



**DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD  
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024  
MULTI-PURPOSE BARN SOUTH  
MINUTES**

Dean Elliott - Chairperson, called the Douglas County Fair Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on April 18, 2024. The meeting was held in the Multi-Purpose Barn South. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

***Board Members Present:***

*John Adams  
Pat Candelaria  
Scott Candelaria  
Dean Elliott  
Jennifer Foss  
Tom Harris  
Wes Jacobs  
Debbie Mills  
Phil Riesselman  
Gabe Ryan  
Pat Salazar  
Hayden Schmidt  
Pam Spradlin  
Lora Talbert  
Rob Tkach  
Gary Turner  
Lisa Turner*

***Associate Members Present:***

*James Jamison  
Scott McHenry  
Kyle Moore  
Patti Russell  
Dick Sabulsky  
Jean Sabulsky  
Lori Sorenson  
Ted Sorenson  
Monica Wilson*

***Other Guests Present:***

*Marcus Ballinger  
Tori Checkal  
Sofia Foss  
Mercedes Glenn  
Tristin Hastings  
Danny Talbert*

***Staff Members Present:***

*Zach Burns  
Tim Hallmark  
Teresa Kutt  
Michelle Mannes  
Tori Thelen*

***Board Members Absent:***

*Sarah Fischer*

***Associate Members Absent:***

*Ben Alderton  
Nick Candelaria  
Matt Coyle  
Deb Dilley  
Josiah Fredericks  
John Holst  
Ryan Kennedy  
Chayce Lutz  
Chris Spyke  
Kate Wormington*

**6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****Public Meeting**

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Approval of the Last Meeting Minutes:** Pat moved to approve the March minutes. Scott seconded. There was no discussion. All were Approved.

**Consent Agenda:** Gary moved to approve the consent agenda. Lisa seconded. No discussion. All approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Wes reported a total income of \$105,000, with a total budget of \$1,500,000. There are no questions.

**Reports From Other Groups**

**FFA:** No representative present.

**CSU Extension:** From Mercedes Glenn, 4-H Agent:

“We are hosting the District Three Jamboree this weekend. Youth aged 8-10 will come from Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Jefferson, and El Paso County. We are excited to host this event to increase participation. Spring is in full swing for 4-H!

Jacie is working on the Nationally Nominated Art of Ranching Project, which will be happening this summer with two youths.

Mercedes is working with the State 4-H Horse Work Team to implement changes to the horse-level progression and improve record books for horses and livestock, which will be implemented this fall.

We held the first miniature horse clinic on April 6th. Eleven out of the 12 youths in the program attended to work with their mini companions over obstacles, jumps, and showmanship and discuss grooming requirements for the miniature horse project.

Animal ID deadlines are fast approaching for all breeding animals, cats, llamas, and market swine.

Project add drop deadline approaching.

Meat Quality Assurance will be held on May 2 & 3

Goat/Sheep tag-in will be on May 14th

In full swing, we are preparing youth for educational opportunities this summer as they work towards exhibiting at the county fair.

Guinevere is working with Mesa Middle School and Castle Rock Parks and Trails Foundation to implement afterschool programming that gives students opportunities to access their neighborhood open space.

**4-H Youth Council:** Marcus reported upcoming events for the Youth Council, including MQA Training and the June Show (June 7 & 8). As of now, all superintendents and assistants have been elected for the June Show.

**4-H Foundation:** Patti Russell reported that eight scholarships will be given away in May—six four-year college scholarships, one two-year college scholarship, and one trade school scholarship. The Foundation hopes to get more kids involved next year.

**Fair Foundation:** Debbie reported that the Cowboy Ball will be held on Saturday, May 11. There will be a cigar bar and a wine & whiskey tasting. Pat bought a few high-end whiskeys through donations for the event. The Leg Up Program has invited all 4-H kids to their upcoming ice cream social instead of just Leg Up participants, hoping to get more kids to apply for the program in 2025.

Dean informed the Board that the Sheriff's Office lost Sergeant Michael Duffey. Please send condolences and keep them in your thoughts.

### Regular Agenda

**Staff Report:** Zach reported that everyone's packet contained a copy of the Fair Schedule and Fair Map. He asked everyone to review them, hoping to spark conversation and help ensure everything was on track.

**Update on First Weekend Activities:** Tori reported that she is feeling good about everything planned. This year, there will be much more free entertainment for families. Farm to Table is all set. The car show will be set up between barns to lead to Farm to Table. The past carnival is returning. The marketplace will be open to the public on the first weekend, and almost all spots will be filled. The Admin Committee will send Event Planning Worksheets out to everyone to get finished and returned early this year. Dean reminded everyone how important the Event Planning Worksheets are and the importance of turning them in early.

**Update on Items Needing Director Input:** None.

### Old Business

**Exceptional Rodeo:** Debbie reported that Developmental Pathways will sponsor two exceptional rodeos in the warm-up arena and provide volunteers. They are very excited about the opportunity to participate in the event.

**Poultry Update:** Hayden reported that no HPAI outbreaks have occurred in Colorado at this time. The Show Management Committee is proceeding with caution and educating exhibitors on biosecurity. HPAI has been found in other states in dairy cattle, dairy goats, and one human. He has no concerns at this time, and they will proceed with an in-person Poultry ID Day on June 9 and in-person shows this year.

