

# **REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLUMAS-SIERRA COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

**October 24, 2018**

## **ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Chance calls the meeting of the Plumas-Sierra County Fair Board of Directors to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Mineral Building at the Plumas-Sierra County Fair Grounds. Directors Abbott, Buckhout, Chance, Neer, Noble and Olson are present. Directors Cardona and Griffin were absent. Fair Manager John Steffanic is present. Administrative Assistant Willo Vieira is absent.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Director Abbott makes a motion to accept the Agenda for October 23, 2018 with the change to Item 11E which should read "Approval of CDFA Standard Agreement 18-0123" regarding the Infrastructure Grant for well improvements. Motion seconded by Director Buckhout, motion carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

July 25, 2018

Motion is made by Director Abbott to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2018 meeting. Motion seconded by Director Buckhout. Motion carried unanimously.

## **INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC**

No Public Present

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Manager Steffanic explained the requirement from F&E and State Rules that every Junior Livestock exhibitor will be required to take an approved course in Quality Assurance and Ethics.

A letter from WFA was shared to make the Board aware that an organization called "Free For Life" has been targeting Junior Livestock exhibitors at other fairs and challenging them to not send their animals to slaughter. WFA has prepared materials to help deal with that situation should it occur. Manager Steffanic has passed on the information to 4H, FFA and the Junior Livestock Committee.

Thank you notes from campers and from CFSA Executive Director Becky Bailey-Findley were shared.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Pets on Grounds

Manager Steffanic shared information defining the difference between a service animal and a comfort animal. Discussion ensued on how to make our policy clearer at events. Specifically during the fair; campers can have pets in their trailer and immediately around it, no pets in the

livestock area and no pets allowed anywhere else by the general public. During the Americana Festival, it was acknowledged that having pets was a way of life for many of the attendees and we should manage the situation rather than try to ban them. Manager Steffanic said there would be signage and designated areas for keeping pets.

#### Infrastructure Grant

Manager Steffanic explained that the infrastructure grant that we received from the State for replacement of the tank and shed of our main well, was redirected toward the replacement of the pump, wiring and casing of that well after the old one failed. There is money left over that will be used to do the same for our second well.

#### Damages

Manager Steffanic also explained the steps that will be taken to protect the new front gate since no less than three people have damaged it with vehicles that were too high. He also reported the storage container was broken into and several items were stolen. A police report was filed, but we are waiting for Oran to return from his hunting trip to get better information as to what was taken.

#### WFA Convention

The WFA convention is January 20-23, 2019 in Reno. There is money for registration of Board members. Director Chance has already signed up and Director Abbott said he would like to go as well.

#### Contract Negotiations

Manager Steffanic updated the Board on pending contract negotiations. High Sierra Music Festival contract has the involvement of County Counsel and the Board of Supervisors and is progressing. Negotiations with AVS have not started as everyone wants to firm up the High Sierra contract first. There was a brief discussion on issues with the FRC Rodeo contract. The Board feels we should be firmer and more specific in our terms if we are going to continue this relationship.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Livestock Committee-

Gennese Valley Ranch contributed \$1200 to the awards fund. The check was delivered by Director Neer.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

#### Fair Foundation-

PSCF Foundation has over \$31,000 in the bank, and has invested over \$22,000 in the Fair since January 1, 2018. There are plans to have a monthly social club gathering in the upstairs lounge to raise money for the Foundation. They plan on investing in a roll up door for the wine bar in Old Town and contributing money or items to the Rotary sponsored project to improve the livestock barns.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### A. Fair Re-cap

Manager Steffanic gave a numbers recap on the 2018 Fair. Attendance was reported at 11,600 with an explanation as to the challenges of getting an accurate figure. He reported Pay What You Can Days as having attendance of 3700. Ticket sales are pretty straight forward, but the question of how you count Family tickets is tricky; you don't know if each ticket brings in 3, 4 or 5 people. Finally, when people return, they go through the turnstile, or are hand counted multiple times. Manager Steffanic did say that the new Point of Sale system offers a much more accurate ticket count and that this year's reported attendance is probably the most accurate he's ever had. Carnival ticket sales and food concession sales were up around 10% over last year, but the exhibit count was down around 7%. The Board agreed that the theme seemed to boost the perception that this was a very successful Fair. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

### B. Americana Festival Re-cap

The 2018 Plumas Homegrown Americana Festival was a success in that it showed the planned growth that was expected. Attendance doubled from the previous year to around 400. Most impressive was camping, where we went from around 7 tent and RV campers, to 15 tent and 31 RV campers this year. Feedback was exceptionally positive, more lessons were learned regarding placement of entertainment, and there were more commercial vendors. The food vendors reported great returns.

### C. Request by Crystal Emsoff to add "All other Breeds" Market classes

A written request was made by Crystal Emsoff to expand some livestock divisions at the Fair. The e-mail that was shared with the Board was very broad, but John explained that Crystal had put forward some more specific suggestions since then, and he had the chance to pass these on to the livestock team; Ron Wilson, Susan Taylor and Desiree Deworski. Similar requests came from other exhibitor parents, and those were passed on as well for consideration. Manager Steffanic asked the team to come up with what they think will work and that will be passed on to the Board for their consideration. Manager Steffanic told the Board that staff has no problem with expanding the division and that money is a very small consideration. Mainly it is a logistical issue; space, time and staffing. The Board should have material well before the next meeting to offer feedback.

### D. 2019 Fair Theme

Manager Steffanic suggested the Board go with an educational theme for the 2019 Fair and offered six choices to the Board. The Board selected "Show What You Grow, Share What You Know" as the 2019 theme. Director Abbott made a motion and Director Buckhout seconded it. Motion carried.

### E. Approval of CDFA Standard Agreement 18-0123

Director Abbott moved to approve execution of CDFA Standard Agreement 18-0123. Seconded by Director Buckhout. Motion carried.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn is made by Director Abbott and seconded by Director Neer. Motion is carried unanimously. The Regular meeting of the Plumas-Sierra County Fair Board will be held on February 27 at 5:00 pm in the Mineral Building at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

I, JOHN STEFFANIC, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2018 MEETING OF THE PLUMAS-SIERRA COUNTY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE ACCURATE AS RECORDED.

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Kenny Chance, Chairperson  
Plumas-Sierra County Fair Board

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John Steffanic  
Fair Manager