



**Larimer County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2024, 6:30 pm**

The Larimer County Fair Board convened a regular session on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Chair: Stephanie Morrison

Vice Chair: Logan Lenz

Board Members: Jay Crouse, Darryl English, Melinda Deal, Kristine Miller, Pat Young, Vera Brown, John Foley, Michelle Wilcox, Dana Luther

Not Present: Stephanie Fancher English, Deborah Sherman, Becca Walter

Also Present: CSU Extension – Bailey Schilling, The Ranch Fair Coordinator – Laura Boldt, Larimer County Commissioner – Kristin Stephens, Cindy Buckardt, Shelby & Jacob Gould, Jodie Martin-Witt

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stephanie Morrison called the meeting to order.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Stephanie Morrison asked all present to introduce themselves. She reported those that were unable to attend.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Kristine Miller made a Motion to approve the Agenda, Pat Young second. The Agenda was approved on a majority vote by the Board Members. 10-0

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Kristine Miller made the Motion to approve the July 24, 2024, minutes and Pat Young seconded the Motion; Motion approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 10-0

PUBLIC COMMENT – 3 Minutes – Cindy Buckardt's public comment was about the volunteer online software program.

CORRESPONDENCE

Stephanie Morrison received a thank you note from Pam Heeney, the parade Grand Marshall.

COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Stephens reported that the County is finalizing the 2025 budget. There is a lot to consider in this process and to the goal is to balance the budget. She thanked the Fair Board, Rodeo Board and Sale Committee for all their hard work this year and making it a successful Fair.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Stephanie Morrison shared her involvement with the Ranch Hands was an enlightening experience and appreciates all that they do.

FAIR BOARD PARTNERS / LIAISON REPORTS

- a. **Queen/Royalty** – Maggie Livingston was not in attendance due to her commitment with the Berthoud Homecoming.
- b. **Extension /4-H** – Bailey Schilling relayed that they are wrapping up the 4-H year the end of September with livestock record books due September 28th. New enrollments start in October. The 4-H October Open House is October 9th. Livestock project orientations are beginning and the Carcass Contest is the end of October.
- c. **The Ranch** – Laura Boldt reported that the Ranch is busy with the Master Plan. We are planning on the Fair Appreciation dinner for the Board December 16th.
- d. **Rodeo Board** – No one represented the Board.
- e. **Fair Coordinator** – Laura Boldt thanked the Fair Board for all the assistance during the livestock shows and the entire Fair. Meeting with Superintendents and others involved in the fair to get their input for improvements.

FAIR BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Ranch Hands** – Kristine Miller thanked everyone for all their help with the Bounce Houses. The parents appreciate having this free space for their children. Next year, the bounce houses will be closed from 2-4 pm due to the heat. The public enjoyed the stilt walkers and the new Ninja exhibit. Plans for next year include looking at companies who send their employees to volunteer.
- b. **Queen/Royalty** – Pat Young reported that the queen, Maggie Livingston, is very busy with activities through the end of the year. She will attend the 4-H Open House, help Jay Crouse at Osborn Farms, CAFS, CO Youth Outdoors fundraiser and Hearts and Horses. Maggie will have pictures, get her jacket fitted and has already received her Greeley Hat Work cowboy hats.
- c. **Pancake Breakfast** – Jay Crouse shared the estimated attendance for the breakfast to be 1500 people based on the plate count. The event went well and all the meat was consumed. He received positive feedback that the breakfast was enjoyable without the band. The Ranch will pay the Lions Club for their assistance. Morning Fresh and OVG were good to work with.
- d. **Parade** – Logan Lenz reported that the parade went well with the GPS count around 3,200 people with the addition of youth and others the total was probably 5,500 people. The media push came towards the end and a shout out to the sponsors and police department. There has been a conversation about moving the parade to the Ranch but nothing definitive until they assess the public interest.
- e. **Junior Livestock Sale** – John Foley shared that the total sale proceeds were \$1, 094,000. The overall positives were that the sale went faster, and everyone sold with about 40 more animals. There were some growing pains, and they are assembling a list of feedback to address for next year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Fair Board By-Laws: The final should be forthcoming soon. They have been reviewed by the Commissioners and the County Attorney.
- b. Tracking volunteer hours in Vicnet: Stephanie Morrison emphasized inputting volunteer hours soon.

- c. Work Plans: Tabled for another meeting.
- d. Fair and Rodeo Debrief: Fair Board members and Commissioner Stephens shared their positive experiences during the Fair and offered recommendations for next year.

NEW BUSINESS – Stephanie Morrison announced that office elections would be held in October for the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary with nominations turned in at the meeting or via email to the Secretary.

Stephanie reported that applications for the Fair Board are still open. Fair Board members are recommended to serve on two committees.

During the Fair and Rodeo Debrief, Fair Board members and Commissioner Stephens shared their positive experiences during the Fair and offered recommendations for next year.

ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There were no items for the Executive Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Logan Lenz moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Pat Young. The Motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 10-0

The meeting was adjourned.

Chair: Stephanie Morrison _____

Secretary: Stephanie Fancher English_____