

FAIR BOARD REGULAR MEETING
August 2nd, 2018
Lane Events Center, Meeting Room #2, 7:30 am

Thwing	Harris	Cosio	Deedon	Speer
Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Present

Others Present:

Corey Buller – Division Manager/Fair Manager, Lane Events Center
 Rachel Bivens – Marketing Manager/Assistant Fair Manager, Lane Events Center
 Layne Pendleton – Office Assistant, Lane Events Center
 Gary Williams – Lane County Commissioner
 Dan Hurley – Public Works Director (late arrival)

1. ITEMS FROM THE COMMUNITY:

None.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Staff informed board that a new Events/Fair Coordinator, Lauriene Madrigal, has been hired and will start on Monday, August 20th. The team is thrilled to welcome her.

ACTIONS/DIRECTIONS:

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 5th 2018

MOTION: René Speer		COMMENTS: René Speer moved to approve the July 5 th minutes as written. Sascha Cosio seconds. No discussion. All in favor.
SECOND: Sascha Cosio		
VOTE		
Name	Vote	
Randy Thwing	Absent	
Jack Harris	Yes	
Sascha Cosio	Yes	
Brett Deedon	Absent	
René Speer	Yes	

4. FAIR DEBRIEF / DISCUSSION:

Staff provided board with a brief overview of initial Fair numbers; overall the Fair was a success and staff is incredibly happy with how it went.

- a. Attendance for the 2018 Fair was 108,698. While this number decreased slightly from last year, it is well above the last five-year's average. The decline could be attributed to the fact that there were several other events occurring on the same weekend, including Linn County Fair, Bohemian Mining Days, and Relay for Life.
- b. Carnival revenues were about \$400,000 which is almost even with last year.
- c. Food and beverage revenues were approximately \$195,000; this number is slightly higher than last year's revenues.
- d. Concert ticket revenues also a considerable increase and came out to about \$119,000.
- e. Sponsor revenues were almost even with last year's at \$72,500, which is also greater than the last five-year's average.
- f. On Sunday, the Fair again ran it's fundraiser for FOOD for Lane County. This year, 20,169 pounds of food were donated.
- g. The Fair also ran its Pint for a Pass benefitting Lane Blood Center special: 3,236 people donated blood equating to 9,700 possible lives saved.

Staff then opened the floor to the board and public to provide their feedback on the Fair.

General Comments:

- a. Sascha Cosio, Fair Board Member, stated the Fair felt really clean and open this year. She noted things felt full, but not overcrowded.
- b. Sascha Cosio suggested there should be more seating available in the Exhibit Hall. Gary Williams, Lane County Commissioner, agreed with this.
- c. René Speer, Fair Board Member, let staff know she loved the outside seating tents that provided lots of shade for patrons.
- d. René Speer praised staff, specifically Michelle Banks, Youth Fair Coordinator and Emily Anderson, 4-H Program Manager, for all the work they put into the Youth and 4-H areas. This year, so many exhibitors expressed their happiness with hand-shaking and congratulatory

remarks; it has not always been this way in the past and she thanked staff for all of their efforts to achieve this positive atmosphere.

- e. Dan Hurley, Public Works Director, stated he was impressed all the way around. He emphasized the Fair had a fun atmosphere and that patrons appeared to enjoy themselves.

Entertainment:

- a. René Speer loved the Fritter Critters and was happy with their involvement.
- b. Sascha Cosio mentioned Toddler Zone appears to have grown and is a really great thing to have at the Fair.

Food Booths:

- a. Jack Harris, Fair Board President, stated he would like to see more local food vendors at the Fair. Discussion surrounding challenges for local vendors and opportunities to increase local food booth participation.
- b. Emily Anderson suggested 4-H might like to have a food booth in the future to use as a fundraiser for their organization.

Stalls Exhibits:

- a. Jack Harris took time to praise Malcom Trupp, Land Products and Granges Coordinator, for his commitment and dedication to the Fair.
- b. René Speer would like to see more signage on the Wheeler Pavilion indicating that Land Products and Granges are inside.

