

Teton County Fair Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2023 Teton County Courthouse and via Zoom

Open: The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. Board members present were John Smaellie, Jared Bevan, Brenda Simirl, Roger Kaufman, Jason Wilcox and Cara Olaveson. Others present were Abby Grundler, Tammy Sachse, Christine Miller, Lori Hillman, Lane Hillman and Hallie Poirier.

Minutes: June 14th and July 3rd special meeting minutes and July 12th regular meeting minutes were read. Jason motioned to approve the minutes, Jared seconded, all in favor.

Financial Reports:

FY 2023 Report. FY 2023 starts at \$239,161. So far we have spent \$203,067 or 85% of the budget leaving a balance of \$36,094. FY 2023 projected Revenue is \$97,300. So far we have brought in \$124,133 or 128% of the projected amount.

Persons in attendance: Wade Kaufman, Josh Richardson and various members of the local motocross club. Wade Kaufman and Josh Richardson represent the local motocross club. They spoke about their desire to see a motocross arena at the fairgrounds. Their group has been meeting again for the last five months and they have actively been looking for a place to build an motocross track arena. They have looked at sites within and outside the county but nothing has worked out so far. Wade explained 7-8 acres would accommodate their ideal track length and desired set up including a water storage pond. Josh stated he believes that there is enough backing to make this happen. John said that Cushing Terrell is available for zoom/phone calls for additional input towards our master plan. Jared stated that our master plan does reflect our current rodeo arena as a multi use arena once we have a new horse arena built. This multi use arena will be able to accommodate motor sport events. Hallie will coordinate a meeting with Cushing Terrell.

Discussion items:

A. [A week in review: 100 Year Fair](#) (General Feedback: Public, Fair Board & Staff, 4-H Staff). The Fair Schedule of Events was reviewed and events were discussed.

Friday 8/4 Cat Show: Jason said it went well and was an awesome turnout. Tammy agreed and said the show was about 10 minutes.

Style Revue: Hallie, Tammy, Abby said it was a great show. It was nice to see the stage more vibrant and the backdrop of Danny's Model T car was perfect photo opp.

Saturday 8/5 Wagons & Tales Heritage Day: Everyone thought this was a success. There was a great turnout for the 8/5 event day. History, games, songs and dancing filled the day and evening activities. It was a long week for the volunteers and they may consider 4 days for the encampment next year.

Saturday 8/5 4H Horse shows. The morning horse shows moved to the indoor pavilion due to weather.

Given the scramble, the horse clubs were pleased with the volunteer help set up the pavilion. The Trail Course and Working Ranch still took place outside. There was an issue with getting kids back to the trail course in a timely manner. Abby suggested moving the morning horse shows indoors in the future. Tammy disagreed. Revisions to the current Fair Board and

University of Idaho, 4-H MOU were discussed. Considerations may include: The Fair Board budget for renting a roller for a few days. A map/layout of the pavilion post horse show so volunteers know the expectations of animal pins, announcer stage, show arena, etc. 4-H may want to consider who will be expected to help set up the pavilion post horse show.

Sunday 8/6 Open Class Trail Course Back Country Horsemen and Hapi Trails did a great job with the course. There was a good turnout and a wide range (ages and skill level) of riders.

Monday 8/7 Pig Wrangle: Everyone thought it went well. The kids and pigs did have to work harder in the mud with no bentonite. Not many teams made time. It was a much easier clean up without the bentonite and pond liner etc. The set up really helped move teams in and out of the arena and kept all the spectators in the stands. Ray did a great job announcing. There were not as many teams this year but the stands were still packed.

Tuesday 8/8 Open Class- Less entries this year. Judges placed lots of ribbons and everyone got a 100 Year ribbon. We need more volunteers in building. When the building is open, Fair Board members and/or volunteers need to be present so others can take a break. Discussion on modernizing open class and/or outsourcing departments took place. Would be nice to have more community involvement.

4-H Club Demos: All went well, good attendance.

