

Teton County Fair Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2023 Teton County Courthouse and via Zoom

Open: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Board members present were Jared Bevan, Brenda Simirl, Roger Kaufman and Cara Olaveson. Absent: John Smaellie, Jason Wilcox. Others present were Abby Grundler, Tammy Sachse, Commissioner Mike Whitfield, Kade Mangum, Teresa Lane, Lane Hillman and Hallie Poirier.

Minutes: September 13, 2023 meeting minutes were read. Jared motioned to approve the minutes, Cara seconded, all in favor.

Financial Reports:

End of FY 2023:

FY 2023 Projected Expenses were \$239,161. We spent \$226,926 or 94% of the budget. FY 2023 Projected Revenue was \$97,300. We brought in \$147,235 or 151% of the projected amount.

FY 2024 Report. FY 2024 starts at \$280,073. So far we have spent \$3,393 or 1% of the budget leaving a balance of \$276,680. FY 2024 projected Revenue is \$96,850. So far we have brought in \$6,100 or 6% of the projected amount.

Persons in attendance: N/A

Commissioner Whitfield to swear in Kade Mangum as new Fair Board member. Mike Whitfield swore in Kade Mangum. Welcome Kade!

Discussion items:

A. Fair Board : Confirm board seats: No nominations were made for our current Chair and CoChair seats, John Smaellie will remain Chair and Roger Kaufman will remain CoChair.

New Member Orientation: Brief discussion on the Handbook, Policies, Procedure took place. Roger encouraged everyone to look the handbook over and revisit at November's meeting. Idaho Open Meeting Laws were discussed. There are several ways members can become familiar with the policy and procedures of public meetings. Robert's Rules Made Simple is an option, Abby offered to show a video in the 4H office. Mike Whitfield commented that the county's insurance ICRMP should also have a resource video. The members present agreed to watch a video at the November meeting.

Set Annual Goals & Objectives: Roger said he heard from several sources the wish to shorten our fair week. With building set up and prep, we are stretched over 11 days. It is hard for working board members to attend all of the events. Board members, staff and parents of kids in 4H are all exhausted by mid week. General desire is to shorten our schedule, have all the events within 5 or 6 days; Monday - Sat or Tuesday - Sat. If the livestock auction moved to Sat. as well, then animals would be in the barn for the public to see, there would be an action packed day which could attract more people and food vendors alike. It was agreed that 4H staff, the Livestock Committee and the Fair Board will all have to work together to make this happen. We will also need more volunteers. Hallie mentioned the open class trail course had a great turnout. Two nonprofits: Backcountry Horsemen and Hapi

Trails worked together to set up a challenging course which attracted competitors and spectators. How can we get other nonprofits to host an open class event? They could design/create the event or contest as a committee, promote it through their networks, using their volunteers and maybe generate a little revenue for their nonprofit with any entry fees. This could be a way to have more events and attract a bigger audience to the Fair. Example: Paws hosting an open class dog show.

B. Comments welcome on: [Cushing Terrell Site Analysis Diagrams](#) were passed around and the conversation included a future grand entryway with turning lanes and some sort of fence signage along the highway, north of the museum. An alternate entrance for livestock and trailers will be needed. Mike encouraged the board members to be thinking about how the master plan will accommodate growth not just in the near future but in 25-50 years. It would be ideal if the fairgrounds footprint could increase. This is the time to be thinking about those options with the planners. Hallie has had two more zoom meetings with Charlie and Kevin. Brian with TREC and 4H staff Tammy and Abby.

Building/Grounds: Review working list of fall to dos: The windows in the crows nest have been replaced and french doors for the fair building are on site.

Hallie confirmed the new rental fees have been approved and will be posted soon on the website: Weekend rental deposits increased to \$1000, food trailer daily rental is \$300 which includes propane, overnight dry camping per rig is \$25. Rental agreements in English and Spanish are on the website under **Facilities**.

Other news: Teton Valley Skijoring event is scheduled for Feb 24-25th 2024. Hallie and Lane met with the president and executive director at the fairgrounds Oct 5th and discussed course layout, plowing, parking, building use etc. Neal and Elliot are excited about the fairgrounds location and our amenities being suitable to meet their event needs. Their nonprofit has a lot of volunteers, they were well organized and supported last year.

This event is yet another great use of the fairgrounds, a community event that will bring more exposure to the fairgrounds, including the Cowboy channel!

Hallie stated that the Fair Board is now a member of the International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE). This year their annual conference is in Salt Lake City. The increased training and travel fair budget allows Hallie to attend Nov 25-29th.

Extension and 4-H: Abby confirmed they have a new Americorp intern. They have also been promoting 4H on social media and already have 100 kids enrolled!

THANK YOU cards were signed by board members and staff for Fair sponsors and Tin Cup donors.

Adjourn Meeting: Brenda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm, Jared seconded, all in favor.