

Archuleta County Fair
Minutes of the Board Meeting
April 29, 2020

The Board meeting was held via Zoom Online Conferencing. Jason Cox called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Roll Call was taken verbally. Present were Jason Cox, Shelly Cox, Sharon Jennings, Kent Jennings, Tim Vail, Lisa Vail, Kerry Keegan, Lesley Mattingly, Tonya Steadmon, Debbie Condrey, and Robin Young. A quorum (8 of 14) was present. The goal of the meeting is to present ideas for the 2020 Fair and to review changes to the Bylaws.

Budget & Financials: The 2020 Fair budget had previously been approved by the BoCC. As of this date, the Fair hasn't been advised of any cuts to the Fair budget by the County. We will err on the side of caution as we continue our planning in the event cuts are made. Robin suggested that the BoCC be emailed the Fair Board's ideas for 2020 Fair operations; they may have input.

Committee Reports:

- a) Rodeo—Kerry confirmed with Bill Carey that he is 'good to go' with the Bulls/Broncs/Bares event and the Kids Rodeo, but probably not doing a Ranch Rodeo. Robin suggested that the terms and scope of the RFP be modified and sent to Bill with a summarized copy of the changes sent to Todd Weaver, the County attorney. Kerry will take care of this.
- b) Livestock--Minutes from their last meeting will be requested because we did not have a representative attend. Tonya will begin attending their meetings in May. A representative from the Livestock committee will be invited to attend an occasional Fair Board meeting so they are kept up on the Board's activities, especially between now and July while the Fair's status is in flux.
- c) Royalty—Debbie shared concern that getting publicity out, obtaining photos, and doing interviews might be difficult. Others felt it was important for the youth that we have the program so they had something to be involved in. Due to Debbie's pending move, another Board member needs to be mentored to take over as head of the committee. Carol Kelly and/or Cindy Snarr were suggested as they'd helped in the past. Tonya said she will step in to ensure the program continues. This program is open to all youth in the area. Facebook is not accessible to everyone so other ways to publicize, including a radio announcement and/or newspaper press release were suggested. Interviews could be conducted by an email questionnaire or a Zoom meeting. It was suggested that applicants create a short video about themselves including answers to a list of committee questions.
- d) Honorees—Sharon has interview data from the Super Superintendent, Alvin Schaaf, and from the Super Volunteer, Kathy Fulmer. She hasn't found contact information for the Fair Dedication yet.
- e) Parking/Logistics—At present, there are no changes being made in the east field parking area, but if the Fair operates primarily from the Exhibit Hall area, we could check into using only the current north field overflow parking area as it is closer to the Exhibit Hall and Livestock tent.
- f) Entertainment—All four bands have committed to playing for the Fair on Friday and/or Saturday, but Sharon will wait until we know more about the Fair's status before confirming all details with them.

Old Business:

- a) Bylaws—Three main changes recommended by the Bylaws committee during their last meeting were submitted to the County lawyer, Todd Weaver. These included being able to appoint a replacement officer, being able to conduct a legally binding meeting via electronic means, and including the Fair Coordinator's duties based on the Exhibit A of the contract. His edits were discussed. Sharon will update the Bylaws document and email to all Board members so they can be reviewed prior to the meeting in May where they will either be further amended or approved.
- b) Changes to 2020 Fair—
 1. Shelly reminded us that the dates for Fair are assigned by the State. Thought we can cut back our days, we cannot change the weekend itself.
 2. - 8. These items will be reviewed as part of New Business under a) Review of Proposals for Fair Operations.

New Business:

- a) Five scenarios were submitted. Full details as presented by Shelly and by Lisa & Tim are attached as part of these minutes.
 1. Best case scenario – Two-day Fair (Friday and Saturday)
 2. Next Best Thing – Saturday only (no 4-H shows or projects)
 3. A good thing – Saturday only but we are limited to a group no larger than 50
 4. A sad thing – No fair or any kind of event at all.
 5. A 4-H Focus Fair

Other discussion points and comments-

- Shelly reported that various county and business groups felt it will be possible to reopen by August for gatherings of around 200 people.
 - Add Open Class to Option 1.
 - Display only entries that were judged at first, second, and third places after ALL submissions were judged originally. Entries would have to be accepted on Monday, then judged, and then all non-winners would need to retrieve their entries so space would be made available for the winners before Fair.
 - Options 3 and 5 could possibly be combined as days, size, etc. are developed.
 - Kerry discussed the possibility of having the Livestock show (or parts of it) ahead of the regular Fair date (like the Horse Show and Dog Show). Becky Jacobson has to be contacted to see if that's an option for the 4-H.
 - Tonya obtained a list of the twelve or so tents that we currently rent noting that a number of them were rented for vendors. The final number needed will depend on if we can have vendors share one larger tent, if we can borrow tents from community businesses, etc.
 - Move the Information booth into the Activity tent instead of having a separate tent by the Admissions gate.
 - Move the Admissions tent closer to the Handicap parking area so they can share the same tent (no pop-up would be needed).
 - The Fair is a community event as well as being a showcase for 4-H activities. For equitable use of county tax funds it is necessary to have events of interest to the community as well as for the 4-H. Inter-generational options need to be offered (like in the Educational tent area).
 - The Fair is currently funded in the County system; we don't know if or when funding cuts will be made for the Fair.
 - Sponsorship funding is down and will probably remain so as local businesses are stressed and revenues are down because of required pandemic shut-downs. It is hopeful that we would see individual donations increase from wealthier residents. Jennifer is working on changes to encourage sponsorships even though they may be in lower amounts.
 - If the 4-H opts not to hold the annual Chuck Wagon dinner it is possible that the Fair could solicit a dinner from a local restaurant.
 - Put less wood chips in the Activity tent to make it easier to walk through.
 - Contact LaPlata Electric Association to see if they would donate their 30' x 30' tent to the Fair.
- a) The treasurer will submit their letter of resignation as her time to move is closer.
- b) The president will appoint a replacement. All current board members are asked to consider their interest in serving as treasurer.

The next online meeting will be Wednesday, May 13th at 6:00pm; the CSU building is closed until the end of May so we cannot have a face-to-face meeting there. Jason will send out the link to the Board. Jamie Jones can set up a County Zoom meeting instead of having to use and pay for individual/personal accounts. The decision as to what type of Fair can be presented is expected to be made at the May 13th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Scheduled Board meeting dates: May 13 June 10 July 8, 15, 22
Tentative Fair Dates: Thursday – Sunday, July 30, 31 and August 1, 2

Sharon Jennings
Recording Secretary

Approved May 13, 2020 as corrected to add Debbie Condrey to attendees list.