

Archuleta County Fair
Minutes of the Board Meeting
April 8, 2020

The meeting, conducted via Zoom online conferencing , was called to order at 6:04pm by president Jason Cox. Attending were Shelly and Jason Cox, Debbie Condrey, Tonya Steadmon, Lesley and Adam Mattingly, Sharon and Kent Jennings, Carol Kelly, Kerry Keegan, Lisa and Tim Vail, and Terry Schaaf. A quorum of members was present.

Jason explained that the standard business agenda was not being used. A special agenda, to discuss plans for running a county fair amidst the current statewide shut-down order, was presented. The intent of the meeting is to work on plans for a successful Fair whether or not it may be a shortened format; to preserve the essence of our Fair for the community, to recognize the heritage of our county, and to support the ranching efforts. It may be necessary to drop some of the traditional activities to meet those goals and to cut costs. Other regional fairs have reported that they will be making decisions in May as to what type of fairs they will be holding. It was agreed that the 4-H livestock and their exhibit projects were very important to have at a Fair.

Expenses: Sponsorship funds are in question due to businesses being closed throughout the county. The Fair budget allotted from the County may be reduced because of the loss of tax revenue during the shut-down. Terry reviewed current expenses and estimated costs (fixed vs. variable) across the Fair; it will be necessary to reduce money expected from the County to nearer to \$40,000. One way to do this is to cut down the operating days; possibly only Friday and Saturday, and determine what events can be held on those days. The price of any definite activities needs to be determined. Becky Jacobson said the 4-H would do what they could to work with days selected; she suggested that the Chuck Wagon dinner not be considered a primary concern right now.

Facilities: Terry said the Hughes Pavilion cannot be used this year; the County has not taken ownership of the facility and the certificate of occupancy has not been issued. We discussed the use and number of tents needed and suggested keeping one for livestock and one for use on the concrete pad outside the east side of the Exhibit Hall. A question was raised as to what else the Activity tent could be used for. Shelly noted that setting up the Exhibit Hall is a lot of work for just two days since set-up takes a full day even if the number of exhibit categories were limited. An idea was raised to charge youth to enter Fair exhibits. We heard to the 4-H already pays or shares costs for livestock judges, prizes and awards, and Chuck Wagon dinner costs. The 4-H has no budget to share the cost of the livestock tent.

Activities: It was suggested that one Rodeo be held; perhaps the Rough Stock (Bulls, Broncs, Bares) or the Ranch Rodeo. Kerry is working with Bill Carey for additional options. Kerry and Jason will work together on this.
Action Item: Obtain a quote for the Rough Stock events and Kids Rodeo.

Fair Book: This is primarily used for Exhibit Hall information though it contains the daily schedule, honoree, and royalty information, plus sponsorship thank-you'd, and advertisements. It was suggested that the scope of the book be cut back or that the book be offered online; a virtual Fair.

Exhibit Hall: The type of exhibits and modifying Exhibit Hall activities were discussed including having interactive exhibits about the history of the County areas. It was suggested that the Museum be contacted for involvement in this type of event. The Stith Room could be used for such exhibits. The Exhibit Hall could be used for an abbreviated Chuck Wagon dinner, the Bands, and Beer Garden or used for the Educational groups usually housed in the Activity tent. Perhaps local breweries might donate their tents for the Beer Garden (Riff Raff and Pagosa Brewing have tents). The existing Arena booth may also be used for beer sales nearer to grandstands.

Admission Fees: If a two-day format is used, a new admission fee structure needs to be determined.

Grounds Layout: Shelly and Lisa will work on a map of possible layout for tents and events as presently known.

Ad-Hoc Committees: Tonya will coordinate with any small groups noted above to prepare for the April 29 work session.

Old Business: A motion to recommend all prospective board members to the BoCC (including Stetson Keegan, Jennifer Smith, Lesley Mattingly, and Adam Mattingly) was made by Carol Kelly, seconded by Lisa Vail, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

New Business: Debbie Condrey is accepting a position in New Mexico and will be leaving Pagosa Springs so she will not be available to work as treasurer during this year's Fair. Her last day here is tentative.

A Fair Board Work Session to continue discussion on the outlook for Fair 2020 will be held via Zoom on Wednesday April 29th. Sharon will send the abbreviated agenda to the County for required posting. The regular board meeting, either face-to-face or by Zoom online will be May 13th at 6:00pm.

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting was made by Lisa Vail, seconded by Kent Jennings, and approved by unanimous vote.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: April 29 May 13 June 10 July 8, 15, 22

Tentative 2020 Fair Dates: July 30, 31 and August 1, 2

Sharon Jennings/Recording Secretary
Approved June 10, 2020 as submitted