

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: McKee Building, Timnath/LaPorte Rooms 5260 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538

Fair Board Minutes

Present: Stephanie Morrison (Chairman), Becca Walter (Vice Chairman), Vera Brown (Secretary). Board Members: Melinda Deal, Kristine Miller, RJ Saffell, Brittany Saffell, Tiffany Bending, Christy Bushong, Ulf Borg, Michelle Wilcox.

Other Present: Commissioner Kristin Stephens, Fair Competition Coordinator- Laura Boldt, 2026 Larimer County Queen- Addy Gregory, Extension Service/4H- Rachel Wildman, Cindy Buckardt, Paige Petrocco.

Absent Members: Logan Lenz, Jay Crouse.

Call to Order

Chairman Stephanie Morrison called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Introductions

Chairman Stephanie Morrison asked all present to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda

1. Review and approval of April 29, 2026, meeting agenda. Stephanie Morrison asked the board members if they had reviewed the agenda and if any additions or deletions were needed. Kristine Miller made a motion to approve the agenda as it stands. RJ Saffell seconded the motion. Agenda was approved on a majority vote by the Fair Board Members 10-0. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

1. Review and approval of March 25, 2026, meeting minutes. The minutes from the March 25, 2026, meeting were distributed to all attendees via email prior to the meeting. It is noted that copies of the minutes for the meeting were available. Stephanie Morrison asked if everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes and whether there were any additions or deletions to be made. After allowing time for final review, no changes were requested. Chairman Stephanie Morrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Becca Walter made the motion to approve March 25th minutes. RJ Saffell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved on a majority vote by the Fair Board Members 10-0. Motion passed.

Commissioner Report

Commissioner Kristen Stephens reports there are no updates that pertain directly to this board. The Commissioners have been winding down legislative sessions, working on the budget, and some ordinances that are being proposed. Kristen advises they are paying attention to what is happening at the state level since they do not have money and some costs are getting moved down to the county level. The Commissioners are working feverishly to make sure there is not anything the state is doing that will be too disruptive to what the county is doing. Kristen advises the Commissioners are considering fire restrictions this coming Tuesday and it is unknown if this includes fireworks or not. So far none of the cities or towns are canceling fireworks.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Morrison reports she does not have much to report. We will be going forward with our Fair Board Reports.

Fair Board Partner/Liaison Reports

1. 2026 Larimer County Fair & PCRA Rodeo Queen, Addy Gregory, reports April kicked off with the CSU Rodeo here at The Ranch. Addy borrowed a horse for the rodeo (Blaze) and participated with Lindsey Rule at the Rodeo picking up some cattle, moving them, and presenting flags. Addy was able to be a part of the grand entry every night which made this event super special. Addy attended the PVREA Annual Meeting and was able to socialize and sign autographs for people- which is one of her favorite parts of this job. Addy reports she was asked by one of the long-time sponsors, Adam at Les Schwab Loveland store, to be interviewed by his daughter. Adam's daughter is completing a project on someone she admires and she chose Addy. Addy was honored and was able to sit down for the interview and take some pictures. Addy was an announcer and handed out awards at the Bob Kearns Horse Show on Saturday the 25th here at The Ranch. On Sunday the 26th, Addy attended the Glitz and Glam Gymkhana at the Boulder County Fairgrounds. Addy and the Boulder Rodeo Queen announced and handed out awards. Addy reports this coming Saturday will be the Rodeo 101 Clinic with clinician Holly Spitzer. Addy is unsure if she will make an appearance at the market goat and sheep weigh in or not. One of Addy's goals is to be visible on all 4-H projects not just to the horse kids. Addy's spring Skillman photo shoot is on Thursday, so she will have new pictures with her horse for new autograph pages. Addy reports her total hours to date are 309 and total miles of 3,337. She has 55 social media posts so far and has tagged sponsors 27 times. Addy reminds everyone that the 75th buckle design is posted and getting exposure, they have had a couple of orders so far. Addy and Stephanie visited some sponsors on the 19th, Shamrock, Lush, and a bunch of other places and they are planning a second round of sponsor visits. Addy reports the Queen's BBQ theme is Rodeo Rewind since it's the 75th anniversary and it's a way to celebrate the 75 amazing women who have gone before me. Addy and the Queen's committee are planning the horsemanship clinic and will be kicking June off with the Elizabeth Stampede.

