

LASSEN COUNTY FAIR ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes April 12th, 2011
Regular Meeting
195 Russell Ave
Susanville, CA 96130
5:30 PM

The Lassen Fair Advisory Board convened in a Meeting on Tuesday April 12th, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. Tim Bruce called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Members present: Tom Neely, Tim Bruce, Todd Eid, Dena Wemple, Jerry Hitchings, Jose Pena, Dan Douglas, Curt Moran and Becky Albaugh. Supervisor Larry Wosick was also present. Fair Manager: Jim Wolcott and Sr. Account Clerk Quin Zaengle. Absent: Henry Bietz. Present in the Audience: Susan Harwell, Jack Haslem, Michelle West & Rob Allen

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance Lead by Jose Pena.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Todd Eid moves to approve the agenda. Seconded by Jerry Hitchings. Motion is carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sue Harwell talks about the poet Baxter Black.

Rob Allen joins the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Todd Eid moves to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Becky Albaugh. Motion is carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jim W. talks about a letter from the Rotarians thanking the fair for the free passes for their auction. Jim states the fair has also received a letter from the Cattlewoman's thanking us for our donations.

FAIR BOARD ELECTIONS

Jerry Hitchings nominates Dena Wemple for President & Tim Bruce for Vice President. Todd Eid seconds the motion. Tim hands the meeting over to Dena. Becky thanks both Dena & Tim for taking the positions.

LASSEN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Jim explains the letter is a draft from Laura Roberts on this years smoking policy. The draft has to be adopted for this years' program so they will receive the funding for it. The funding is what has helped us get ash trays and some benches. It is not a smoke free policy, we are adopting that policy right there that shows what we have done so far. If we decide to have a non smoking area behind the Industrial building then next year we will have another policy. Jim states Laura knows his feelings on non smoking. The fair board says they all have the same feeling. Jerry Hitching states the way the letter is written it sounds like the fairgrounds is going with a smoke free policy. Jerry states he does not think that will work. Tim asks if there is only one area being designated as smoke free. Jim W. states there are more than one location that is smoke free. Dena explains that some of what is written in this letter is already in the Counties policy. Jim explains we need to look at the Counties policy. The board discusses the changes that will need to be made to this policy before it can be approved. Dena states the smoking policy needs to go back on the agenda for next month. Dan states he agrees with Dena's comment, this should be voted on by the board of supervisors. Dan states we don't set the policy they do. Jim states we have to approve our draft. Becky states we are not ready to send this to the board of supervisors.

Larry Wosick joins the meeting @ 5:38

Dan suggests we do introductions. The board and audience introduce themselves to Larry Wosick.

2011 ADMISSION PRICE INCREASE

Raise Adult daily to \$6.00 and Child/ Sr. to \$4.00

Becky states they had a commercial/ entertainment meeting before the board meeting tonight and roughly figured 9,359 people purchased gate entry last year. That would be an increase in gate admission of roughly \$9000.00 for the 2011 fair. This does not include pre-sale just admission purchased at the gate. Jerry states this is the cost of doing business. Todd makes a motion to raise all gate tickets cost by \$1.00. Jose seconds motion.

Sue Harwell asks if there will still be free days such as Kiddies Day, Old timer & Special People's day. Jim W. states yes those days will be the same.

LIVESTOCK ENTRY FEES

Dena states there is a proposal to increase all livestock entry fees by \$4.00. Jim W. explains the expenses in the livestock area from Tuesday through the end of fair are roughly \$14,000.00. Jim explains the fair needs to look at all aspects of the fair and what it takes to keep it running. Dena explains by raising it \$4.00 it will just put a dent in what it actually costs. Jerry explains raising the fee by \$4.00 will bring in roughly \$9,000 to help offset the expenses.

Curtis Moran joins the meeting @ 5:44 pm

Jerry explains the increase in entry fees will help cover 2/3 of the livestock expenses. Jack Haslem wants to see premiums raised to \$8.00. Dena explains we can't afford to raise the premiums. Dena states the \$14,000 expenses in livestock does not include the premiums. Tom Neely asks isn't that the cost of doing business, the cost of premiums? Jim W. states if we are going to continue on and try to get to the point where we are self sufficient we have a long ways to go. There are a lot of fairs right now like Intermountain who have gotten rid of their premiums. They aren't paying them. El Dorado cut their premiums in half. Tom Neely states El Dorado's prices are \$3.00 per class, which is why they have cut costs to keep their expenses down. Dena explains the other part of this proposal is that each kid will have to pay the discounted rate for an armband. They would no longer get a free armband. Jim hands out his figures on the livestock changes. Larry Wosick asks what line item on the budget will be affected by the increase in entry fees. Jim W. explains it would all be under admissions. There is discussion about the current fees and the new fees. Michelle asks what the actual cost of a wristband? Dena states the new season pass is \$15.00. Susan Harwell asks if there will be an entry fee for showmanship. Jim explains we can charge an entry fee for showmanship or not pay premiums for showmanship. Jack Haslem suggests no premium on showmanship. Susan Harwell explains how the dog show works as far as awards. Sue recommends no entry fee charge and no premium for showmanship only give ribbons. Becky suggests deleting premium in showmanship classes. Tim agrees no premium. Michelle explains the kids are awarded buckles for first & second. Becky suggests sending out a letter to 4-H and FFA giving the kids an explanation of why these changes are being made. Jim states he will talk to Holly with FFA & Kim Dieter and that Darcy Hanson can put information in the 4-H newsletter. Dena states there is no Westwood FFA. Dan explains changing too many prices so close to fair is not fair to the public. Dena explains the information being discussed in tonight's meeting went out to the public. Tom states our fees are very reasonable here compared to other fairs. Dena suggests revisiting this in August. Jim explains he is here to make the fair viable, a value also for everybody but we have to be here. I hate to say we have a year and a half left, I don't want to say that I want to say we are going to be here, so we have to make tough choices. I don't like to attack one area but it is a big expense. Admissions have to cover a large area. Everybody gets paid at this fair. We have to figure out what is best for the fair right now. I think these fees are okay. Becky states the exhibitor will get 1 free parking pass, purchase a second for \$5.00 with a limit of 2 parking passes per family.

