



**DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

**THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024**

**JAMES R. SULLIVAN EVENTS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOMS**

**MINUTES**

Dean Elliott - Chairperson, called the Douglas County Fair Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on May 23, 2024. The meeting was held in the James R. Sullivan Events Center Conference Rooms. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

***Board Members Present:***

*John Adams  
Pat Candelaria  
Scott Candelaria  
Dean Elliott  
Sarah Fischer  
Jennifer Foss  
Tom Harris  
Scott McHenry  
Debbie Mills  
Gabe Ryan  
Pam Spradlin  
Lori Sorenson  
Lora Talbert  
Rob Tkach  
Gary Turner  
Lisa Turner*

***Associate Members Present:***

*Nick Candelaria  
Josiah Fredericks  
Ryan Kennedy  
Kyle Moore  
Patti Russell  
Dick Sabulsky  
Jean Sabulsky  
Ted Sorenson  
Chris Spyke*

***Other Guests Present:***

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

***Staff Members Present:***

*Lauri Anderson  
Zach Burns  
Sharon Hines  
Teresa Kutt*

***Board Members Absent:***

*Wes Jacobs  
Phil Riesselman  
Pat Salazar  
Hayden Schmidt*

***Associate Members Absent:***

*Ben Alderton  
Matt Coyle  
Deb Dilley  
John Holst  
James Jamison  
Chayce Lutz  
Monica Wilson  
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 C. moved to approve the April minutes. Pam seconded. There was no discussion. All were Approved.

**Consent Agenda:** Gary moved to approve the consent agenda. John seconded. Scott and Pat opposed it. Dean remarked that after the fair, there would be a discussion on using the consent agenda procedure at Fair Board Meetings. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Wes was absent. Dean commented that the overall budget for the Fair has increased to \$1.2 million and appreciates the hard work of the Fair Board to grow the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo. He also encouraged the board to visit the website to see the number of events and activities that the Fair has scheduled this year.

**Reports From Other Groups**

**FFA:** No representative present.

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

Goat and sheep tag-ins went well, including the retinal scans.

Avian Flu Update: Biosecurity is important to emphasize, but no specific recommendations have been provided for Fair. The virus has been seen in dairy cows and goats. The only reported incidents in Colorado have been in Weld County. This is a developing situation, and 4-H will respond as necessary.

**4-H Youth Council:** Tristin reported that 4 scholarships have been awarded. Volunteers are needed for the June Show, specifically for set-up on June 6 and teardown on June 9. Volunteers can just show up.

**4-H Foundation:** Patti reported 8 scholarships passed and will be working on a grants project.

**Fair Foundation:** The Cowboy Ball was a success, and Debbie thanked everyone for attending. The Foundation will pay for this year's live-streaming service. Pat C. mentioned that Ghost Town Hoe Down will not take place this year; instead, planning for a Golf event is in the works.

**Regular Agenda**

**Staff Report:** Zach reported that the 2025 budget process is underway and asked that the Board start considering budget requests. The budget will be added to the June meeting's agenda.

**Old Business**

**Competition Rules:** Rob motioned to amend the 2024 Competition Rules for the Sheep Department to add Sec.1(F): "Fans are allowed for the sheep department subject to the requirements as determined by the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management." Pat C.

seconded. Tristin asked why fans were not allowed in the swine barn. Scott said that the swine barn has a cooling system and that the hogs tend to eat the fan's electrical cords. All approved.

**Master Plan Townhall Recap:** The audience at the Town Hall was comprised of many youth sports advocates. Zach observed that the primary misunderstanding was the timing of the Master Plan. The Commissioners clarified that no sports fields would be removed without a solution. On June 27, Parks & Trails and Historic Preservation will hold a Town Hall for further discussion.

### **New Business**

Dean asked each committee Chair to provide an overview of what is new or changed for the 2024 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo:

**Show Management:** Rob reported that the poultry show is back. There will be a new show ring, and the Mini-Horse Department will debut this year.

**Livestock Sale:** Pat C. reported that a new, donated sales ring will be installed, and the layout of the Pavilion for the sale has been rotated. The auction block will now face opposite the hog barn, and staff is working on a cover between the hog barn and the Pavilion for animals to line up under. Steps were added behind the Pavilion to the Buyer's tent, and there will be a bar in the tent this year.

**Entertainment:** Sarah reported that Farm-to-Table will be inside the Pavilion. The Midway will host more entertainment and food vendors will be consistent over the two weekends.

**Marketing & Sponsorships:** Jen and Debbie reported that sponsorship revenue has reached \$300,000. Marketplace will have a new layout, with vendor booths in the rear of the Event Center and Open Class, General Projects, and Ag/Flori in the front half. Vendor revenue has increased from \$7,000 to \$20,000 in 2024. The Foundation will pay for live-streaming expenses and hopes to expand next year to include more shows. The Rodeo Clown Reunion is returning to the Douglas County Fair.

**Admin:** Lora reported that Admin's goal is to improve Work Day and that shirts orders were taken online this year.

**Rodeo:** John reported that Slack has been extended over three days, Thursday - Saturday.

**Guest Services:** Gary reported that the Farmer's Market shifts will comprise a mix of Fair Board members, allowing a greater knowledge base to be present each weekend.

**Other Business**

Debbie motioned to approve Lora Eaton as an Associate board member to assist with the Royalty program. John seconded. No discussion. All approved.

Rob motioned to approve Georganne Kinnunen as an Open Class assistant Superintendent for Quilts for the 2024 Fair. Scott seconded. No discussion. All approved.

Douglas County Fair Entry opens Wednesday, May 29, 2024, and all entries are due Friday, June 14, 2024, at 5:00 pm. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Rob stated that Fair Board policies specify that Officers should be elected or re-elected in June of every even-numbered year. The election will take place at the June meeting, and new terms will begin in October.

Pam provided edits to the Fair's Master Schedule. Pat C. requested that the schedule be sent out in Excel so that Fair Board members can sort and search easily. All committees should have changes collected by the June Fair Board meeting.

Pat C. reported \$7500 in unsponsored awards and encouraged Fair Board members to sponsor Awards. If you have committed to sponsoring an award, please send payment.

Dean mentioned individual schedule assignments for Directors during the Fair were being created.

**Adjournment at 7:10 PM.****Next Meeting: June 20, 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.