

RUSK COUNTY FAIR

March 3, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Jessica Wiles, Darrell Doughty, Katy Olesiak, Charmaine Riddle, Brittney Wiles, Hannah Blackstock, Tammy Loomis, Karla Cole, Nancy Burmeister, Jon Runstrom, Whitney Trott, Terry DuSell and Connie Meyer via phone.

County Board Members: Tom Cudo, John Kalepp

Others present: None

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairman Wiles

PRESENT FROM THE PUBLIC: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Nancy, seconded by Jon R to approve the February 4, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FAIR COORDINATOR/INTERN REPORT:

Brittany gave a report on the following: hiring a professional photographer at a no cost to the fair, bands for 2024 and 2025, Sheep & Goats judge, quote from Fast Signs for Demo Derby checks, sending out thank you cards, posting sponsors on Facebook, updated website and counted ribbons. Brittney is starting to hire judges for the 2024 fair, the Beef judge is requesting \$500 to judge.

Motion by Tammy, seconded by Nancy to approve payment of \$500 for Beef Judge. Motion carried.

Charmaine reported that Give 365 grant is open and due by March 31st.

The Committee discussed options for a mission statement.

Motion by Jon, seconded by Terry to approve the mission statement of "The mission of the Rusk County Fair is to provide opportunities for area youth, members of our community, as well as neighboring communities, to showcase their accomplishments and talents". Motion carried.

Charmaine is requesting to make mini donuts for County Government Day on April 3rd.

Motion by Terry, seconded by Nancy to approve making mini donuts for Government Day. Motion carried.

Gate times – discussed whether to do gate earlier as some of the shows moved up to 8 am. Will have an additional back gate shift from 7 am to 9 am and will block front gate until 9 am.

Charmaine stated she is going to be submitting quotes soon for Porta Potties for fair events. Will order 4 potties and 1 handwashing station for Truck and Tractor Pull and Demo Derby. Fair will stay the same as before.

Charmaine will request standard pay increases for returning fair staff at next JYE and Personnel meeting.

EXTENSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Tom reported that JYE approved contracts for rodeo, Always Available Seating, Half Twisted, Half Knot and Grandpa Cratchet.

FACE PAINTER FOR 2025:

Discussed a contract for the Face Painter for the 2025 Fair.

Motion by Katy, seconded by Nancy to get a quote for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the fair in 2025. Motion carried.

BAND STAND: – Committee members met at fairgrounds to look at potential location of a permanent band stand for the upcoming Fair.

Motion by Jon, second by Karla to build band stand across from Watering Hole and send to the Justice Youth and Extension and Property Committee for approval. Motion carried.

SHEEP BARN IMPROVEMENT: – Committee discussed improvements, Chair Wiles will speak to the Livestock Committee.

WORK DAYS – Discussed scheduling work days. The work day is scheduled for 3 p.m. on April 7th before our next Fair Board meeting.

HORSE SHOW: – Karla, Charmaine and Jess met with 3 horse leaders to work on rules for the upcoming shows during the 2024 Fair.

Motion by Terry, seconded by Nancy to approve going back to a 3-day horse show. Motion carried.

FLAG PROJECT: – Tom received a quote from Freedom Flag and Pole for \$3025.00 for a 30' pole, 5" base tapered and includes installation, excavation and flag. It is the Committee's consensus that it will be installed by the ball diamond and AmVets may be interested in sponsoring the project. Chair Wiles will request approval from Justice Youth and Extension and Property Committees.

RENTING INFLATABLES: – A request from the group that is organizing the Easter Egg Hunt in Bruce to rent our inflatables. Consensus of group is not to rent out the inflatables due to the vast amount of work it takes to transport, operate, clean and store. Chair Wiles will request from JYE to not rent them out in the future

EAST WING BUILDING: – Bids will be opened at the next Property Committee meeting for the East Wing building repair. Fair approved paying 25% of cost, Chair Wiles will ask Livestock to commit 25% to help with the repair.

Motion by Nancy with second by Tammy to commit 25% of cost of the project. Motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

ATV Ride poster will be made soon to include raffles.

Terry would like to talk to new rodeo announcer to build holders for speakers.

Discussed Boy Scout request for tickets along with their sponsorship.

Motion by Katy, seconded by Jon to give the Boy Scouts 75 Grandstand tickets to be used either Friday or Saturday at the 2024 Fair. Motion carried.

Jess announced that AmVets approved the \$6000.00 Title Sponsorship for the Rodeo. Questioned whether we should do a Pine Derby at the fair.

Ag Olympics – Alissa Maier agreed to help Summer Granica with Ag Olympics on Wednesday night.

Sound System – Darrel presented 2 quotes received from Sound Installations. One is for speakers for MP barn will utilize sound system from the announcer booth, a new sound system for MP barn and speakers and additional speakers for track area for approximately \$22,395.00, will be put out for bids and opened at the Property meeting.

Fair will wait to decide until after we find out if rodeo announcer will have their own equipment.

SET A DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING – April 7 at 5:30 in the Senior/Youth building.

ADJOURN – Chair adjourned at 7:57pm