

## Fair Board Meeting Minutes September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Call the meeting to order** at 6:00pm

Chad made a motion to excuse absent fair board member Courtney. Jamie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed

**Open to the public:** no one present.

**4-H Boosters/Cattlegirls:** Charlotte not present.

**Superintendents:** nothing to report. Arlene and Nicole only superintendents present.

**Extension office:** Extension office requested to use the fairgrounds on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for the Livestock Field Day. Jamie made a motion to approve, Nicole 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.

Nicole mentioned that at the leaders meeting they requested to use a social media page to get open enrollment information out. Nicole let the leader's council know that the fair now has a Facebook page. Shan said to have Jeanene send her the information she needs posted and she will add it to the Facebook page. Open enrollment is October 1- November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Approve minutes from 8/9/23 meeting:** minutes approved as read.

**Treasurer report:** nothing needed to be reimbursed. As of 8/31/23 the account has \$25,658. In 2023 the fundraiser auction brought in \$28,000, and we spent \$11,557 to put on the fundraiser auction.

**Royalty 2023-** Kenzie reported that in August she went to Kennewick, and it was very fun. Kenzie said she enjoyed sitting in the autograph line and chatting with the other girls. Kenzie reported the food was delicious. Walla Walla was the next rodeo she attended, and she received 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the parade. Kenzie said the judges commented on her horse's glitter toes. Kenzie said the entertainment at Walla Walla was good and she did the signing booth next to Miss Rodeo America. JJ Harrison also gave Kenzie his signing marker. Kenzie said she was super bummed to have missed the Lewiston Roundup, but she was really sick and still recovering. Kenzie gave some of the awards she has won at different parades to Peggy to display.

**Trick R Trunk-** Ty Aiken from the Lions Club reported that the Trick R Trunk is going to be held on October 28<sup>th</sup> starting at 4pm. The Asotin County Fair Board and Lions Club will collaborate to put on the event. Ty reported that Hells Canyon Electric will bring their "electric chair" and he has about 3 to 4 more vendors set to attend so far. Ty said the gate fee to the event will be a can of food to donate to the food bank. Ty said the Lions Club will do all the food, but asked if the fair board could get ahold of Coke to provide drinks. Ty asked if the Bennett Building would be open in case of poor weather and the board confirmed it would be. Ty also mentioned that the Lions Club will be putting on the Christmas parade and are looking at other options for line up since the park is too small and the road is very narrow for line up. Ideas of the Bennett Building and main parking lots were discussed as possible ideas.

**Royalty 2024-** Jadeyn Perin reported that she is available any Monday or Wednesday to come over and meet with some of the sponsors. She has chosen fair colors of Mustard, Coral, Turquoise, and Chocolate Brown.

**Rodeo-** Shan asked if it would be possible for the rodeo grounds to be ready for an event on Thursday. Shan said that most of their larger sponsors are looking for more rough stock on Saturday night. Changes to vendor set up and parking due to weigh in would need arranged, but the board said it could be possible.

Barb Appleford requested that at the next meeting we hold an executive session. Peggy said she will add the executive session to the next meeting agenda.

**Tax Grant-** Chad is completing the paperwork today as it is due in October. The state grant he emailed the proposal to the group and asked for their review. Quotes from Hells Canyon Electric, Hells Canyon Heating and Air and Clearwater Fence were provided for the recently discussed grant options. Peggy reported that before we submit paperwork for the grant, pictures will need to be taken of the items needing replaced and those photos will need to be attached to our request. Steve said he will walk with Peggy and show her all the items needing pictures taken. When reviewing the fencing replacement request Clearwater Fence said they would rather rebuild the stripping chute on site. Steve is going to ask Clearwater to re-write their quote to include replacement of the stripping chute.

**Fair Theme:** Multiple fair themes were submitted by the fair superintendents. A list of themes was provided to the board and each member was asked to circle one theme. The winning theme is "Cowboy Boots & Buckin' Chutes". Barb and Arlene expressed their concerns regarding how we have had so many themes that incorporated cowboy boots and wished the vote would have been for something different.

**Junior Fair Board:** Ryder Jared wrote a letter requesting to be considered for a junior fair board member. Ryder is a freshman at Asotin High School and has been active previously in the Blue Mountain 4-H group, showing swine. Shan made a motion to accept Ryder as a junior member, Jamie 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.

**Laptop update:** Peggy asked Chris Seubert if there was any update on the county having two additional laptops for the fair board to use. Chris said he would talk with Chris Kemp and get back to Peggy.

**Fundraiser Spreadsheet Updates:** Peggy reminded everyone to be working through their fundraiser lists and getting their updates to Jamie. Jamie reported that we only have a few items currently, so we need a lot more.

**Fundraiser Update:** Booze Barrel- will be offered again this year. All board members are asked to bring at least 3 bottles of booze to help fill the barrel. Booze needs to be delivered by October 10<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Schurman's is donating the wheelbarrow this year. Peggy asked if we should rent a UHAUL again this year. A unanimous yes, and Peggy will work on getting one reserved. Discussion to rent the UHAUL on Wednesday, fill it Wednesday night and take it over Thursday night to the Elks and unload. Shan made a motion to approve the UHAUL rental, Jamie 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.

