Jefferson County Fair Park February 5, 2015 | Meeting Minutes

The Jefferson County Fair Park committee met on Thursday, February 5 at 8:00 a.m. in the Activity Center Conference Room. Present were: (Fair Committee) Al Counsel, Blane Poulson, Matt Foelker, Russell Kutz, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Fair Park Director David Diestler, Marketing/Administrative Assistants Amy Listle and Leslie Pelikan, Yvonne Duesterhoeft, LaVern Georgson and Troy Klecker.

Let the record show that a quorum is present, meeting duly noted and the door open.

Public Comment & Correspondence: None.

Communications: None.

Review of Agenda

Minutes: A motion was made by Matt Foelker to accept the minutes of the January 15 meeting as presented, seconded by Al Counsel. Motion carried.

Financial Report: David Diestler reported that there were no new financial developments to discuss and only a few minor wrap up expenditures for 2014.

Discussion and possible action on allowing beef cattle with horns to be shown at Fair: Amy Listle presented a review of the current Jefferson County Fair rule stating that all cattle must be de horned to be exhibited at the fair. Blane Poulson explained to the committee that generally Jefferson County Fair follows the guidelines in place at State Fair.

LaVern Georgson presented the difference between a display of horned Highland cattle versus a livestock competition. When the Highlands are on display, often times they are contained within a double fence for safety, rather than appearing in a show ring close to spectators and participants. Georgson pointed out that the challenge at the fairgrounds is having enough space to properly contain horned cattle.

Troy Klecker discussed his own herd of Highland cattle, and noted that the breed is docile in nature. He wanted to ask the committee to consider having horned cattle at the fair to expand the experience of fairgoers and to educate them on the breed.

Following the discussion, Russel Kutz made a motion not to allow horned cattle in competitive judging at the fair. Al Counsel seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Matt Foelker made a motion to explore the insurance risks for a Highland cattle display at fair when room allows. Al Counsel seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on Marketing Partnerships for 2015-2017: None.

Discussion and possible action on Fair 2015: No action necessary. Yvonne Duesterhoeft presented the committee with an opportunity to hire the man that restored an ambulance that played an integural part in World War I. The ambulance would be on display throughout the fair, and the person that completed the restoration would be able to discuss the history of the ambulance. Blane Poulson thanked Duesterhoeft for the presentation and stated that this was not a decision at the committee level, but at the Fair Park staff level. Duesterhoeft will work with Director David Diestler to see if the ambulance display will be a good fit for the fair this year.

Discussion and possible action on Fair Park business: None.

Director's Report: David Diestler is working with Tobin's store in Oconomowoc to move twenty-six display shelves to the Fair Park for use during fair. Grounds crew staff will attach wheels to the displays to make moving them easier. Diestler continues to review and work on on-going projects.

Supervisor's Report: None.

Fair Office Report: Amy Listle reported that after speaking with key participants, the goat show will be moved to Thursday of fair week. This came after requests to review the current time slot.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for March 5, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Activity Center.

With no further business, Blane Poulson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Foelker seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.