



Larimer County Fair Board Meeting Minutes September 28, 2022, 7:00 pm

The Larimer County Fair Board convened a regular session on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chair: Marv Witt,
Vice Chair/Secretary: Stephanie Morrison,
Board Members: Pat Young, Deborah Sherman, Jay Crouse, Kristine Miller,
John Foley, Logan Lens, Doug Pennock,
County Commissioner: Kristin Stephens
Also Present: Ranch Interim Director Todd Juergens, Fair Coordinator Laura Boldt, 2023 LCFR Queen Sabrina Borg, Extension Agent Kerri Rollins, Ranch Sr Event Manager Louise Romero, Rodeo Board Steve Humann, Jodi Witt, Linda Pennock, Lori Borg, Ulf Borg, Cindy Buckardt

Absent: Board members Stephanie Fancher English, Darryl English, Melinda Deal, Tamara TerAvest

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

Board Member John Foley made a motion to approve the September 28, 2022 Agenda, Board Member Pat Young seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved on a majority vote of approval by the Board Members. 9-0

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Board Member John Foley made a motion to approve the July 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes and Board Member Pat Young seconded the motion; motion approved on a majority vote of the Board Members. 9-0

PUBLIC COMMENT – 3 Minutes

The following members of the public addressed the Fair Board: Cindy Buckardt
Cindy spoke on the Larimer County Operating Procedure 100.1 and the Fair Board By-Laws.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

COMMISSIONER REPORT

County Commissioner Kristin Stephens reported on the County budget process. The Commissioners had coffee and donuts several weeks ago at their meeting to thank



some of the Ranch Hands. The County purchased land known as "Heavens Door" 1,500 acres for County open space. Commissioner Stephens shared her appreciation for the input from Fair Board members and asked Todd Juergens to share information on the continued search for a new Ranch Director.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Marv Witt shared his thoughts and fond memories of Bob Keirns and his involvement in Larimer County Fair and 4H youth activities. The Keirns family had a special holder made to hold Bob's Fair Board buckle at their family home. Bob was an exemplary Fair Board member and person; he will be truly missed. The Board shared a moment of silence in his honor.

Kristine Miller put together a report from a survey of Fair Board Members, and according to information gathered Fair Board members put in at least 6,198 hours throughout the year, Fair Board family members 1,179 hours, the Ranch Hands 1,175.

Doug Pennock announced his retirement from Jr Livestock Committee and the Fair Board. Doug and Linda have spent many hours working to gather sponsors to ensure that every 4H youth participating in the Jr Livestock Sale gets to keep all money earned from the sale of their animal. Marv and the Fair Board thanked Doug and Linda for their 15 years of service.

Marv along with Stephanie Morrison and Stephanie Fancher English met with Kerri Rollins to discuss concerns of behavior of 4H adults that do not act in an ethical manner, who continue to cause problems at the Fair and 4H programs, and to discuss concerns over loss of volunteers.

Stephanie Morrison has resigned as secretary and Stephanie Fancher English has volunteered to temporarily take over Secretary position until January.

Committees were asked to report on positive changes made throughout the year and identify changes to be made for next year so that they can be acknowledged and discussed at the October meeting.

Marv asked Commissioner Stephens to extend the deadline for Fair Board applications, she agreed to extend the application deadline to October 31.

FAIR BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Ranch Hands** – Board Member Kristine Miller reported on increase in Ranch Hands volunteer hours. It was a smaller volunteer group than 2021 but all pitched in to do what was needed. Kristine is hoping for more shuttle drivers in 2023, at least 6, and on expanding handicap parking areas. Sensory hours had 400 participants. Deborah Sherman and Mitsy Deal have been great additions to the committee. They are working on 2023 ideas and improvements.
- b. **Queen/Royalty** – Board Member Pat Young asked that Sabrina report on her upcoming activities. Stephanie Morrison reported that Sabrina would be in Windsor on October 15 at a Les Schwab open house. Sabrina reported on events that she has attended to date.

- c. **Pancake Breakfast** – Board Member John Foley reported that Pancake Breakfast went well, at least 850 people were served. The 4H and FFA youth talent was a good change, and there were many compliments. The Lions Club needs some assistance getting their cooker pulled in the morning of the breakfast, restrictions on access times made it difficult. The front gates were not unlocked making it difficult for folks parking in the handicap spots. Identified for improvement in 2023 is communication.
- d. **Parade** – Board Member Darry English was not in attendance so could not report. Marv reported everyone from Fair Board was at the Parade to help.
- e. **Junior Livestock Sale** – Chairman Doug Pennock thanked the Fair Board members who helped with the Sale. Three different FFA groups helped this year and along with all the other volunteers all went smooth. Meals served was 875. \$935,850 total sale dollars, that includes \$164,200 in add-on money. This is an increase of \$125,910 over 2021. All expenses for sale were covered by sponsors. Checks are being mailed out. Biggest issue is the dust in the arena. There were no big problems this year, just small things to work on.

FAIR BOARD PARTNERS / LIAISON REPORTS

- a. **Extension /4-H** – Kerri Rollins reported that they are busy getting ready for October 1, this is start of 4H year. 4H Open House is October 6. The extension office is trying to increase enrollment and focusing on Clover Buds. Achievement night is in November. Jay Crouse was awarded Leader of the Year at last year's award night. Every 10 years there is a Civil Rights review conducted and the CSU Extension office is currently undergoing this review. Events are posted on Social Media sites, website, and Clover Connection.
- b. **The Ranch** – Todd Juergens congratulated the Board on a very successful Fair and Rodeo and expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the staff and for all that worked hard in putting on the entire event. The road construction work continues along with excavation work for the new buildings. The interviews for the new Director are moving forward, and he is hopeful the new Director will be at the October meeting. Construction on the new 4H building and maintenance building has started.
- c. **Sr Events Coordinator**, Louise Romero distributed a report that she prepared in anticipation of sharing information about the Fair with the public. It's a snapshot of the Fair that will be posted on the Fair website. It includes a mission statement, highlights, achievements, attendance, highlights of 4H exhibits, carnival, rodeo, and more. The attendance count was estimated at 97,000 people for 2022. The budget results have not been finalized as sponsorship dollars and expenses are still coming in. OVG is managing the website, there is a challenge to keep information on the website relevant and fresh. Louise asked for feedback on the report, please email her.
- d. **Rodeo Board** - Steve Humann reported on the rodeo. Best attendance at the rodeo ever, Sunday and Monday night were sold out. No issues to report. Marv mentioned the Parade of Champions and shared what some of the other Fairs are doing. Steve commented that future changes to the Parade of Champions event needs to be coordinated with the Jr Livestock Sale Committee. Todd



reminded everyone that 2023 will be the 75th anniversary of the PRCA rodeo at Larimer County Fair and 20 years of The Ranch.

OLD BUSINESS

Pat asked that Fair Board shirts get ordered earlier.

NEW BUSINESS / OTHER BUSINESS

Marv asked about changing the Fair Board meeting in November to another date. The date will be changed to November 30th. There will be no Fair Board meeting in December.

Stephanie English will take over as Secretary starting next month.

Marv asked if the opening for Fair Board applications could be extended another month, through the end of October. This will help insure that quality people can volunteer.

ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member John Foley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Logan Lenz seconded the motion, the motion was approved 9-0. Meeting was adjourned.

Chair: Marv Witt

A handwritten signature of Marv Witt in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Secretary: Stephanie Fancher English

A handwritten signature of Stephanie Fancher English in black ink, written over a horizontal line.