

Yuma County Fair Board

Minutes January 19, 2026

Wray Election Center

President Tom Mekelburg called the meeting to order at 630pm. Board members in attendance were Tom Mekelburg, Justin Crossland, Jessica Murray, Harold Blackham, Bill Sharon, and Dave Blach. Others in attendance were Carmen Murray, Scott Weaver, Kaci Porter, Mariya Mekelburg, Curt Lapp, Carl Jesse, Tatum Soehner Michelle Smith, Adam Gates and Grace Jones.

Minutes were presented. Justin moved to approve the minutes and Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Reports

- Extension: People will be able to pick up swine tags earlier March 1-May 1. Beef weigh in is Feb 28. Sheep and goat weigh in at fairgrounds will be May 2 at 9am. Trophy letters are going out. All projects will be awarded trophies. Letter will ask for \$45 rather than \$35.
- Rodeo: N/A but need input to set 2027 dates ASAP
- Fair Queen: Royalty has been busy with events like Old Threshers, Kirchenschlager roping, spaghetti feeds, parade of lights, stock show. They have Estes Park rodeo, cajun boil, and the cattlemans Calcutta coming up
- Events Manager: Tickets for adventure zone will be sold for \$15/each. We will pay the company to sell tickets. Superintendents need to look for and have changes that need made in fair book in by end of February.

Committees

- Food Booth: Meeting next Wednesday to discuss food trucks.
- Sponsorship: Provided proposed letter to group.
- Beer Garden/ Security: There will be a beer garden. Dave to work with Knights of Columbus
- Activities: Tom has a verbal commitment on a band from Denver. Justin to bring info on a tractor pull to next meeting
- Youth: Opening the applications back up again.

Old Business:

Tom will contact Beto to see if he is doing a Hispanic concert.

New Business:

Rodeo pricing was set at \$20/ticket for grandstands and \$25/ticket for the infield. Dave motioned to set the prices and Justin seconded. Motion passed.

Carl discussed some issues from last years security:

- Wants posts painted blue for handicap parking
- Dogs come in regardless of signage
- Too many people were coming in the back gate on the rodeo side

- Would like a new hut for the back and front to stay out of the sun
- Too many side by sides out

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40. Next meeting will be in Wray on February 16 at 6:30pm