Leadership council to man the booth; seconded by Katharine Lotspeich. All approved and motion carried.

Advertising committee made decisions on giveaway items in the past, then have the Fair Coordinator order the items. Last year \$1250 spent on bags and other giveaways. They shared cost of bags with the Education Committee.

MOTION by Isaia Aricayos to approve up to \$1500 to Promotions Committee to purchase giveaway items and decorations for the Farm Show booth; seconded by Christie Gabel. All approved and motion carried.

Available and outstanding volunteer slots will be brought to the January meeting. We will request board members to fill in as needed and as available.

- 3) SHEEP SUPERINTENDENT – Eli Hatch provided an apology to Ms. Miller since not in functioning capacity and everything is new, the committee should not have released her from her position

at this time. Any changes to superintendents need to go through committee first then voted on at the Board level. Ms. Miller said she received a call from Christie Gabel on 10/28 reliever her from her duties due to multiple complaints at all levels. Ms. Miller called Larry, Keith and Eli to inquire about complaints and they have not heard of any complaints. She also called Commissioners office to inquire of any complaints. She believes there may be a personal agenda against her. She believes the call was inappropriate.

Christie Gabel responded with an apology for acting on behalf of the committee under previous procedures. She has nothing personal against Ms. Jane Miller. She is aware of multiple complaints made to committee members since the fair. The decision was made in committee and she acted upon it.

Superintendents will be discussed in committee and recommendations be made to Fair Board – all decisions will be done with this process in the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Keith provided an update on the search for a Fair Coordinator replacement. Currently in review of applications, the deadline was 10/31/2019. They received 20 applications. Board member Neil Temmer, previous President Tracy Axton and Keith Maxey will narrow pool and complete interviews.

Cammy Seelhoff presented to the Board reiterating the feeling of favoritism of Dakota Kos to Shelby Tveten. She is concerned about relationships deteriorating in the Royalty Committee with Dakota's leadership.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 8:10 PM by Tom Bledsoe; seconded by Christie Gabel. All approved and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaia Aricayos

Weld County Fair Board Secretary