2. Extension Service/4-H, Rachel Wildman reports April was a fantastic month. Since the last meeting, we had the Larimer County Dog Expo on March 28th and there were 34 members from across the state that participated. Rachel advises that on April 4, they had the 1st Annual Veterinary Science Skillathon attended by 12 4-H members, CSU vet students, and Dr. Stephanie Braun, which provided hands-on experience with veterinary science activities. Rachel advised she and Roxanne from the office were able to attend the National Professional Development Conference down in Nathrop. April 14th -18th, the Life Smarts team from Larimer County participated in their national contest and placed 5th overall. Rachel reports one of our 4-H members, Cole Weber, won Leadership Awards while he was there and overall, it was a good representation of Larimer Country 4-H this year. Beef camp was held on April 17th-19th and 20 youth attended and had great reviews, and it was a success thanks to volunteers who helped the kids stay organized. Hunter's education in partnership with CPW for shooting sports was held and 40 youth attended to get their hunter's education and safety card. Saturday April 25th was the Regional Public Speaking Contest, and we had 6 of our Larimer County youth attend, 2 of which were seniors competing in 3 different categories. Rachel advised we will have a FCS presentation, an impromptu speaker and a Vet Science Illustrative talk going to the State Fair. Also, on the 25th, Rachel attended the Bob Kearns Memorial Gymkhana Show, and she reports the Larimer Country Queen did an excellent job announcing and it was great to see all the kids participate. Rachel is proud of the Desperados and their hard work to put on such a well-run event. Rachel advised they hired 2 people for temporary positions to help through the Fair. Upcoming events for May include the last MQA training in the state on 5/15 and on 5/16 is the horse levels testing and cake decorating and creative cooks contest.

3. Rodeo Board- No updates.

4. The Ranch, General Manager of the Venue Louise Romero, was not in attendance, Laura Boldt provided the update on the Master Plan. Grass will be planted on May 15th, which has a plastic layer that will hold the roots and give them a way to establish. The irrigation system will water the grass and then be held below to reapply. The posts are now installed which have a light on one side and a banner on the other side. Laura reports that you can see the substantial changes that are happening. The Fair app will be coming out and there will be a feature where people can subscribe to specific push notifications for events they are interested in (4H events, stage, vendors). All emergency warnings will go out to everyone who has signed up on the app. Laura also reports there is new entertainment called Riptide which is a Miami man on jet skis so stay tuned for more information.

5 Fair Competitions Coordinator Laura Boldt thanks all the Fair Board members who came to the Fair Forum. The biggest take away was the need for communication (website, Facebook, direct email, etc) to ensure our families are informed. Laura brought in the exhibitor schedule for the Fair Board to highlight the activities they want to assist with. She used this opportunity to ask for Fair Board members to help. If Jay Crouse would operate the livestock scales, Stephanie provides youth awards and Kristine, Vera and Mitzi drive golf carts for the Horse show. Another opportunity for Fair Board members to help is with any load ins of livestock and check in tack and equipment. Laura reports the Livestock schedule has staggered check-ins for tack and animals so there is not as much congestion around the barns. An exciting thing this year is the PeeWee show which was typically held right before sheep, swine and goat showmanship classes were changed. This year it will be held Tuesday early evening in the indoor arena. It will be open to our 4-H families first so if there are younger siblings of an older child that is showing an animal they will be given priority. Laura advises a flyer and emails will come out for this. 4-H families will be able to sign up earlier before it's released to the general public. Kids will only be able to show one species this year. Laura advises there is a committee of 3 individuals and they have some great ideas and special rosette ribbons and medals have been ordered. Laura advised that in the Open Class area this year, there will be patriotic classes for some of the areas (ie photography, quilts). Laura is working on getting a table-setting competition for the patriotic theme and plans to decorate the open class area in red, white and blue.