Peggy reported that Elk's is currently going through some renovations, and they cannot guarantee we will have the back room where the silent auction was held last year. The quote from Elks for the fundraiser is \$7,549.40. Peggy reported the Elk's said we can enter Thursday night around 7pm and we can set up Friday morning, except we cannot set up the tables to eat at due to the Elk's hosting a dinner. Saturday morning, we will need to set up tables. Peggy also reported that the Elk's will need a head count two weeks prior to the event, and they will run two bars for us at no extra charge. Elk's has requested that we are out by midnight so their staff can go home. No confetti, glitter and no live candles are allowed at the Elk's.

Jamie and Shan reported that we are offering reserved tables at the fundraiser for \$280. Tables will seat 6 and include 6 drink tickets per table. Drinks are limited to seltzers and beer only.

**Chris Seubert:** Chris thanked all the board members that came out and helped at the Lewiston Roundup.

**Workdays and Inmates job lists-** Peggy and Steve are working on the list of items needed to be completed.

**Old Business:** nothing to report.

**New Business:** Glen Landrus has requested to use the Bennett Building for FFA Enchiladas either October 11<sup>th</sup> or October 18<sup>th</sup>. Jamie made a motion to allow Asotin FFA to use the Bennett Building at the reduced rate on either date, Chad 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed.

Peggy gave out the Volunteer appreciation dinner invites to those board members that helped at the Roundup. The dinner will be held September 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:59pm.

Nicole discussed that at the leaders meeting she informed the leaders of the Facebook page for the fair and asked them to like and share it with their members. Nicole also said she asked that all 4-H families and FFA chapters donate a basket to the auction. Jeanene said she will send out the letter to all leaders and the invite letter to all 4-H families. Nicole also noted that at the leaders meeting she discussed the preliminary meeting with the sales committee and the extension office and superintendents/leaders. She said that Chance Appleford had asked for a meeting with all leaders and the Sales Committee. Nicole reported that she told Chance that she didn't want to speak for the Sales Committee, but she didn't think that a meeting with all Sales Committee members and leaders would be something of interest as those sessions normally become a very unproductive back and forth. Nicole reported that she had texted with Warren, and he said the Sales Committee will meet in October for their first meeting and at this time they still planned on having a first weigh in for pigs. Warren said they were pretty receptive to weight changes, but they haven't made any decisions yet.

Barb asked if steer weights were discussed, and Nicole said not really. Nicole reported that the main conversation was geared around swine health, swine weight, biosecurity for breeders of swine and Cami Browne and Mark Heitstuman did a great job in explaining the genetics of hogs and their make up and just how susceptible they are to disease, more than the other livestock species. Nicole reported they did talk about removing minimum weight for goats at first weigh in and increasing the minimum weight at final weigh in for sheep from 90 to 110lbs. Barb asked what Nicole thought the reasoning was for the sales committee to be adamant on having a first weigh in for pigs? Nicole said she thought it came down to tagging of animals and that entire process. Barb said other fairs have the leaders get the tags and paperwork from the extension office, fill out the paperwork per kid and pig, tag the pig and take a picture of the pig with the tag and submit it back to the extension office within a set time frame. Nicole said we discussed that process last year when the outbreak was going on and one leader was very vocal to the sales committee about how she wouldn't do it.

Nicole also mentioned that maybe we could think of mirroring our fair to that of Nez Perce County's where weigh in is Wednesday, kids show Thursday and Friday and then a sale on Saturday. Nicole reported that Sunday is really a waste of a day and that it would be nice to give everyone that day to get things back in order before kids go back to school. Multiple members agreed it was something to think about and not a bad idea. Arlene and Barb mentioned the kids would have to be out of school longer. Nicole agreed but most kids are already missing two days of school anyway and if weigh in goes until 6pm, school gets out at 2:30-3:30 depending on the school they wouldn't really need to miss another

day if they didn't want to. Jamie asked if Nicole would keep that in mind for May, after fair, to bring it up again so we can discuss it.

The contract with the Sales Committee was discussed and edits were requested. Jamie asked Nicole to work with the barn superintendents and come up with some verbiage regarding biosecurity and decision-making pertaining to weigh ins. Nicole said she will reach out to a few and email Shan the verbiage.

Steve reported there is still a water leak at the fairgrounds, and he hasn't been able to find exactly where it is at yet. He has shut off the water to the main level.

Jamie talked about the little park area on the main level. Steve said that Chance Appleford had offered to come over and tear it out and re do it, however it hasn't happened yet. Nicole asked if kids even use the spot at all and Jamie said during fair, they put a vendor in it. Barb said that it has a sprinkler system, but she thought a pipe or nozzle was broke and needed repaired. Shan said that we should take out the grass and put turf in it and it wouldn't need mowed or cleaned out. Jamie also suggested gravel. Jamie is going to investigate what the cost would be to redo the area.

Jamie asked that we look into streamlining how we are submitting receipts and contracts. She reported that right now receipts are put into Shan's box and can sometimes be smooshed in and missed. Jamie requested a bin for receipts/contracts etc. at the fair office.

Arlene asked if we had any state fair passes. Peggy said she had them with her and if Arlene wanted one, she could take one. Arlene said she might want one because she is thinking about going to Pomeroy.

**Next meeting is October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6pm.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm