

# Uinta County Fair Board

## Minutes

September 4, 2024

Uinta County Fairgrounds Board Room, Uinta County Fairground, Evanston, WY

### In Attendance:

Becky Lupher, Brett Anderson, Brandon Day, Elyse Lopez (the last 20 minutes of the meeting), Andy Rollins (arrived just as meeting ended), Tamara Boglino, Natalie Cornia, Josh Davis, Commissioner Mark Anderson, Jason Palmer, Debbie Fitch, Pete and Erika Lym, Steve and Crystal Sims, Kayne Pyatt from the Uinta County Herald.

**Call to Order:** 7:10 pm, Brandon Day, Fair Board president.

**Agenda:** Approved as presented

**Minutes:** Approved as presented

**Financials:** Brett motioned to accept the financials and pay the bills as presented. Becky seconded. Motion carried

**Public Input:** None

### Committee Reports:

**Livestock Sale Committee:** Jason said that the sale committee is hoping to have a meeting in the next week. Tamara updated that all 2024 invoices are sent and that approximately half of the sale revenues have been received. Tentative totals were discussed, and Tamara said that she thinks the total was approximately \$533,000, but that a report would need to be ran. Tamara relayed Dana Eldridge of High Country Meats appreciation for the changes the LSC implemented this year, as Dana stated it helped things run smoother than in years prior. Jason expressed a need to encourage state fair exhibitors to get kill dates as soon as possible to avoid any butcher issues.

**4-H Comments:** None

**FFA:** None

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner expressed his appreciation for everyone's efforts and that the feedback he's received has also been positive.

**Maintenance:** Josh stated that we'll need some new canopies for next year. Pig barn went well, the scale worked well, and feedback was positive.

**Fair Staff:** Tamara gave a brief summary on the statistics for the 2024 Fair. Food vendor issues were briefly discussed as Josh feels a redesign of the map layout is needed due to some misconceptions of what's available for power. Tamara also indicated that there's a lot of room for growth with commercial vendors. Brandon asked about generators and Josh indicated that also has it's own sets of issues and possible drawbacks. Board and committee members shared that public feedback was resoundingly positive.

Natalie went over the prizes/buckles list and costs. The final total was 284. The Rowdy Rose donated some of the awards/buckles. They wrote off \$20,000 and our amount payable is \$26,385.00. Rowdy Rose also offered a proposal of the Fair buying next years buckles/awards in addition to this years, at the cost of \$80/buckle. Natalie stated that this discount in addition to potentially raising the sponsorship rate up from \$100 to \$120 would offer the board some financial incentives and cushion. Becky asked when they need an answer by and Natalie said they didn't state a time frame. