

Yuma County Fair Board

Minutes 05/19/25

Yuma County Fairgrounds

President Tom Mekelburg called the meeting to order at 7pm. Board members in attendance were Micah Seyler, Tom Mekelburg, BJ Mekelburg, Justin Crossland, Jessica Murray, Harold Blackham, Baylor Buck, Ruben Richardson, and Dave Blach. Others in attendance were Shawna Fonte, Mariya Mekelburg, Scott Weaver, Humberto Vasquez, Carmen Murray, Adam Gates, Tatum Soehner, Jalyn Archer, Kaci Porter, Cassidee Rogers, Randy Mekelburg, and Curt Lapp.

Minutes were presented. Changes need to be made to the previous minutes regarding divisions. Dave approved the minutes with changes. Micah seconded and motion passed.

Special guest: Beto came in to update the group on the status of the concert. Stage and band booked. Security company will be the same as it was last year. They are going to go 8p-12a.

Kaci Porter asked about doing a Jack Dowell Memorial Award and presenting it before the sale. Board approved.

Reports

- Extension: Travis has a dairy judge.
- Fair Queen: Royalty gave updates on what they have been doing the last month.
- Event Manager: Fair book will be done next week. Concert and rodeo tickets should be live by the end of the week. Need help for Fine Arts.
- Fairgrounds- Randy has been busy mowing, pressure washing, and painting.
- Sponsorship: Sponsorships are coming in about mid 20's.
- Vendor: Micah is working to get commitments and paperwork done.
- Sound/Grounds: Arena sound system improved and new mics in sale ring.
- Beer Garden/ Security: Plan has passed through commissioners and they are working on paperwork. Security will be the same as last year.
- Activities: Bands are set and will be advertised. Teen dance will be Saturday night at Old Threshers. Another group will run the dance, but the fair board will pay for the DJ.
- Budget: Not much has changed. Expenses are at about 15,000
- Parade: Sweepstakes are increased to \$300.
- Livestock/Sale: Committee is working on picking photographers. The committee will need to put sale invites together and other various office expenses for fair. Asking to be able to spend money out of the sale fund. Dave moved to let them spend money to get supplies for fair. Jessica seconded and the motion passed. 141 exhibitors entered in beef, swine, goat, and sheep.
- Youth Development: Updates on participants and discussion on external funding sources we need to make kids aware of moving forward.

New Business:

There was a question about non profits getting to use the arena for free. To maintain grants/other funding and to comply with policy outlined for fairgrounds, all nonprofits pay 25% of regular fee. Tom is going to check prices and with IT options for getting TV's in barn.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21PM.