Cowboy Mounted Shooters: Unfortunately this event was canceled. Lisa Grimsley spoke with Lane Hillman several times over the weekend and was concerned about the weather and our arena footing. Lane told Lisa his plan for grooming and if weather held he should have it in shape for their event. The weather had been similar to last year and the footing then did not disappoint. Lisa said they had to cancel their West Yellowstone event and lost a lot of riders. By Monday night Lisa informed Hallie that they didn't have enough riders to make it a sanctioned event and must cancel. John suggested we may want to consider adding provisions/conditions to our Performance Agreements that strengthen our position when negotiating possible cancellations.

Wednesday 8/9 4-H Dog Show went well. Livestock weigh in was fine. John and Lane requested that the weigh scale area be tidied up after use. Fair Board dinner and dance: Everyone who attended thought it was awesome! The food was delicious, the music was great, there were new faces at the fairgrounds, everyone had a good time. Thanks to Teresa Lane for securing a new sponsor for this new event!

Thursday 8/10 Farm Tour. AJ Woolstenhume's Horse Power demo went well and there was a good turnout for the Farm Tour. Hallie scheduled back to back meetings with various county and city staff for the Cushing Terrell team that was present from Thursday - Saturday for data input for our master site plan. 4-H Livestock shows went well. Lots of turkeys this year!

Horse Pull: Seemed to be more public attendance than previous years. The announcer was an extra cost but well worth it. They had an excellent pull.

Friday 8/11 Livestock Dinner 4pm. Auction 6pm. The auction was long due to the amount of animals this year. A good problem indeed. The livestock committee needs more help. There was a line of buyers in the building most of the night until 11pm. If they use the fair building next year we need a Fair Board member to be present as we are responsible for the building and items in the building. It was a long day for Hallie and more help was needed. An MOU between 4-H, Livestock Committee and Fair Board may be helpful.

FAIR Rodeo 8pm. Lane said his rodeo was an awesome turnout. Lori Hillman suggested moving the Livestock Auction to Saturday. A healthy discussion ensued. It has always been a pinch for kids showing animals and riding in the rodeo. Perhaps more people would be able to attend the rodeo and the auction if they were on different days. The events wouldn't have to compete. If that happens, consider Fair being Monday or Tuesday - Saturday. The week is too

long as it is and finding volunteers is mandatory for events to be successful and enjoyed. This way we could stack the day and night events.

Sat 8/12 Get Your Motor Runnin was a great show! Nice job Jared and Jason for getting valley service vehicles, tractors, trucks and classic cars on site. The helicopter landing was so cool and the giant American flags looked amazing at the fairgrounds' entrance. Perhaps we can request at least one if not both again next year for the duration of Fair week. The public turnout was good. Unfortunately there was a permit issue with EIPH that prevented HRC from selling food on Saturday. Food was definitely missed. Discussion on multiple food trucks with cuisine options took place.

Lawn mower races- Figure 8 races. Incredible results this year! Fair Board secured \$1000 sponsor for the winner, \$1000 for the last man standing race and per usual we donated the entry fees back to the payouts. Plus we had 2 raffle cars donated this year! Marvin was able to advertise all of this weeks prior to our Fair. We had an incredible turnout with (21) drivers. Spectator turnout was great too, the stands were packed and the gate fees possibly set a new record of \$8,192.00 Marvin's announcer(s) always do a great job and the show was pretty spectacular - not to mention the closing fireworks. Nice work Jason arranging the fireworks and sponsor! Let's not forget the Lawn Mower Racers who always have fun and put on a great show. People mentioned they knew folks who came just to see them. Credit to Trey Danger's awesome photos in the Fair Book from last year's races.

B. [Fair Rev/Exp](#)

C. FY 2023 Remaining Budget. Tin Cup Results \$1,760 was raised with a 55% match of \$968.00 for a total of \$2,728.00

D. FY 2024 Budget

E. Review [Cushing Terrell Site Analysis Diagrams](#)

F. Fair Board: Two Fair Board Applications received by Kade Mangum and Cheyenne Durbin. Both spoke about why they would like to serve on the board.

6. Building/Grounds: Working list of to dos attached. New fees for FY 24 were discussed. Main change is the weekend rental deposit increasing to \$1000.00.

7. Other news: Teton Valley Skijorn event will likely take place Feb 24th. Hallie and Lane will meet with the Chair and ED sometime soon at the fairgrounds.

8. Adjourn: Roger motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm, Jared seconded, all in favor.