

Fair Board Meeting
Extension Office/Commissioners Office
February 15, 2021

Roll Call:

BJ Mekelburg, Harold Blackham, Jaden Campbell, Baylor Buck, Will Janisch-YCSO, Clay Rockwell-YCSO, Darcy Stallings, Trent Bushner-BOCC, David Schaffner, Kristen Schaffner, Kylee Meisner, Kaitlyn Meisner, Scott Weaver-BOCC, JoLynn Midcap-Extension, Kim Latoski-Fair Manager, Jed Gleghorn, Dave Blach, Robin Schneider, Ryan Noble-Horse Superintendent, Michelle Smith

Approval of last minutes, changing the amount budgeted for a safe from \$2500 to \$250 and Trent Bushner noted as Co-Yuma Co Commissioner along with Scott Weaver. Jed moved to accept the minutes with minor changes made. 2nd by Baylor. Motion passed.

Special Guest:

- Security- Sgt. Will Janish/Clay Rockwell, City of Yuma denied help on the fairgrounds because it was county land during the 2020 Fair. That will be resolved by fair this year, and protocols put in place so that City Police can enter the fairgrounds and assist if needed per Sheriff. There will be designated officers, if that is what is needed for the volume of people and the needs of the fair. Michelle will be a designated fair board member that will be in contact with sheriff deputies to keep everyone up to date on the fair schedule and security needs.

Special Reports

- Grounds Report- none
- Superintendents- reports to come later in meeting as they are already on agenda.
- Extension- will be doing DNA testing for submittal to State Fair, no retinal scan for 2021. Exhibitors will need to order DNA packets, get sent to them, completed and sent back in time. JoLynn has listed all of this out and sent to all appropriate parties.
 - Home-Grown Beef form was already sent out to all kids/families. All fair board members will be sent the home-grown beef information to attach to minutes. - already printed and attached to January Minutes
 - JoLynn will contact the FFA advisors so they are aware of DNA and Home-Grown Beef.

Old Business

- Home Grown beef form- Jolynn will send to all the fair board members.
- MOU- first draft by committee was handed out to Fair Board members. Further progress will be made by committee (Robin, Michelle, Kim and Dave) and sent to other FB members before March meeting.
 - Once all 3 sections are completed, they will made into one MOU for operating fair.
 - Commissioners will have their MOU ready by March-April.
 - Fair Board Committee of MOU will have ready by March-April.
 - Extension Office- have completed their portion of MOU.
- Night Show
 - Trent Bushner-If we are going to change the schedule of the night show, we need to do this by October meeting following that year's fair. Cannot keep changing the dates in the middle of the year. The 2021 Concert will be Tuesday night, Travis Denning who we have sent a contract to for the concert. We have not gotten a confirmation because he has not been routed this direction yet. A lot of Covid-19 protocol in effect around the country, which is causing problems with artist routing their concerts together.

- Need to investigate possible 2nd option if Travis Denning does not confirm by end of February. Trent will send Michelle the new list of back up concert ideas. Michelle will send to fair board members. (done at meeting 2/15/2021 @ 704pm) all fair board members are required to respond by Monday, February 22 5pm. Michelle will take the information and email Trent back with 2nd option ideas.
 - Commissioners are looking into new stage that they can just pull it in and set it up. This will not be an option for us this year. Darcy mentioned some additional help would be good for set up of the stage at fair.
- Rodeo
 - Jed Gleghorn- will be scheduled as it was in 2019. Performances will be the same as 2019 schedule with a Tuesday afternoon and a Wednesday evening performance.
 - Slack needs discussed. Will return to this.
- Horse Show Review-
 - Ryan Noble does not want anything taken away from the youth/adults from our county. Saturday morning Horse show, Sunday morning gymkhana, Monday Working Ranch Horse Show, Wednesday county events. Everybody he talked to prefer the 2019 horse schedules.
 - Had requests for horse show to be done by 4pm on Saturday for the swine show to commence.
 - Goal is to always get more contestants across the board.
 - May have to make some changes so we can increase.
 - County Events- Jed stated that people in the county he spoke with all like having the county events on Monday, so they do not have to rush, and no rodeo contestants are in their way. Ryan Noble states that the people he has talked to do not like them on Monday and prefer them back on Wednesday, as by having county events on Monday, we are taking away from our youth and telling them that horse is not part of the fair after Monday, because they have nothing left to do. Darcy also added there were many he talked to preferring Wednesday county events.
 - Slack would not work on Thursday; it would not work for the contestant aspect of things, but judges are attempting to get to another rodeo and getting them here is a problem.
 - Wednesday, on a normal year, slack is done approx. an hour prior to county events.
 - Rodeo has been growing, slack grows with it. Cannot limit our number contestant if we start doing that it will affect our rodeo?
 - Potential for our rodeo to be large again, as rodeos are already cancelling this year scared of COVID-19.
 - Yuma County Youth, Youth County Adults, Non-Yuma County Youth, Non-Yuma County Adults is Ryan's opinion of order of importance.
 - Possible spot for the rodeo contestants? West of the rodeo grounds next to the carnival to park?
 - Jed states that rodeo contestants will not want to have their horses around the carnival. Horses, bright lights and noises DO NOT MIX!!!
 - Cowboy church was limited due to time in 2020.
 - Will be crammed again if Ryan Noble needs to start a ranch horse show on Sunday morning again.
 - We need to stop limiting events like Cowboy Church and let them have their time back.
- Major issue is between the rodeo and horse events and when they should be scheduled.
 - Jed made a motion to have the Ranch Horse Show on prior Friday and County Events on Monday. Everything else to be left as is, Harold 2nd. Discussion- was made. Question was called. 2 for/5 against. Motion defeated.
 - Darcy made a motion to go back to our 2019 schedule on county events for Wednesday and allow Horse show to be regular size on Saturday, youth gymkhana Sunday morning and Ranch Horse on Monday afternoon. BJ 2nd. Discussion had- Michelle mentioned that we allow Jed the ability to work rodeo stuff in as needed around county events. Jed reiterated the

challenge of scheduling the growing rodeo and slack if we keep county events on Wednesday. He does NOT have a good option. 6 for, 1 against. Motion passed.

