

Wasco County Fair and Rodeo
Board Meeting
September 11, 2024
Dew Drop Inn, Tygh Valley, OR

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Kramer at 6 p.m.

Roll Call: Steve Kramer, Ken Polehn, Hailee Meredith, Kate Smith, Teddy Franke, Vicki Ashley and Butch David.

5 County Employees and 5 other guests

Agenda: Additions/Changes: Vicki Ashley asked to be added for clarification of the insurance requirements on renting fair grounds property.

Consent Agenda: Kate Smith moved to accept the minutes of the Aug. 7,

Vote: Kate Smith	yes	
Hailee Meredith	yes	
Ken Polehn	yes	
Butch David	yes	
Teddy Franke	yes	
Vicki Ashley	yes	
Steve Kramer	yes	Minutes approved

Public Comment: None

Queen Report: No attendee's

Finance: Mike Middleton (full report in Board packet) The fair came in under budget in income, mainly due to the storm, while the expenses were below budget. Different areas of the fair were explained as to their financial position.

The net position is down \$10,000.

Mike brought up the fact that the parking rental amounts have not changed in several years. (\$500.00) Steve Kramer said that he had talked with the family and they are content with the amount.

The Afton ticketing worked well with a few of the cash sales not being entered but all and all a good report.

Teddy Franke inquired if the amount of loss to the vendors was established. Mike said it was not tracked.

Facilities: Ali Postlewait reported that general clean-up after the fair was continuing and that winterization beginning. Crestline is currently working on the sewer and septic upgrades.

The contract for the arena work was signed on 9/6/2024 . She stated that the legal department has drawn-up new volunteer agreements for anyone working on the project and that board members as well as volunteers will have to sign them before beginning work.

She also mentioned that DEQ had some new findings as of 8/14/2024.

Tyler Stone commented that these were DEQ code items and were being worked on.

Teddy Franke said that now the contracts had been signed, he would set up new dates for volunteers to begin work on dismantling the old arena.

Ali Postlewait introduced that as of October, Nikki Lucas, Fair Manager, would have her hours reduced to 7 per week, per hiring agreement, until February.

Vicki Ashley stated that there was no way that next years fair could be planned and beginning work be done on those hours. She suggested that 20 hrs/week be established. 8-12, 5 days a week.

Kate Smith stated that she feels this is a personal issue and should be discussed in an executive session.

Vicki Ashley asked the President to enter an executive session to discuss this matter and the President stated he would not entertain an Executive Session at the time. She stated that she had over 40 hrs accrued toward next year's fair, just gaining potential sponsors and doing a recap of the past fair. Stating now is the time to get the fair planned

The President called for a table of this topic and asked the following board members to investigate the situation. Vicki Ashley, Teddy Franke and Ken Polehn and report back at the next meeting.

Insurance Clarification: Vicki Ashley for a clarification of the requirements for insurance on different events at the fairgrounds. Wanted to know if you

were having a family picnic, are you required to have the 1million/2 million dollar insurance coverage? The reply from County was yes, but per Tyler Stone, event policies can be written relatively cheaply. Vicki Saltee stated you can use your home owners policies. Ali Postlewait said the insurance could also be based on the assessed risks of the event.

President Kramer said that he will have the legal and insurance departments attend the next meeting to clarify the questions.

Camping: No report

4-H Report: Leah Ashley reported that she feels the fair went rather smoothly, parking was better, but communications still need to be improved. Thinks the selling of additional wrist bands to adults of 4-H before the fair would help(possibly include in the camping package). Thanked the Fair board and County employees for the handling of events during the fair. Feels there needs to be a safety meeting before the fair of the principal parties.

Release time traffic was discussed as it fell at the same time as the public were still trying to access the fairgrounds. Parking and egress of the grounds will be discussed at a later date, with a possible solution using the roadway behind the buildings as a exit way.

Suggested that the campgrounds be surveyed and determine which spots could accommodate 2 cars parking. This would be very helpful for the 4-H participants.

President Kramer stated that an entire meeting should be delegated to camping and parking.

Kids Games: no report

Demolition Derby: Leslie Douglass thanked the entire Fair Board and her helpers for a successful derby. Stated that she enjoyed working with the Fair manager and the volunteers who helped her. Thought that the crew was great to work with and is already working towards next year. Asked the Board if she had the support of the board to do so. A verbal vote of approval was given by all board members.

President Kramer thanked her for her willingness to take the Derby on and get it organized.

Native American Activities: Butch David gave a report of activities. Stated that the social dancing was attended by a small crowd but gained as the event progressed. He stated that he has a volunteer to help with the Native Events next year. He was able to gain 98 new teepee poles and that many families didn't know of the new poles and have expressed a desire to bring teepees next year.

WHR- Butch has gained the names of insurance companies from other rodeos that he can contact in attempting to find cheaper liability insurance. He had donations for the WHR shirts which were made for the racers, with extras due to not having Saturday night, so gave them to different donors and fair board members.

Rodeo: Butch David reported that Friday went well. Teddy Franke has received very favorable feedback on the condition of the arena. Said that he has the amount of water figured out to the ground. The entire board expressed how fantastic the drone show was and received. Ken Polehn was very pleased with the overall success of Friday night's presentations.

General Comments of Fair Evaluation:

Betty Odom reported on how happy the parents were with the free kids games. Thanked Nikki for getting them. They always seemed to be full.

Teddy Franke reported that a group of teens from Camp Morrow came down and helped clean the grounds, beginning before the storm was even over.

Nikki Lucas, Fair Manager reported that the Rodeo Announcer said that due to Saturday's performance being cancelled, he will give us the same rate next year. She was also very pleased with how well the Kids Games were used and the general feeling of the parents.

Possible agenda for the next meeting:

Insurance
Open Class report
Camping
Parking
Kids Games

Next meeting will be October 9, 2024 at 6 pm at Tygh Valley.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Submitted by Vicki Ashley, Secretary

Accepted by 
Date 10-9-2024