

Archuleta County Fair
Minutes of the Board Meeting
October 13, 2021

The meeting, held at the CSU Extension building, was called to order at 6:15pm by president, Kerry Keegan. A quorum of members (7 of 10) was present: Kerry Keegan, Stetson Keegan, Sharon Jennings, Jennifer Smith, Tim Vail, Lisa Vail, Tonya Steadmon, and Alexa Martinez.

Special Item: 1) A motion to hire Alexa Martinez as our 2022 Fair Coordinator was made by Stetson Keegan, seconded by Sharon Jennings, and approved by voice vote. 2) The Board needs to look at the flow of the fairgrounds to make it easier to find the Hughes Pavilion, the Market tent, etc. 3) It is not necessary to set up a fenced area for VIP parking on Auction night; it was not used in 2021; traffic cones and ribbon should be sufficient. 4) There has been no updated information on the Hott Trust and WHEC renovations. 5) When talking to acquaintances or others in the community, Board members should be on alert for a volunteer to serve Fair throughout the year handling a range of office functions and other efforts.

Minutes: A motion to approve the September 8, 2021, minutes was made by Lisa Vail, seconded by Tim Vail, and approved by voice vote.

Treasurer: Kerry said the Board of County Commissioners encouraged the Fair to apply for 501(c)(3) status; the actual code may change as this is for a charitable non-profit organization; we might not meet those criteria. Fair would become a separate entity from the County. It was unclear how any Fair fundraisers might affect the County and who would benefit if Fair became its own entity. Mary Helminski at the County would assist us temporarily with taxes and other required paperwork. A professional on that subject (whether Mary, the Chamber of Commerce, or someone else) should be asked to speak at a future meeting (November) about the ramifications.

The County said the budget presented to them looked good. Fair was short about \$3,000-\$5,000 in expected revenue. Rodeo gate fees and entry gate donations were good. Donation containers should be placed at various staffed locations at the next fair.

There were issues getting Fair's credit card activated. We need it for smaller required payments.

Committee Reports:

c. Rodeo – Great feedback was received about not having to pay a Fair admission which allowed many to purchase rodeo tickets. A new company located in California was contacted to make up twenty-five adult sized belt buckles for rodeo's; the cost was one third the usual cost and they were quite easy to work with. Kerry arranged for some of the buckles to be picked up and some were shipped out.

e. Parking/Logistics – Tim wants to find an easier way to hire contract laborers, so we are not constrained by the County's hiring timeline.

f) Livestock – If Fair becomes a 501(c) entity, our relationship with the Livestock committee may be affected. Determining which group pays for what items must be reviewed.

Old Business-

a. 2021 Budget: 1) Stetson will contact Becky Taylor at the High School about having the technology department reweld the axles, etc. on the Kids Train. 2) Toilet Paper dispensers should be purchased by CSU and WHEC rather than Fair as these items are used year-round, not just at Fair. 3) Bakers Racks and Wine/Beer display racks need to be researched. 4) Kerry will order the laptop requested for the Exhibit Hall; it was added to the 2021 budget purchase list.