- Champion Alley Way- details tabled as Micah not present.
 - Animals will be brought in for the day and taken back to their designated area for the night. West end of the beef barn will be the location.
 - Superintendents will oversee their species and can rotate them if multiple champions, i.e., Horse project.
- Premium Money Progress
 - Ryan Noble- has not talked to Tracy due to current weather. He will reach out to him after this weather changes. Approx. \$20,000 is where we started and has now is gone down drastically.
 - Small business owner comments by David Schaffner- nobody ever asked county businesses to donate to the pens. Schaffner's were never asked and they are in Yuma County. When bids went out, ask for local bids first. Dave Blach added Ag Innovation oversaw this process and might have dropped the ball.
- JoLynn has updated that we will need a laptop computer not an iPad for the additional Show Work's needs. Or have both an iPad and laptop would solve almost all the problems.
- Review of the beer garden preliminary proposal
 - Proposal handed out to all members to review. Baylor gave brief description of the proposal from the committee's side of things with initial plan calling for a Monday night location in the old hog/sheep barn, Tuesday and Wednesday locations west of the grandstands and in the rodeo bleacher areas. Potential for 5 vendors and a percentage profits shared between vendor and fair.
 - Commissioners stated.
 - Very solid plan will need to be made and brought to the commissioners.
 - Need to evaluate how to check id's, fence areas and control the area.
 - Be aware that there is a faction in the county that are going to want to beat us up over this issue.
 - Sheriff's department will not comment on behalf of this preliminary proposal until the Sheriff and Under Sheriff can have a look at the proposal and discuss it. However, a beer garden would help the sheriff's department to enforce alcohol on the premises.
 - Michelle has suggested that the committee take this preliminary proposal build from it and create the who, what, when, where, why. Talk to other counties. Talk to sheriff's department and establish a solid in-depth proposal for the Fair board to vote on.
 - Bev Winger would know the absolute deadline to get the liquor license for fair.
 - What type of fencing. Where to move vendors? 1 point of entry and exit, who will be watching this entry point and watching the bands. What are the clear-cut rules? How to manage the 5-drink limit? What type of band, get a good type of band that will not break, proper instruction for people to place the band properly? All these questions need addressed.
 - Kim noted the vendor area is being sacrificed in this plan. David Schaffner commented about how many families are in the rodeo area proposed. Robin commented on the beer garden during the livestock sale which is a youth event and suggested keeping the beer for "adult" or ticketed events like rodeo and concert especially the first year. BJ commented that some people come to the sale to support the youth and others come looking for the party so

- Michelle made a motion, BJ 2nd. Michelle retracted, BJ retracted. No motion on the table as a motion was not needed. The board gave support for the committee to proceed and come back with more details to review at March meeting before presenting to the Commissioners.

New Business

- Ryan Noble has asked that JoLynn get horse judges planned of time and get them picked out.
 - Ranch Horse has never been funded for judges. Was funded locally so looking to have that added to judge's budget.
- Pig Superintendents- Robin did let Curt Lapp know of his position and the two assistants were also notified.
- Horse Stalls, mandatory check out 8am Wednesday?? morning. Ryan Noble oversees this and checks them out.
 - Last year attempted drop boxes for rodeo contestants to give money for the stalls they use. Did not work as no signage was posted.
 - In 2021 Michelle will lock the stalls down as soon as the members leave, and Michelle is notified. Rodeo contestants will need to contact Michelle to get the stall unlocked and pay the stall fee. \$10 a night outdoor stall, \$15-night indoor stall, along with contact information. Michelle will research bike locks and get the information to Andrea to get the locks ordered and here before fair 2021 so Michelle can get all the locks set with a code. Fair Queens will make the signs to place up around the stall areas, designating who to contact and the rate per night for use of the stalls.
- Kim added that we should open bids for the cleaning crew and possibly food booth vendors in future years (2022). Also requested menu approval and hours so we can make sure we have adequate food for the events scheduled.
- Ryan Noble- will build the structure for the picture back drop board, JoLynn will get a new vinyl (graphics) for the backdrop.

For the Good of the Order:

Jed, Michelle, BJ- finalized help for Beef weigh-in, Harold, Baylor, Darcy, Micah, Robin, Dave Security- would like to get a copy of the rules for fair and fair grounds.
 Extension, Fair Manager, Commissioners-get the MOU done sooner rather than later.

Meeting Adjournment @ 9:42pm

Next Meeting, Monday, March 15th, 6pm Extension Office

Tabled Item

- MOU all departments
- Rodeo schedule including slack.
- Champion Alley Way
- Premium Funding
- In-depth beer garden proposal

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Michelle Smith & Robin Schneider