



Larimer County Fair Board Meeting Minutes October 26, 2022, 7:00 pm

The Larimer County Fair Board convened a regular session on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chair: Marv Witt,
Vice Chair: Stephanie Morrison,
Secretary: Stephanie Fancher English
Board Members: Pat Young, Deborah Sherman, Jay Crouse, Kristine Miller, John Foley, Logan Lenz, Melinda Deal, Tamara TerAvest

Also Present: Ranch Director - Conor McGrath, Fair Coordinator - Laura Boldt, 2023 LCFR Queen - Sabrina Borg, Extension Agent - Kerri Rollins, Ranch Sr Event Manager - Louise Romero, Extension Agent - Bailey Schilling, Cindy Buckardt, Judy Blum, Maggie Steely, Jodi Witt

Absent: County Commissioner Kristin Stephens, Board Members Doug Pennock and Darryl English

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marv Witt called the meeting to order.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Marv Witt asked all present to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Pat Young made a motion to approve the October 26, 2022 Agenda, Jay Crouse seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved on a majority vote of approval by the Board Members. 11-0

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

John Foley made a motion to approve the September 28, 2022, Meeting Minutes and Pat Young seconded the motion; motion approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 11-0

PUBLIC COMMENT – 3 Minutes

The following members of the public addressed the Fair Board: Cindy Buckardt spoke on the Larimer County Operating Procedures and the Fair Board By-Laws. Judy Blum introduced herself and spoke about her reaction to an email she received regarding an anonymous letter sent to the Fair Board. She asked for feedback and follow up from the Fair Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

COMMISSIONER REPORT

There was no Commissioner report.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Marv Witt asked Fair Board members to discuss ideas from last month's discussions with the intent of forming Study Groups to investigate for improvement at next year's Fair. Ideas will be brought to the appropriate Fair Board Committees for further review and action and coordination with Ranch staff.

The November meeting needs to be decided upon. No meeting in December. Elections will be held in January, there are some open positions now on Committees.

FAIR BOARD PARTNERS / LIAISON REPORTS

- a. **Queen/Royalty** – Sabrina Borg reported on her September events: 4-H open house, Les Schwab open house, Mountain States Circuit Finals, MRC Send Off party, Greeley Hat Works visit. She will be attending CAFS. Stephanie Fancher English reported that Queens BBQ sold out at 140 people and raised over \$10,000. The Queen's Committee is focusing on community outreach over this next year and attracting younger girls to the program. Queens Contest will be held 2 weeks prior to Fair to give the Lady in Waiting more time to prepare. Sabrina will be attending the Royalty Program at the Colorado Association of Fairs and Shows (CAFS). Louise Romero elaborated on the mission and program of CAFS.
- b. **Extension /4-H** – Bailey Schilling reported on the 4H Open House that was held October 6 and was well attended. Beef orientation, carcass seminar and tour of CSU meat lab were also well attended. Upcoming is 4H achievement night, and Larimer County will be partnering with Weld County on the Jingle Bell Jackpot being held in December. The latest report shows 872 4-H members and a 85% completion rate. Katie Daywalker will not be returning so they are posting for a new extension agent.
- c. **The Ranch** – Conor McGrath was introduced and reported there are 2 open positions in The Ranch finance department. The road construction work continues along with excavation work for the new buildings. Foundation work has started on the new 4H building and maintenance building.
- d. **Sr Events Coordinator** - Louise Romero reported that Fair Board members can sign up for the Master Plan newsletter so it will be emailed to them. Mountain State Circuit Finals sold out both Friday and Saturday night. 1,200 is maximum capacity for tickets sold at this event, that number does not include companion seating.
- e. **Fair Coordinator** - Laura Bolt reported that Superintendents have met and provided feedback and surveys have gone out, she is still compiling survey data but overall the attendance numbers were up at Fair.
- f. **Rodeo Board** - There was no report.

FAIR BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Ranch Hands** – Marv Witt and Kristine Miller would like to create a Study Group, in conjunction with The Ranch staff, to investigate ways to help with access for Senior Citizens during Fair. Board Member Deborah Sherman has agreed to co-chair the study group with Melinda Deal. Kristine presented ideas for possible bench locations and cover for people waiting for shuttles. Louise shared that she will be

helping with logistics of parking and shuttles. The new access road will affect parking and access next year.

- b. **Pancake Breakfast** – Board Member John Foley will reach out as needed. Every Fair Board member is expected to help with Pancake Breakfast.
- c. **Parade** – The City of Loveland is working with Darryl to try and create an event with downtown Loveland that will carry over after the Parade. Abby Powell with Loveland requested that Fair Board investigate holding the parade on Friday night so that it will tie in with a special red dirt Band event. Louise is planning to help facilitate this conversation and Pat Young will join Darryl with this Study Group.
- d. **Junior Livestock Sale** – Marv Witt commented on the success of the Jr Livestock Sale and improvements that have been made over the last 3 years alone. Marv would like to see a Study Group formed that includes the Sale Committee, Fair Board, and Buyers to investigate ways to shorten the time of the Sale. Stephanie Morrison shared the progress made with the Jr Livestock Sale over the last year and the status of the debrief after the 2022 Sale. Stephanie M advocated for the Study Group to be initiated and managed through the Sale Committee. John Foley asked that a follow up email be sent to the Sale Committee to let them know about the Fair Board discussion.

Marv Witt brought up CSU Spur education and asked for a study on expansion of education opportunities and FFA participation at the Ranch. Bailey Schilling shared the challenges of including FFA participation at Fair and led discussion on this issue. Marv would like to include CSU professors in discussions on education opportunities to be held at The Ranch. John Foley summarized the intent of this study group is to investigate if there are opportunities for more crossover in educational opportunities for kids, including FFA. Pat Young would like additional input from Bailey on FFA. Kerri Rollins welcomed any ideas for additional education activities during Fair but expressed concerns over adequate resources to support additional programs.

OLD BUSINESS

Fair Board applications will be online through the end of October.

NEW BUSINESS / OTHER BUSINESS

John Foley made a motion to cancel the November 30th meeting, second was made by Pat Young, the motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 11-0

Louise let everyone know that the Appreciation Dinner being held on December 5 may be held in the First National Bank building depending on the turnout.

Pat Young made a motion to hold elections of Officers at the January meeting. John Foley seconded the motion, the motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 11-0

John Foley asked about open positions on the Fair Board, Marv reported if the two newly vacant positions are filled there will be 14 Fair Board Members. The By-laws allow up to 18 members.



John Foley asked that the three Fair Board Officers respond to public comment presented by Judy Blum.

ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There are no Executive Committee meetings scheduled through the end of 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Kristine Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Deborah Sherman seconded the motion, the motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 11-0 Meeting was adjourned.

Chair: Marv Witt

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marv Witt", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary: Stephanie Fancher English

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephanie Fancher English", written over a horizontal line.