Larimer County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2024, 6:30 pm

The Larimer County Fair Board convened a regular session on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Chair: Stephanie Morrison
Vice Chair: Logan Lenz
Secretary: Dana Luther
Board Members: Jay Crouse, Darryl English, Melinda Deal, Kristine Miller, Pat Young, Dana Luther, Michelle Wilcox,Vera Brown (Zoom) & Rebecca Walters
Also Present: Larimer County Commissioner – Kristin Stephens (Zoom), Ranch Director – Conor McGrath (Zoom), Fair Competition Coordinator - Laura Boldt, CSU Extension 4H Livestock Agent - Bailey Schilling (Zoom), Fair Queen – Maggie Livingston, Cindy Buckardt

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stephanie Morrison called the meeting to order.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Stephanie Morrison asked all present to introduce themselves including those attending on Zoom.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Adjustment to agenda made to correctly spell Logan Lenz last name correctly. Stephanie Morrison asked for a motion to be made to approve the agenda. Kristine Miller made a motion to approve the agenda, Pat Young seconded. The Agenda was approved on a majority vote by the Board Members 9-0. Motion passed.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Stephanie Morrison asked for deletions or changes to the October 23rd, 2024 meeting and December 18th, 2024 Special Meeting minutes. Additions to October 23rd minutes made to Michelle Wilcox via Zoom as a participant not listed. Pat made a motion to approve Oct 23rd minutes with amendments, Krtistine Miller seconded the Motion for the October 23rd, 2024 Meeting. The motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members 9-0. Motion passed. Logan Lenz made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2024 and Pat Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members 9-0. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence to discuss.

COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Stephens reported review of State Legislative bills that may affect the county finances including the strategic new landfill and future water plans tied to land use and lack of water resources. Focus will include taking a regional approach and taking care of our water supply, dealing with droughts, etc.. In addition, Commissioner Stephens reported the proposed transportation tax failed and how the county will address the transportation plan. Cannot pull money from the general fund to address transportation.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

(Bypass) - Stephanie Morrison - Move to sub-committees.

FAIR BOARD PARTNERS / LIAISON REPORTS

a. Queen/Royalty – Maggie Livingston reported on her many activities throughout the holiday months including the MRC send-off party, CAFS Clinic, Stock Show Appearances, the Milliken and Wellington Holiday Parade of Lights, Thompson Valley High School, Extreme New Year's Eve Bull Riding and the NWSS Muttonbusting.

b. Extension 4-H – Bailey Schilling reported 24-25 Enrollment numbers 293 4 H Members, 44 Cloverbuds and 114 Volunteers enrolled this year. Next month should reveal better total enrollment numbers. Activity so far, February 18th Beef Tag-in for beef nominated for exhibition market divisions, February 22nd Livestock Field Day including several guest speakers. New this year for the Livestock Field Day will include more horse discipline with a speaker on horse nutrition. National FCS competition, whereas we had one participant in the public speaking, no placing yet, quiz bowl team placed 5th overall and 3rd in the written exam at the National Contest. LDC Leadership Conference will have 15 members attend including 2 State Officers attending and providing workshops. Additional workshops coming up including cake decorating, horse, small engine, etc. Logan Lenz inquired on the time schedule for the Livestock Field Day which Bailey responded it would go from 8-4. No additional comments or questions.

c. The Ranch – Conor McGrath reported on all things Ranch including the growth of the ranch with the purchase of 72 additional acres to the North of the property and an additional parcel to the East of the Ranch. Master Plan discussions to include various new projects as part of the master plan including a new hotel, expo space, hockey arena, renovating great lawn into more usable space, amphitheatre and renovating Blue Arena. Looking to reinvent the property into selling an experience. Work will begin this fall on the inside of the perimeter. Additional hiring will include 2 new positions, a

Communications Specialist and Deputy Director at the Ranch to provide Conor McGrath with additional time to focus on the Master Plan.

d. Rodeo Board – Not in attendance, no update provided. Pat Young asked if a new Rodeo Liaison had been selected. Conor McGrath responded that conversations would be upcoming to address this.

e. Fair Coordinator – Laura Boldt reported volunteering at National Western to dovetail to their volunteer program. Laura finished with 39 hours. Open Class and 4 H Exhibits have been placed on the website along with Fairbooks for Livestock, schedule, etc. Attempting to get all schedules and fairbooks posted in a timely manner.

