

**Larimer County Virtual Fair Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 24, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm by Marv Whitt, Chairman.

Members present: Marv Witt, Pat Young, Kristine Miller, Doug Pennock, Julie Melby, Stephanie Fancher-English, Darryl English, Scott Lara, John Foley, Emily McMurtrey, and Bob Kerns.

Ranch staff: Chris Ashby, and Maggie Steely.

4-H Extension: Kerri Rollins

Guest present: Steve Humann, Paige Petrocco (LCQ)

County Commissioner – Kristin Stephens

Public attendance: Lynn Delmore

Stephanie Fancher-English made a motion to approve the January minutes and Julie Melby 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and the motion was approved.

**Public Comment:** Lynn Delmore would like more information on the fair oversight committee and the progress.

**Chairman's report:** The Ranch had the first official event on the weekend of February 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> horse show. The Ranch staff stepped up and made it happen, so they were not outside at another facility. The Ranch staff brought in new footing in the main and warm up arena. Marv feels that we now have the best footing around and thanks the Ranch, staff and all involved for making it happen.

**Guest Services** – Feb 1<sup>st</sup> was the first meeting to go over the handbook and has some minor updates. Had a meeting on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5 in attendance, reaching out to some people to help out on the services committee. They are officially changing the name to The Ranch Hands for the volunteer group. Looking over background checks and application and what program they will use, (Plan Hero or one the county has). Kristine has been in touch with Eileen Brittingham (LC) senior tax volunteer liaison. She is not sure what that program is going to look like this year. She is hoping to have a plan in the next couple weeks whether they can help us or not. In the meantime, we are working on our needs, so if any other committees are going to need volunteers, please reach out. Already looking into help for parade and pancake breakfast. Will talk to Marv and Chris about ideas for some comfort at the fair and looking at making the Ranch Hands “prestige”, meaning that the first year they will get a nice pin that they will be able to add to every year they volunteer. Also looking to have volunteers be available year-round for events at the Ranch.

**Queen/Royalty** – Focusing on the Queen's clinic that we are partnering with Miss Rodeo Colorado, “The Road to Royalty”. Half-day session that is geared towards young women that are interested in local and county contests. We are working on sponsors and updating the 2021 autograph sheets. We are looking into a Queen's BBQ instead of a luncheon on Thursday night before fair, August 5<sup>th</sup>, and utilizing the tent in front of the Mac Arena. It will be a ticketed event with a silent auction.

**Pancake Breakfast** - Have a meeting setup for February 25<sup>th</sup>. Will discuss set up and different ideas (kid zone) any other ideas someone else might have. Scott will also meet with Chris about sponsorship.

**Parade** – Permit paperwork has been submitted. Have to come up with a plan for social distancing and all covid related issues. Otherwise, we are moving forward with everything else. Going to get together with Chris and Dana on sponsorships.

**Junior Livestock Sale** – Had a meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, introduced the new livestock agent, Bailey Schillings. They have an open seat on the board, Leslie Wiebel has resigned from the committee, she now belongs to the executive committee. They will post this month looking for a new candidate that they can bring to the fair board meeting next month for approval. Had their first event for the fair already. They had weight day for the beef. They tagged 79 animals. Contacts went out for a professional photographer for the fair, for the livestock sale and of the kids during the shows. Starting to work on social media and put information out for the livestock sale for sponsors and the community. Had a group meet to go over the procedures and have made recommendations that we have turned over to the legal department and Chris is helping with that. Starting to round up new sponsors for this year. Will share that information with the members.

**2021 Queen Report** – Paige Petrocco. Getting out in April for the CSU Skyline Stampede Rodeo. Helping with grand entry, running flags and the banquet. Also, the along with the “Road to Royalty” clinic, Miss Rodeo Colorado has agreed to do a horsemanship clinic at the Ranch.

**Extension Service/4-H** – Announced they hired a livestock agent – Bailey Schillings. Happy to see the beef numbers are up. Working with the partners at the Ranch and the health department Tom Gonzales, we have had some of our in-person events approved for February and March for some club meetings, and practices. Just to touch base on the Oversight Committee, this is a committee to give guidance on how to run the shows at the fairs. The committee gets the guidance from the superintendents. Will be updating the rules also.

**Rodeo** - Not much of an update. There is a Rodeo board meeting next Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Will meet with marketing and sponsorship and will have a better update next month.

**The Ranch** – We are starting to feel like we can do events again. Have to give credit to the team/operations guys who turned the building around really quickly. RFP for the expansion of the equine and livestock side – was published for the design team last week. Should have more information by the April meeting on who might be involved in the project. Chris shared the plan for the future complex expansion. Here at the Ranch, we are planning on a normal fair. We have had minimal events going on in the BEC as well. We have been talking with the state about becoming a mass vaccination and if that happens it could help in getting more things open. Not sure what if any buildings would be impacted by the vaccination.

**New/Other Business** - Commissioner Stephens is thankful the work everyone is doing under the difficult circumstances. She is excited about all the events going on. The update on the vaccinations is that about 53,000 people that have received 1 vaccination, about 24,000 that have received the second vaccination. 67% of people over 70 have received 1 vaccination with 32% having the second.

**Budget updates** - None at this time. We will send out via email by next meeting.

**Old Business – N/A**

**Adjournment** - Stephanie made a motion to adjourn, Julie second the motion. Motion passed; meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Next Meeting March 24, 2021 at 7:00 pm