All exhibitors will have to purchase an admission wristband at \$7.50 for the first one and full price wristbands can be purchased after that. Increase all livestock and Horse show entries by \$4.00. No fee or premium for showmanship. Susan talks about what is written in the front of the premium book explaining what open exhibitors receive with their entry fee. It is decided to remove the wording in the premium book about open exhibitor's free passes. Todd makes a motion to increase the per animal livestock fee by \$4.00 with that increase fee you will get a 50% wristband on the first wristband you can get a second wristband at full price, included in that package is one free parking pass, you can buy a second one for \$5.00 maximum of two. On the showmanship no fee, no premium, we will still provide ribbons to the winners. Remove the wording in the premium book. Becky seconds motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive: None

Livestock: None, Next meeting- May 3rd @ 6:30 p.m.

Long Range Planning: None

Exhibits: None- Jim schedules meeting for May 10th @ 4:30 pm
Jim states we will have the same committee members until May meeting.

Commercial/Entertainment Meeting: None

Auto Racing: None- Tom asks if racing is going to be changed to Friday nights. Jim says no and the schedule is out.

Manager's Report:

JW welcomes Curt & Tom to their first fair board meeting. Jim states he will be in Auburn on Thursday & Friday- he is attending meetings for the future of fairs. They will be going over Budgets and STOP reports. Friday- WFA is putting together the next step strategy- Jim will update the board at the next meeting once he finds out what is going on. Jim states he emailed F&E in regards to the infrastructure money for the sign & wall projects, on May 1st we will receive the left over money from these projects to use however needed.

Racing- IMCA rules approved by the BOS. We should get more cars from surrounding areas with the new rules. We still have issues with putting the track back together, we need 3 new K-rails at \$750 each. We will have to use the capitol improvement money to purchase the K-rails.

Jim states he talked to Bud Price. Jim plans to partner with Bud and put together ropings for the summer. Starting May 15th we will be leasing cattle. There will be 2- 3 ropings per month. I will have more details once a spreadsheet is put together. There will be 2 ropings during the ¼ horse show. We have mostly local competitors. We will be keeping the cattle in the arena pens. I will give you more update next month.

Bull Mania- Bulls tore up the gates & panels. Jim states he was pleased with the number of people who came out to watch. There were 26 riders signed up but only 3 rode. Ryan will bring by a spreadsheet. Approximate attendance 400-500 people. Fair board sold lunch and ran out of food.

Larry Wosick asks about Mutton Busting during fair time. Jim explains Rancher's Day and timing during fair.

Jim thanks the board for their help with the Bull Mania lunch.

Tim Bruce talks about Sunday being the Little Britches Rodeo at the college. Tim wants to know if the LCFAB would be interested in selling lunch for a fundraiser. Most board member state they will not be able to attend. Michelle asks if Tim would like he to ask 4-H if they would like to do the fundraiser.

Larry Wosick states there will be a motocross race at his place on June 11th & 12th if the LCFAB is interested in selling food that weekend.

Matters by the Board:

Jerry~ Thank you all who helped with the Bull Mania lunch. Larry thank you for being here. Welcome Tom and Curt.

Jose~ Larry congrats. Two new guys welcome to the board

Tim~ Thanks all for voting Dena in for President. Larry thanks for coming. Amazing Race- doing it this year, winners from last year will help this year. Need to get an Ad going for Amazing Race. Curt, Tom, Becky & Tim will be working on the Amazing Race.

Larry~ How much did fair spend on awards? Jim states he will get that information to Larry.

Curt~ Sorry I'm late. Promise I will get caught up to speed and will help out.

Jim~ Explains only he & Quin will be in the office. He states he needs to get working on sponsors. Even with the state problems we will make it. Jim personally thanks Quin

Todd~ New board members welcome.

Dan~ Larry welcome, welcome Tom & Curt. Thanks for your input. Best band coming to the Bluegrass Festival.

Becky~ Welcome new board members. Congrats Dena, thanks Tim. Jerry, glad you're here. Quin, thank you.

Tom~ Thanks everybody. Hopefully I can help everybody.

ADJOURNMENT

Todd Eid makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Douglas seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Fair Manager _____
Jim Wolcott

Board President _____
Dena Wemple