

Teton County Fair Board Special Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2020 Teton County Fairgrounds building and via Teleconference

Open: The special meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by John Smaellie. Board members present were John Smaellie, Cara Olaveson, Jared Bevan, Phyllis Hansen and Roger Kaufman. Others present were Jen Werlin, Chris Miller, Tammy Sachse, Katie Murdock, Lane Hillman, and Hallie Poirier. Commissioner Harley Wilcox joined from 8 pm-8:40 pm, Natalie Kaufman arrived at 8:20 pm.

Fair discussion in response to EIPH statement issued 7/14/20:

Discussion began about EIPH statement issued 7/14/20 attached hereto. Statement declares no gatherings over 150 people, masks mandatory where 6 feet of physical distancing can not be maintained. John enlightened the board on the July 13, 2020 BOCC meeting attended by John and Hallie. The commissioners listened to the current Fair operations plan and gave their support. Concerns did arise on the pig wrestling event. After some time discussing appropriate logistics and precautions that would need to take place to have the pig wrestling event during Covid-19 pandemic, John decided to strike pig wrestling from Fair. The County is placing a bulk mask order and will supply the Fair Board with masks to hand out at all Fair events. The County, 4H and Fair Board agreed to advertise that all Fair events will require masks.

John spoke to both Commissioners Bob Heneage and Cindy Riegel prior to this meeting and they now both feel that Fair events are ill-advised.

Hallie spoke about her conversation with Geri Rackow at EIPH prior to this meeting. Hallie referred to the livestock auction gathering limits as well as outdoor gathering definitions in the Wyoming Public Health statement issued July 16, 2020 with Geri. Hallie then went over the current Teton County, ID Fair operations plan. Geri was appreciative but had no comments until she had attended several meetings in the coming days.

Fair attendance discussions included how gatherings of 150 could be supported on each side of the arena for outdoor events and 4-H events could be limited to participants and families only if needed.

The Fair Board agrees to host 4-H events, Rodeo, Figure 8 and lawn mower races. Pig wrestling and open class blue ribbon entries will be canceled. Fair Board unanimously agrees that our County Fair is necessary to support 4-H and for the mental health of the community. All in favor.

Discussion about Friday night Rodeos took place. All agreed that the Rodeo should continue and the Fair Board and Teton Valley Rodeo Co will encourage the public to wear masks and practice Covid-19 safety guidelines. Fair Board unanimously agrees to continue the concession sales at Rodeo.

Adjourn: Phyllis motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:16pm, Jared seconded, all in favor.