

Larimer County Fair Board Meeting

May 26, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Chairman Marv Witt

Members Present: Marv Whitt, Stephanie Morrison, Kristine Miller, Tamara Teravest, Pat Young, Julie Melby, Doug Pennock, Emily McMurtrey, Darryl English, Stephanie Fancher English, Scott Laura (by phone, and Dave Kaufman.

Excused Members: John Foley.

Guests Present: Larimer County Fair & Rodeo Queen Paige Petrocco, Queen's mom Michelle Wilcox, Linda Pennock, Bailey Schilling, Maggie Steely, Diana Frick, and Steve Human.

Darryl English motioned to approve of the minutes and Pat 2nd the motion as amended. Motion approved

Public Comment: N/A

No Correspondence was presented

Chairman's Reports: There was a concern at the last meeting by Scott Lara, about the Jr. Livestock Sale Committee. When the Sale Committee gave a report and added a member to their board, why didn't the fair board have more information. The Sale Committee operates differently, under the fair board and the reason it operate under the fair board is because money would just hangout there and only a couple people would handle it which made others concerned and nervous. So, the best way to handle that was to operate the Sale Committee under the Fair Board. So, Diana now controls the funds through The Ranch so there was peace of mind for all. There are 15 members on the Sale Committee. Two are appointed by the Fair Board and that is the Chair and the Vice Chair. The other thirteen come from the general public. They can be people who have bought at the sale, parents, businesses, or associates. Those thirteen positions are selected by the other board members and then the Fair Board just approved their selection. Doug stated they followed the guidelines in the operating procedures. They could bring more information to the Fair Board, but that was already done with the Sale Committee a while back following the procedures and all they needed was the Fair Board's blessing.

Commissioner Stephen: NA

Ranch Hands: Been busy with background checks, we need all board members to complete. We have 40 volunteers. Ripple Effect a Johnstown martial arts school and the Lions Club are going to come volunteer. The mandatory volunteer orientation is July 29th in the McKee building from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and that includes shuttle training and drivers test. They are still updating the handbook. We have had some community members step up and join the committee. Carol has been busy entering information into the plan hero program for scheduling. They have ordered cooling bandanas for all the Ranch Hands. Also, when you sign up to volunteer you can enter your shirt size. Volunteers will be at the fair from August 6 – 11th plus the parade. We would like to get more information about the events happening at the fair and we also have a new information booth that the operations team built.

Queens Committee: Stephanie added they have Woody Purcell and Snowy River booked for the BBQ. Tamera is in charge of the Fair Board member auction item, a “Whiskey Barrel”. We are working on the tickets.

Pancake Breakfast: We have come up with the set up and map that was sent out to everyone. We have a sponsor for the pancake breakfast this year. Scott has been in contact with the Lions Club’s new president, Craig Smith. They are on board. Julie counted the cage and looks like they will need to get quite a few things this year. Scott has broken down the breakfast into different groups this year for help so that the help is spread out through out the breakfast. John is willing to manage the food side of it and Pat is helping with the sausage and ham again this year like he always does. I did kind of come up with an idea where I wanted to have a “people” side of it. Where the some of the Fair Board Members are sitting down at the tables visiting with everyone and getting the Board more involved with the community. We are going to have the kids zone and Scott is still trying to figure out who will run that. If you want to volunteer, please contact him. He will be sending out information for the next meeting soon.

Parade Report: We had a May 19th meeting. Applications are live and one is a band. The lions Club has offered to volunteer to hand out flyer prior to the parade starting. We have sponsorships that will be on the flyers this year. We have 3 sponsors now. We were looking for \$5000.00 now maybe \$6000.00 in sponsorship because of the barricade situation we have. The Loveland Barricade proposal is higher than our budget. Per Diana they just signed a contract with the Ranch. The trophies have been ordered. Still needs to touch base with Steve on order tickets. Stephanie Morrison coordinating to have the club that Bill Markham has been involved with to walk in the parade with him and is donating the banner for the Grand Marshal. We have 1 judge and waiting on the second to get back to us. With the sponsorship, he was turned down by Bloedorn lumber, but they will provide a delivery truck for the judges stand. Hub insurance has committed to a sponsorship, and they are going to give their spot in the parade to the Boys and Girls club of Colorado. Volunteers are all set up.

