

Uinta County Fair Board

Minutes

October 2, 2024

Mountain View Town Hall, Mountain View, WY

In Attendance:

Becky Lupher, Brett Anderson, Brandon Day, Elyse Lopez, Andy Rollins, Tamara Boglino, Natalie Cornia, Commissioner Mark Anderson, Sami Matthews (via phone), Cari Covolo

Call to Order: 7:03 pm, Brandon Day, Fair Board president.

Agenda: Approved as presented

Minutes: Approved as presented

Financials: Brett motioned to accept the financials and pay the bills as presented. Becky seconded. Motion carried. The Board discussed requesting the entire amount of \$135,000 of county support so as to deposit the amount into the Board WyoStar account to accrue the interest. Brett motioned to submit a voucher to request county support funds of \$135,000.00 and deposit the draw into WyoStar. Becky seconded. Motion carried.

Public Input: None

Committee Reports:

Livestock Sale Committee:

4-H Comments: None

FFA: Cari said that she highly recommends continuing with cans for alcohol service during the Fair. She also suggested moving the service area to a more central location for easier spectator access.

Commissioner Comments: None

Maintenance: None

Fair Staff: Tamara gave a recap of various topics from the Wyoming Association of Fairs.

Natalie reviewed the buckle awards list with the Board. Buckles are in production and should take 4 to 6 weeks to be delivered.

In depth discussion was had about the number of buckles awarded, and how the total diminishes the concept of them being earned and the prestige of the buckle. The Board collectively agreed that the event is buckle/prize heavy and that maintaining this level of prize burden is not sustainable. Concerns about public upset and backlash was addressed. Sami suggested putting the list of what classes would be awarded buckles in the Fair Book, so as to try to elevate awareness and reduce upset among exhibitors prior to the week of Fair. She also suggested going back to pre-purchasing the prize buckles and putting them on display. Becky again strongly encouraged to get banners as a prestige prize. Cari also suggested shifting to tack or other items that can contribute to their showing. Brett asked about the Catch It buckles, if they're covered by 4H or not. Natalie and Tamara will look into it. It was decided by Board majority to cut the buckle total in half for the 2025 year. Natalie will reach out to Rowdy Rose and see if they will still offer the reduced price of 2025 buckles if we reduce the order by half.

Sami addressed combining the 4H and Open horse shows as well as moving the horse show to the week before. This is based on the interference of other shows during the week. Cattle events for Open was addressed as cattle is not currently provided for Open. Team Branding and Team Penning prize buckles were also addressed, as to see if there is a way those events can somehow cover the expenses of their prizes. Natalie said she would speak with Quinn. Discussion then reverted back to specific areas where buckles can be reduced. Redundancy was the most obvious aspect to look at first.

Sami expressed a desire to add a PeeWee All-around buckle. This would be difficult as then all peewee divisions would have to be judged to allow all an opportunity to receive an award. It was decided not to do a PeeWee buckle and assurance was given that whatever future prizes given out will be sure to make it to the PeeWee winners.

Cari suggested that FFA chapters take turns at providing the Round Robin award, and that she would spearhead that option.

Tamara addressed RMFA registration and hotel costs. Brandon and Natalie committed to going. Tamara shared that there is a scholarship for RMFA attendance available through WAF, and she will be applying for that. Becky motioned to allot \$2,000 for RMFA registration and hotels. Brett seconded. Motion carried.

Tamara let the Board know that she has a zoom meeting scheduled with Placer AI to talk about their offerings for statistics data.

New Business:

Sami Matthews was officially introduced and welcomed as the new Fair Board member.k

Tamara addressed the need to a new website provider and asked for referrals. Dustin Harmon's name was suggested.

Updating sponsorship offering and packages was presented. Tamara passed around the information from Teton County for members to look at. Members agreed that sponsorships could use some updating.

The possibility of having a concert for 2025 was brought up. Tamara shared that she's been networking to find affordable options. Natalie strongly encouraged doing online ticketing. Brandon said tickets need to state "rain or shine".

Tamara also shared that Master Sergeant Todd of the National Guard has expressed a desire to bring in a Black Hawk helicopter on the last Saturday of the Fair. The request can take 9 to 11 months to get reviewed. Board gave permission for Tamara to ask the Master Sergeant to put in the request.

Andy motion to adjourn. Becky seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm

Next meeting November 6, 2024 at Fairgrounds board room, Fairgrounds, Evanston, WY