

LASSEN COUNTY FAIR ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes June 14, 2011
Regular Meeting
195 Russell Ave
Susanville, CA 96130
5:30 PM

The Lassen Fair Advisory Board convened in a Meeting on Tuesday June 14th, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. Dena Wemple called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Members present: Tom Neely, Tim Bruce, Jerry Hitchings, Jose Pena, Dan Douglas and Curt Moran. Supervisor Jack Hanson was also present. Fair Manager: Jim Wolcott and Sr. Account Clerk Quin Zaengle. Also Present: Jack Hanson. Absent: Todd Eid, Henry Bietz and Becky Albaugh. Present in the Audience: None

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance Lead by Tom Neely.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Jerry Hitchings moves to approve the agenda. Seconded by Tim Bruce. Motion is carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None- Jack Hanson states he is happy to be here.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Jerry Hitchings moves to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Tim Bruce. Motion is carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

SMOKE FREE POLICY

The fair board reads over the smoke free policy changes. Dena asks if anyone sees any problems with the smoke free policy. Jerry states the changes have been made that he previously had a problem with.

Tim Bruce makes a motion to accept the policy the way it is written. Jose seconds the motion. Motion is carried.

Dan Douglas joins the meeting at 5:45

GRAND MARSHALL AND OLD TIMER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Dena states there are three Old Timer nominations and one Grand Marshall Nomination. Jim talks about how the fair gets the word out about nominations being accepted and wants suggestions from the fair board on how the fair can get more nominations each year. Dena states every year the fair only receives a couple of nominations for Old Timer and Grand Marshall. The board discusses sending information to different organizations such as Cattlewoman, Rotary, local schools and the prisons. It is also suggested to have Darcy Hanson put some information in the 4-H newsletter. Tom Neely suggests putting information in the premium book to honor the Old Timer and Grand Marshall. Jim states we are going to be getting rid of the premium book, it will only be available online. Dena asks if anyone would like to nominate someone for either of these titles. Dan Douglas nominates Bruce Ingle for Grand Marshall. Tom seconds the motion. Motion is carried. Dan Douglas nominates Ruby Ridenoure and Jack Kessler for Old Timer of the year. Jerry seconds motion. Motion is carried.

BLUE RIBBON AWARD

Jim asks if anybody has any nominees. Jose suggests Bob Trussell. Jim states he was thinking about Linda Wagner. Linda has been working at the fair for 20+ years. Jim suggests giving the award to both Linda & Bob. Jerry suggests making a bench to honor Bob Trussell. Dan suggests making a garden area with benches for a memorial to Bob Trussell. The board discusses some ways to honor Bob. Jerry states he is more inclined to give Linda the Blue Ribbon Award and do something else for Bob Trussell. Jim suggests Linda Wagner for the Blue Ribbon Award. Jose makes a motion to give Linda Wagner the Blue Ribbon Award. Dan seconds the motion. Motion is carried. Dan will contact Linda's husband to organize the presentation of the award to Linda.

CDFA AUDIT

Board reads over the Audit findings and response. Jim states he is going to have Quin go over the Audit. Quin asks if anyone has any questions. Tom Neely asks about the \$110,454. Dena states that money should have been listed differently. Dan explains they are worried about the revenue coming in one year and the expenses are for another year. Jim says Quin will explain that. Quin explains the changes that were made when going from a calendar year to a fiscal year. Dan asks if you need a motion to accept the audit. Dena states no, we just needed to review it.

Executive: None

Livestock: Jerry Hitchings states Carrie Satica has expressed an interest in doing the clean stall awards, be the chairman of the clean stall awards. Jerry recommends we let Carrie do the clean stall awards. Tom asks if someone has retired. Dena states that the girl that did it last year has a full time job now and can't do clean stall too. Jerry states Carrie is a good choice, she has been around this fair for a long time, she knows what's going on. Dena states Carrie's sons is showing an animal but Carrie isn't judging, she will just be coordinating the judges. Tom explains that you have 5-6 people going through everything.

Commercial/Entertainment Meeting: None

Long Range Planning/ Site: None

Exhibits: None- Dena advises the board that some displays need to be picked up from the Susanville Assembly of God Church.

Commercial/ Entertainment Report: None

Auto Racing: Jose mentions the Memorial race was good. The race was rained out the first night, so the minis had to finish racing the next day. Dena states the sound was much better in the stands. Tom asks how we are doing on the races. Jim states I don't know, for the two day event we probably paid out more than we should have. Tom asks why we paid out to much. Jim states we didn't get as many cars as expected, we were short on pit people. Jim goes on to clarify pay out to the racers for Tom. Jim states the July 4th will be paid out a little different. Tim asks if everything is getting collected at the back gate. Jim states he is going to have John stay out at the pits to keep an eye on admission. Jose explains that drivers usually bring in 4-6 pit people, but drivers have been helping each other out now rather than paying for extra pit people. Jose feels this is why pit admission is down. Tom asks how much are the stands bringing in? Jim states the stands brought in \$2300 the first night and \$2700+ the second night. Jim explains beer and concessions income.

Jose explains that the boy scouts would like to have a flag burning ceremony during the July 4th races. Blue star moms, boy scouts and VFW are all interested in doing a flag burning ceremony. Jim states he has talked to Joe Ritz about doing a ceremony. Jim states he will need to contact Joe before going forward with this idea. Dena questions how long the ceremony would take. The board discusses having the flags dropped off before the races and weather the ceremony should be held before the races start or during intermission.

Tom suggests having a tool/ parts vendor for two day races. The board talks about a parts dealer and tire person being at the races in the past. There is talk about having a food vendor in the pit area as well.

Manager's Report:

Jim introduces George, Tim's brother in law. Jim explains that George has volunteered to mow the fairgrounds lawns since our maintenance person quit. Jim presents George with a gift certificate on behalf of the board to thank him for his hard work.

Jim thanks the board for their help. Jim states he has talked to Randy from SSD. They are going to be starting that final phase in June, which is supposed to be coming up pretty soon. So that is something we can be looking forward to using that water for the race track. Jim states they have been talking about this for a year or so and he is finally at that point.

Jim states that Susanville Market usually sponsors \$1000 in trade for the food in the hospitality room. This year we will just be having drinks available in the hospitality room. We will see if Susanville Market will help us with drinks and maybe a plate of food for when Joe Nichols will be here. Jim states the board members can bring up desserts and Jim's mother will be making pies. Jim states Quin needs to put a letter in the entertainment packet letting them know there will only be drinks available in the hospitality room. The board discusses ways to keep the hospitality room open all day.

Jim states Bud Price had his first roping last Wednesday. He had 35 teams and it went really well, pretty cool system they have out there. There will be another roping this Wednesday. Dena asks about the equine virus. Jim states the virus should be gone by the end of June. Jim states he has talked to Kathy Gould & Dan Lindsey (1/4 Horse Show). Jim asked them if it would be good to have a vet at the 1/4 Horse Show. Jim explains how a show was run in Vegas. The fair board discusses different vets in the area. Jim states we will play it by ear. We will let Kathy & Dan decide. Jerry states the cutting has been canceled at the Reno Rodeo but the Rodeo is going on.

Jim explains Ri-tone has sold out. Jim states after fair we will send a letter out to sell Ri-tone stage sponsorship. Jim states he has received \$1500 sponsorship for Ri-tone stage. Jim states he would like it to be a 2-3 year contract from now on. Dan suggests sponsors like Pepsi & Coors Light.

Jim states there was another conference call in regards to funding. The governor is confident the tax extension will get on the ballot. We won't know anything until the budget is signed. We need to cut back on spending. Tim asks if the final payment has been put into the budget. Jim states he has gone over the budget and we are still in the red. Jim states he plans on going over the again, but it is at \$121,000.

Jim explains the budget comparison and states that spending is down in maintenance due to leaving the trucks on grounds rather than using them for travel too and from the house. Dan points out the 47105 income account is down. Jim explains this account number is down since we have not had the Bluegrass Festival yet. Jim states we have almost doubled what was brought in last year at this time. Jim states that the fair Bluegrass Festival has been getting some good publicity from the other festivals. Dena asks if Jim needs help at the Bluegrass Festival. Jim states he has a sign up sheet for help. Jim states we are anticipating a lot more RV's this year. I have a bid to get more electrical put in. We will have to get more income coming in. Dena asks if \$15 a night is too cheap for RV spaces. The board members discuss the price of RV spaces and the electrical situation. Jim states we will probably have a budget meeting and Jim will call everyone. Dena states we should have the budget on next month's agenda for approval. Jim states he will have the budget broken down for the board to look over.

Jim states the Quincy fair has been told that they will be shutting down by September. Jim states he has been doing some negotiating with Quincy's maintenance guy possibly give him less pay and give him medical benefits. Jim states he has to look at the budget, we have been saving by not having to pay Jay and Melissa's salaries. Jim states he has it planned right now to have two six month guys coming in from March through August and one guy from April through October. Jim states he would take care of November through February. Jim states he did a presentation to Rotary last week and we do 87 ½% of our business is within a 6 month period. Jim states Sierra Cascade helps us a lot between \$20,000- \$25,000. Jim discusses dropping the price of storage to get more people coming in.

Thanks to the board members for all your help.

Matters by the Board:

Jerry~ Livestock meeting on June 28th at 6:30pm. Thanks Jim, Quin and all the staff. Thanks Jack for being here.

Curt~ Thank you Jim, you do a lot of work. Jack thanks for being here.

Tim~ Jack thanks for being here. Dena are we going to have sign ups for fair duties? Dena states there will be sign ups at the next board meeting.

Tom asks what fair duties are. Dena and Jim explain what fair duties are.

Jose~ Thank you everybody. Jack thank you. Quin thank you.

Jim~ Curt and I had a meeting with Bill Crum to get equipment out of the back in September. We are going to get the panels we aren't using and put them up for sale. We aren't going to go through the county. Jerry asks if the arena drag was found, Jim says yes.

Jack~ Thank you, always a pleasure to be here. Jack explains the situation with the county budget. Jack states we are going to do the best we can, money is tight. The community shines.

Dan~ Thank you Jim and Quin. Dena thanks for stepping up and taking on the board responsibility.

Tom~ Thank you Jim for teaching me the ropes in auto racing. Thanks everybody.

Jim~ Anybody want to go to Shasta Fair?

Tim states there won't be an Amazing Race this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Tim Bruce makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jose Pena seconds the motion.
Meeting is adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Fair Manager _____
Jim Wolcott

Board President _____
Dena Wemple