Fair Board Committee Reports

1. Ranch Hands Committee Chair Kristine Miller advised Volunteer Orientations followed by golf cart training will be held on 7/23 (McKee building Timanth/LaPorte rooms) and 7/27 (Conference room in the Petersen building) from 6 to 8pm. Ninja Nation volunteer sign up will be removed from the volunteer program since they will not be at the Fair. Kristine reports the Ranch Hands are in good shape but we can always use more volunteers. Kristine plans to have a meeting in May. Melinda Deal reports that lots of small businesses are becoming sponsors. She determines what their interests are (ie Junior Livestock, Queens, parade) and lets them choose which area they want to support. Melinda advises that between now and next Tuesday she hopes to close most of the deals. Melinda reports she met with the area manager for Culver's, and they do fundraisers that net anywhere between \$1,200 to \$1,500 for 3 hours. Culver's gives the kids over \$1,300 in product, trains them, and for 3 hours the kids work the store and receive 10% of the sales and all tips.
2. Royalty Committee Chair Michelle Wilcox advises she did a complete rewrite of the Queen's handbook since it was old and outdated. She sent the second revision to Conor for review. Michelle also advises that it should wrap up soon and the Queen's application will also be updated. Once available, she will get it posted so she can start opening up the Application submissions for the pageant in July. Michelle reports they are working on getting items for the silent auction. They have the judges for the pageant and work on the auctioneer for the BBQ. Michelle will be doing lots of prep work for the pageant, judge's sheets, and other stuff to get them organized and ready to go. Michelle reports they will not be asking Fair Board members to sell tickets to the Queens BBQ as they have done in the past. Instead, she will provide invitations that Fair Board members can hand out which have a QR code on them so people can purchase tickets. Michelle is asking that any liquor bottles to be donated for the BBQ be turned in next month and she is looking for auction items- goods, services or experiences do really well.
3. Pancake Breakfast Committee Chair Jay Crouse was not in attendance.
4. Parade Committee Chair Tiffany Bending advises she has picked the Parade Grand Marshal who will be sending her a picture and bio. Tiffany advises the permit is still pending approval status with the city and she has reached out to the Color Guard but has not gotten a response. Stephanie advises she is working on the flyover. Stephanie has gotten someone to donate their planes and time, so she is working on getting airspace clearance. The Grand Marshal will provide her own transportation for the parade. Tiffany advised there will be private security for the parade and hopes this will help with the issues from last year. Tiffany reports the only issue with the parade route is the city is waiting for permits to go underneath the railroad tracks and there is a good chance this may come through close to the parade, which will not allow for people to stand in that area.
5. Junior Livestock Sale Fair Board Liaison Becca Walter reports they had a work session last night and ended up packing up all the sale packets with the necessary paperwork for the livestock kids that will be attending the mandatory meetings. Details for the mandatory meetings are in the 4-H newsletter.

Unfinished Business

Stephanie Morrison reminds everyone of the subcommittee operating procedures that she and Becca created. All the chairmen of the subcommittees have seen the procedures and Conor gave his final approval. Stephanie handed out copies of each subcommittee operating procedures document to the appropriate chairman for final review. Kristine Miller made a motion to approve the subcommittee

operating procedures. RJ Saffell seconded the motion. Subcommittee operating procedures were approved by majority vote by the Fair Board Members 10-0. Motion passed.

New/Other Business

The deadline for sponsor payments is June 1st which allows for time to get logos on the website and other materials. Stephanie reminds everyone that any sponsor of the parade that plans to be a part of the parade must complete an application and all waivers. This information is highlighted on the sponsor packets.

Stephanie reminds everyone to make sure the work plans are up to date on the shared Google Drive. If you need assistance with this, reach out to Laura Boldt.

Items for Executive Committee

No items currently.

Adjournment

RJ Saffell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Becca Walter seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a majority vote of the Board Members 10-0. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Larimer County will provide a reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with a disability who need assistance. Services can be arranged with at least 7 business days' notice. Please email The Ranch at ranchadmin@co.larimer.co.us or call (970) 619-4000 or Relay Colorado 711. "Walk-in" requests for auxiliary aids and services will be honored to the extent possible but may be unavailable if advance notice is not provided.