Youth Fair / 4-H:

- a. Michelle Banks informed board and staff that feedback from the youth side was overwhelmingly positive.
- b. Emily Anderson stated she received almost all positive feedback. She heard that people loved the new swine barn setup and the new area where 4-H animals were located.
- c. Emily Anderson would like to move judging and shows back to 10:00am as some of them ran later than anticipated this year.
- d. Michelle Banks and Emily Anderson affirmed the dance was a success and they hope to do it again next year. Discussion surrounding the possible change of location and security measures.
- e. Michelle Banks said move-out was incredibly calm and organized. She praised Emily Bol, Events/Fair Coordinator, for all of her efforts to make this possible.

Awards:

- a. Emily Anderson asserted many individuals were confused by the Fair Board Awards; kids were thrilled they received them, but they didn't understand what they were for. She requests to add a small card to the award or ribbon explaining what it is.

Security:

- a. René Speer praised security. She was pleased with how they handled several situations and asserted they were much better than in year's past.

Parking / Posse:

- a. Emily Anderson commented parking was difficult for families of individuals showing animals. She found it was challenging for people to purchase weekly passes and when they did, it was for the yellow/orange lots which were far from the barns. Additionally, judges received yellow/orange permits and it was hard for some of them to get where they needed to be. She requested families are able to purchase passes in the green lot and that judges receive a parking pass on the north side of the grounds.
- b. Gary Williams asked staff if there was information or feedback regarding the south parking lot that contains both city and county property. Staff said they are still waiting for a scheduled debrief meeting, but that overall it went well. Positive feedback was received from both the Posse and the onsite auditor. Staff acknowledges that the fence is only a temporary solution; discussion surrounding possible solutions for future Fairs.

Operations:

- a. René Speer would like to see more trash pickup on the periphery of the Fairgrounds during the Fair.
- b. Michelle Banks would like there to be dedicated electricity in the pig area; there wasn't enough power to sustain all in the fans in that area which was difficult on the animals on the warmer days.
- c. Michelle Banks and Emily Anderson expressed their unhappiness with the G Gate being locked this year. Discussion surrounding the challenges of keeping that gate open and possible solutions to those issues.

Fair Dates:

- a. Gary Williams expressed his concern regarding 2019 Fair dates. He requested to have the Fair not overlap with other local events. Staff announced the dates of next year's Fair: July 24-28, 2019. These dates move away from Bohemian Mining Days and hopefully other events as well.

Staff:

- a. Michelle Banks commended Travis Silke, Maintenance Supervisor / Electrician for his willingness to help and assist whenever called upon.

- b. René Speer thanked all of operations for all of their assistance and patience during the Fair. Emily Anderson and Michelle Banks also expressed their gratitude.
- c. Dan Hurley thanked the staff for their support regarding the Public Works area. The public seemed to really like this area and he hopes it can continue in the future.

ACTIONS/DIRECTIONS:

None.

5. OTHER:

- a. Staff informed board of upcoming meetings and debriefs:
 - i. Lane County Fair staff and exhibits departments will have a debrief meetings later this month.
 - ii. Corey Buller, Division Manager/Fair Manager, will be attending the Oregon Fairs Association business meeting at the State Fair.
 - iii. Corey Buller, Rachel Bivens, Marketing Manager/Assistant Fair Manager, and Emily Bol, Events/Fair Coordinator, will be attending The International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) conference in November.
 - iv. The Oregon Fairs Association meeting will be January 9-11, 2019 in Salem, Oregon. All are welcome to attend this meeting.
- b. Dan Hurley shared that the Museum reached a new attendance record this year. This year's numbers were higher than when the Fair was six days as well.
- c. Reminder that September meeting is cancelled. Next meeting will be October 4, 2018.

ACTIONS/DIRECTIONS:

Staff will provide board with updates regarding meetings and items that are discussed.

Meeting adjourned.

X _____
Jack Harris, President

MINUTES ARE DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL APPROVED BY THE FAIR BOARD AT THE NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING