

LASSEN COUNTY FAIR ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes March 8th, 2011
Regular Meeting
195 Russell Ave
Susanville, CA 96130
5:30 PM

The Lassen Fair Advisory Board convened in a Meeting on Tuesday March 8th, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. Vice President to the Board, Ric Wilburn called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Members present: Ric Wilburn, Tim Bruce, Todd Eid, Henry Bietz, Dena Wemple, Dan Douglas and Becky Albaugh. Supervisor Jim Chapman was also present. Fair Manager: Jim Wolcott and Sr. Account Clerk Quin Zaengle. Absent: Jerry Hitchings, Mike Ratkey and Jose Pena. Present in the Audience: Susan Harwell

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance Lead by Todd Eid.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Henry Bietz moves to approve the agenda. Seconded by Becky Albaugh. Motion is carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sue Harwell states she is attending the meeting to get an update on the fair funding issue and budget. Sue also states Standish 4-H will be holding a Taco Feed at the Standish 4-H Hall this Saturday from 5:00- 8:00 p.m. To go orders can be picked up from 4:00-5:00 p.m. There will be a dessert auction as well as a special auction. The fair board thanks Sue for the invitation.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Dan Douglas moves to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Todd Eid. Motion is carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

MIDWAY LIGHTING PROJECT FUNDING

Jim states he has received 4 Bids for the project. This would include all the lamps that we went over a couple of months ago. The lamps down the midway as well as the horse barns. The livestock area cost is \$2000.00. Jim lists the different areas of the fairgrounds that would be covered under this project. Jim states he is hoping that Rotary will take care of the four lights down the midway. Dan D. asks if LMUD will be participating with this project. Jim states LMUD will not participate. Jim explains where the Fire Fund money came from (fundraiser after the pavilion was burned down) and what it has been spent on over the past few years. (New fountain, flower and baskets). Jim states we have about \$16,000 left in that account. Ric W. asks if this is the same fund we are using for

the area between the pavilion and the sheep barn. Jim says yes we have purchased the block for that area already and just have to buy some plants for that area. Jim states we should have about \$3000.00 left of that money. Jim states the lighting project is a safety issue for him especially after what happened last year. Jim states it wouldn't be right to absorb the money into our general fund. Jim states last year was not good on Friday night due to the lighting. Jim states it will help Search & Rescue out to be able to see more. Todd E. asks if there will be more support from the sheriff and the police department. Jim states that we haven't had a formal meeting with them, but we will be meeting with the new commander of Search & Rescue. Henry B. asks what the time frame is for installing the lights. Jim states it wouldn't take long at all the brackets are there and ready. Tim B. asks what company would be doing the lighting. Jim states the lowest bid is from the local Granite Company. Henry B. asks how long the bid is good. Jim states he believes the bids are good for 30 to 60 days. Dan D. states he believes the people who provided the funds to the fundraiser would approve of the fair using the money for this project. Dan D. makes a motion to approve the project. Ric W. states he worries about 18 months down the road we may need the funds to help keep us afloat. Jim states he is optimistic about the funding. Jim states we will probably not be seeing any infrastructure money coming in the future. Todd E. feels the fair should be cautious about spending money at this time. Jim states we may have a better idea in June about our future funding at which time we could make the decision to do the lighting project. Ric W. suggests doing the project in smaller phases. Tim B. questions if the cost of the project would end up being higher when doing smaller phases. Becky A. states it wouldn't hurt to check. Todd E. feels the fair should be cautious on spending and should keep the money in the bank for the future. Dan D. feels the funds were put there by the people to use and he feels the fair should approve the project, because of the safety and security issues in the past. Tim B. states he agrees with Jim and Dan both. Henry B. states he doesn't disagree with either position, but he would like to wait until we have a better idea of the state budget issue. Jim Chapman states there won't be any clarity with the budget until June 2nd. Jim C. agrees that this is a safety issue and suggest using caution tape to section off unsafe areas. Jim C. states it is wise to keep the cash in the bank at this time. Jim C. discusses the budget issues. Becky A. asks if a motion to table this item is needed. Jim C. states it would be a good idea to discuss this project at the June 14th meeting. Tim B. suggests making sure prices for this project will hold. No motion is needed since the first motion was never seconded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive: None

Livestock: None, Next meeting- March 29th @ 6:30 p.m.

Long Range Planning: None- No meeting date set at this time

Exhibits: None- Jim states he may set a meeting date

Commercial/Entertainment Meeting: Becky Albaugh states there was a meeting held today. She talks about no longer being able to put new doors in the art & floral building due to the budget cut backs. She states the north side of the commercial building needs to be sided because of holes that small animals are able to get through. This will be done by fair. Jim W. states he will look at funds available in maintenance. Becky states they are trying to come up with a way to increase revenues for the fair. She states we will be increasing gate fees this year. April 12th @ 4:30pm will be next Commercial/Entertainment meeting.

Auto Racing: Jim W. states there was no meeting at this time. Still working on getting the County to okay the IMCA rules. Jim Chapman explains the county's concerns and issues with the racing contract. Jim Chapman explains the Board of Supervisor's received an e-mail from a citizen who is unhappy about the hold up with the IMCA contract. Ric W. asks if Jim W. would like to have an auto racing meeting next month.

Manager's Report:

JW states: Weigh-ins this Sunday from 8:00 to 11:00. Next month elections will be held and Board duties will be assigned.

Jim W. talks about Larry Wosick appointing new Fair Board members for his district. Jack Hansen also has an opening for his district since Mike Ratkey moved out of his area. Jim Chapman explains the process that the Board of Supervisors goes through to appoint new members to the fair board. Jim W. states he and Larry Wosick have not been able to get together and discuss the need to keep the current board members.

Jim W. discusses the conference call he had on Monday regarding the funding for fairs. They are still optimistic that there will be some funding, they just don't know when.

There will be another conference call on Monday. Tim B. asks if there is any more funding coming in this year. Jim W. says no. Jim W. explains our money comes in by December. Jim W. states that the fair has to come up with a five year plan. Jim W. asks the fair board to come up with ideas to cut expenses and increase revenue. Tim B. asks how many fairs won't make it. Jim C. states Modoc will be closing. Jim W. states there will be a budget meeting. Date to be announced.

Matters by the Board:

Dena~ Nothing

Becky~ Thanks for coming to Jim Chapman. Thanks for understanding our concerns about the board appointees. Thank you to Jim and Quin for working hard.

Dan~ Thanks to Jim & Quin. Thanks Jim Chapman for understanding our concerns, we really don't want to be where we were before.

Todd~ Cool having you here.

Henry~ Jim C. thanks I appreciate you being here and all your support with the County. Jim W. thanks to you and your staff for all your hard work.

Tim~ Quin best cookie maker. Jim C. thanks for coming, appreciate it. Thanks for your support. We are going to survive this.

Jim C.~ Shares about the new County Administrator and the hard times this County has seen over the past 100 years and how the County comes together and becomes stronger from the hard times.

Ric~ Appreciates what Jim Chapman has said. Jim hang in there buddy we are with you.

ADJOURMENT

Tim Bruce makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Douglas seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Fair Manager _____
Jim Wolcott

Board President _____
Mike Ratkey