<u>FAIR BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>

a. Ranch Hands – Kristine Miller reached out to the Chairman for theGreeley Stampede Volunteers as the committee is looking to attract more volunteers. Kristine Miller also reached out to the representative for the Cheyenne Frontier Days. Suggestion has been made to have business cards to hand out to attract more volunteers. The website is all updated. Sponsorship contracts are all finalized. Logan Lenz discussed doing a ranch hands appreciation lunch and discussed showing them how much their work is appreciated.

b. Queen/Royalty – Michelle Wilcox reported working on upcoming clinics including the Horsemanship Clinic and BBQ scheduled along with other upcoming activities.

c. Pancake Breakfast – Jay Crouse reported the need for Conor McGrath assistance in asking the Commissioners to volunteer to assist in serving. Jay Crouse also proposed a flyer to distribute invitations to all public officials who help serve. Inquiry on who is responsible for getting the donations for the pancake breakfast.

d. Parade – Logan Lenz provided an update on plaques, working on obtaining permits beginning in February and awaiting email confirmations. Construction zone will be on the parade route and need to determine impact to the route and participants.

e. Junior Livestock Sale – Darryl English gave a brief report regarding the upcoming meeting and led discussions around the appointment of a new Chairman. Darryl also discussed the challenges he would face in being a co-chair given his current responsibilities and personal commitments. It was also discussed in enforcing the rules with respect to allowing animals who are not clear to participate in the sale. Darryl English will continue to assist as an At-Large member and Logan Lenz will step in as the Junior Livestock Sale Chairman. Kristine proposed the motion for Darryl English to be a At-Large Member, Pat Young seconded the motion, motion passed 9-0. Discussion moved to the addition of new members and what the status is on this process. Q&A meeting held in December. Stephanie Morrison reported a decision was made to revamp the application for the process and a decision was made not to add new members until the committee is more stable. New procedures have been established.

Stephanie Morrison appointed Logan Lenz as Chairman, Tanner Adams as Vice Chair and Laura Boldt as Secretary to the Jr. Livestock Sale committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. **Tracking volunteer hours in Vicnet** - Laura Boldt requested everyone ensure they are registered in Vicnet and log hours.
b. **By-Laws -** Stephanie Morrison discussed that the by-laws have been finalized and are awaiting a signed copy.
c. **Work Plan Updates -** Stephanie Morrison requested all sub-committees ensure they are actively working on their timeline and associated work plans for the coming Fair.

NEW BUSINESS

a. **Fairboard Attendance Policy**- Stephanie Morrison presented and reviewed the new Fairboard Attendance Policy in which all members were provided a hardcopy.
b. **Appointment of Sub-Committees and Sub-Committee Chairman's -** Stephanie Morrison reiterated current appointments including Michelle Wilcox (Queen), Jay Crouse (Pancake Breakfast), Logan Lenz (JLSC), Logan Lenz (Parade), Kristine Miller (Ranch Hands)
c. **Fair Board Shirts -** Stephanie Morrison directed all members to fill out order forms for shirts for the upcoming year.

Next Fairboard Meeting- February 26, 6:30 PM McKee Building

Items for Executive Committee - No Items at this time

ADJOURNMENT- Logan Lenz Made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Pat Young seconded, meeting adjourned.The motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members 9-0. Motion passed.

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Chair: Stephanie Morrison ________________________________

Secretary: Dana Luther ______________________________