**Review Schedule:** Dean encourages everyone to look at the schedule and map provided to ensure everyone is on the same page and knows what is happening. There will be time to review at every Fair Board meeting; however, he asked everyone to review in the upcoming committee meetings.

Zach informed the Board that the Coordinators had put a lot of work into all the lines on the schedule, and it would be very helpful to ensure that nothing was missed.

Tori presented maps and floor plans of the Marketplace, Kirk Hall, and Main Entrance Parking Lot. For the First Weekend, the front half of the Marketplace will be closed to the public before Open Class exhibits are ready to be displayed. The overhead map will help orient people to everything going on during the Fair.

Teresa presented two schedules, one with everything on it and the other with just public events. As requested, she added the column for a Fair Board contact. She asked that everyone review that column closely, and if you are listed but not the lead, please assign someone. The public schedule will be what is reflected on the website.

Michelle reminded everyone that a separate schedule for 4-H members will be posted on the website's competitions page.

Hayden asked if camping would be the same this year. Dean clarified that, yes, it would be the same. However, load-in logistics will be a little different due to Farm to Table.

Dean told the Board that Zach and the team are working on a parking plan. When that comes out, we must adhere to it for it to work.

**Superintendent Approvals:** Hayden moved to approve the Assistant Superintendents: Jeff Surry, Dustin Nagel, Joey Brock, and Patti Russell. Lisa seconded. No discussion. All approved.

**Competition Rule Update:** Hayden presented amended General Projects and Dog rules from the Colorado State Fair to the Board. Class numbers and names have changed and will need to be updated. Hayden moved to approve the changes to the General Projects section. Scott seconded. Michelle clarified the importance of promoting the State Fair and how this will help after the Fair, too. Pat asked if this would affect awards at all. Hayden clarified it would not affect awards. All approved.

Hayden reported that the Dog Department's rules will more closely follow the state dog show rules. Mercedes clarified that the State Fair added that the superintendent can remove aggressive dogs if needed. Choke chains should be added to all disciplines except Agility. Hayden moved to approve. Phil seconded. All approved.

## **New Business**

**Director Applicants:** Dean asked Lori Sorenson and Scott McHenry to step outside momentarily. The Nominating Committee met with five candidates to fill three open Director positions. The recommendation is to bring Lori Sorenson and Scott McHenry to the board as new Directors. If the Board approves, the recommendation will go to the BOCC in May.

Dean clarified that the Board is currently filling two of the three spots for the best fit and the candidate's current involvement. The Nominating Committee works hard to ensure the candidates know what they are signing up for and have previously volunteered at the Fair. All approved.

### **Other Business**

Tim reported that the BOCC has requested to hold a Fairgrounds Master Plan Town Hall on Thursday, May 16, from 6-7 pm at the Miller Building. They would like two Fair Board Directors and a few Fair Foundation Directors as panelists. This would overlap with the Fair Board meeting in May. It is recommended that the Fair Board meeting be moved to Thursday, May 23. The Executive Committee meeting will stay on May 9. Hayden moved to approve the date change. Scott seconded. All Approved. Pat asked to move the Awards Committee to May 23 before the Fair Board meeting.

Hayden brought a recommendation to the Board for the Sheep Tag-In process. Hayden recommends retinal scanning all market lambs and documenting and tracking them this year to use as a secondary ID. All other animals have secondary identifications except for sheep. Currently, the State Fair requires retinal scanning of all animals; however, they will move away from retinal scanning after this year and move to DNA testing. DNA testing can take up to two weeks to get results back on, whereas retinal scanning is immediate. Mercedes and the CSU Extension Office are willing to help read the retinal scans and use their equipment. With that being said, there is a cost associated with the scan. Currently, State Fair animals currently pay \$5/scan. CSU will charge \$3/scan of all other market lambs. Hayden would ask that the Fair Board pay this fee for the first year. If we continue this for years to come, the Board can discuss where the funds would come from. E-ID tags are also an option for the future. However, that discussion will be tabled until after the Fair this year. Hayden moved to approve the retinal scanning of all market lambs. Phil seconded. All approved.

### **Director Comments:**

Dean congratulated Lori and Scott on their recommendation to the board. Both thanked the Board and expressed their excitement about being Directors.

**Adjournment at 7:32 PM.**

**Next Meeting: May 23, 2024**

**Rules for Citizen Engagement at Fair Board Meeting**

To have orderly, efficient, civil, and productive board meetings, the following rules apply to all citizens that have a desire to address the Board:

1. Citizen comments will be heard during the public comment section at the board meeting.
  2. All citizen comments must be addressed to the Board. Directing comments to staff or other members of the public is not permitted during Board meetings.
  3. Public comment section is limited to ten minutes collectively.
  4. Citizens are asked not to repeat comments made by others; merely indicate their concurrence.
  5. Citizens will be asked to use a microphone so that Board members and the audience can hear their comments.
  6. Clapping, cheering, booing and the like are not permitted at Board meetings.
  7. Failure to abide by the aforementioned rules of engagement is considered disruptive to the public process and will result in a warning to the violation citizen(s) by the Board Chair. If after that warning the citizen(s) continues to violate these rules, they will be asked to leave the meeting. If the citizen does not leave the meeting when asked, the appropriate steps will be taken by the Board Chair to have them removed from the meeting.
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**Mission Statement:** The Douglas County Fair and Rodeo is the premier annual community event in Douglas County bringing together the best of Rural Heritage, Agriculture, Western Sports, Youth and Adult Exhibits and quality Entertainment.