Jr Livestock Sale: The sale committee is moving forward, fast. All weigh ins are done. We have 212-220 animals at the fair. We are down only by about 20 animals compared to normal fair – pre-covid. We got “save the date cards”, you can all take some tonight. We have brochures coming out. The sponsorships are all on board. Independent Financial has committed to fund the meal. We are going to use CSU Meats to prepare the meat and then Spectra will serve it. Stephanie has been working with the Ranch to get a website up and running. We started having a kid group, Jr, Jr Livestock group that met last night for the first time. We had 8 or 10 kids there last night, trying to get them involved. We have the photographer hired to take the pictures for the sale. We are still working on processors. With the buyback program, the business that don’t really want the meat and just want to sponsor the kids have the option to donate to the Larimer County Food Bank. Last year most of the buybacks went to the Food Bank. The Ranch is going to be doing the Facebook live feed for the sale, Chris has offered to do that at no charge. We will get with Kristine about volunteers.

Queen's Report: Total event hours and miles traveled this year, 43 ½ hours and 541 miles. Invites have been sent out to other royalty for our rodeo, parade, and royalty competition. Hoping to get more royalty support. We have a new Silver sponsor, Equine Performance Specialist and Rehabilitation at Circle Back Farms. We have been reaching out to our current sponsors. We went to Jax, and they outfitted me today. Emails have been sent out to all the 4-H clubs offering to have Paige come visit and speak about the program. We have the horsemanship clinic on June 9th, the Queen's contest is confirmed for July 31st, and the Queen's BBQ is confirmed for the party tent outside the Mac Arena on the August 5th. Paige is asking for help with donations/auction items and help the different areas of the BBQ overall.

Extension: Bailly Schilling is the new Livestock Agent. This past month at Extension, they just got through with the MQA testing. Now they are getting everything in line for the fair. The Jr Leadership club is working on some marketing tools to promote the Dairy Bar.

Rodeo Report: Things are going good, everything is on track. Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally is attending the Rodeo Board meetings now. She is a very wonderful lady, very pro ag, pro rodeo lady. She grew up around here lived on acreage, had livestock. Another thing that has come up, we are not sure if we are going to be getting trucks from Pedersen and Chris has offered up Ranch trucks because we don't know if we will get any to drive the commissioners in at the parade. We did mention it to Jody at the last meeting and we are trying to come up with something. All Fair Board members can get 6 complimentary rodeo tickets, all one night or spread out and can pick up July 1st and later. Grand Marshal can get 6 tickets.

Ranch Report: We have an internal meeting with the architects to begin design work for the new youth arena that will be going in on the north side of the property. Diana has been very vocal about her commitment to July of 2022 and the project manager is poking back about possibly not being able to get in done in that timeline. So, we will see. The youth arena will be dedicated to noncommercial events. We are re-opening and we have been doing very good on the livestock events. We have a lot of fun outdoor events coming up this summer, but still a little slow in the expo business. We have a tiny house festival and overland camping expo. We have all of our entertainment scheduled for fair, working on our social media, and getting the word out that fair is coming and get people excited. This is a really tough time right now for sponsorship. Sponsors are not wanting to spend money at this time. The hotel rooms are going to be hard on us right now. We are bringing in a CSU Ag component this year to help promote the Ag industry. We are moving the hospitality night to Sunday only and in the party tent. We are working on getting the rodeo fans back out to the fair so we are going to have a band on the stage after the rodeo so we can draw them back out to the fair that is open for another 3 hours. So, we have an oversight committee now that is overseeing the livestock competitions under the Ranch and not the Extension office. We have a new setup for the shows and the livestock sale.

New and Other Business: Proposal of approving the Jr Livestock Sale Procedures. Motion to approve by Julie Melby and Pat Young second the motion. Motion approved passed.

Old Business: NA

Pat Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kristine Miller 2nd the motion. Motion passed Meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm. The next meeting is July 28th at 7:00 pm at the McKee building at the Ranch.