Jefferson County Fair Park September 1, 2016 | Meeting Minutes

The Jefferson County Fair Park committee met on Thursday, September 1st at 4:30 p.m. in the Activity Center Conference Room. Present were: (Fair Committee) Blane Poulson, Russell Kutz, Jennifer Hanneman, Matthew Foelker, Ron Buchanan, Fair Park Director David Diestler, Fair Park Supervisor Roger Kylmanen, Marketing/Administrative Assistants Amy Listle and Renee Busshardt, County Board Chairman Jim Schroeder, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Corporation Counsel J. Blair Ward and UW-Extension Agent LaVern Georgson.

A quorum of the Jefferson County Fair Park Committee was present, meeting duly noted and the door open.

Review and Approve Agenda

Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the August 22, 2016 meeting as presented and seconded. Motion carried.

Communications: Thank You letter from the Meat Animal Project Committee, complaint letter about treatment and payment of fair gate workers from Roger Draeger and an anonymous letter with a complaint about Fair judging

Public Comment: Several citizens spoke about the goat issues from the 2016 Fair and for the follow up to the open forum.

Discussion and possible action of goat superintendents: A motion was made by Jennifer Hannemann to meet in closed session and seconded by Ron Buchanan. The committee met in closed session from 4:45 pm to 5:26 pm as to this issue. After reconvening, a motion was made to not renew the superintendent contracts for Amy Heine and Linda Argus. Motion made by Jennifer and seconded by Ron Buchanan, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and possible action of dairy department rules: Bill Uecker presented recommendations for rule changes to the committee. A motion was made by Matt Foelker to accept change #1 allowing cows that were participating in the Holstein and Jersey State Show to come in on Wednesday morning of Fair at the animal feed times. Proof of registration at the Holstein and Jersey State Show would be required.

Recap of open forum topics from meeting on August 30, 2016: Compliments and concerns were reviewed. Discussions were held to determine possible solutions to the concerns. Jim Schroeder announced his plans to present to the Administration and Rules committee. He is proposing the creation of two public seats to the Fair Park Committee. These people would be appointed by the County Board Chairman. He also suggested that an advisory sub-committee be formed to address certain topics.

Financial Report: The financial report from July 2016 was reviewed.

Director's Report: David reported he is beginning to look into entertainment for the 2017 Fair. He will be meeting with Klein Entertainment. A suggestion was made to meet with other entertainment companies as well. David is also reviewing suggestions made at the open forum meeting. Finalizing of the 2017 budget is being worked on along with sponsorships. David stated that the Fair Park Feasibility Study is 75% complete.

Supervisor's Report: None

Office Report: Amy Listle reported that the office staff finished the state report due August 31st. The office is preparing for the Sheep & Wool Festival and compiling materials for winter storage. Amy Listle presented the results from the Fair Survey.

Next Meeting: An Appreciation Dinner is being planned. The next meeting was set for October 6, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Activity Center.

With no further business, Ron Buchanan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Hanneman seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.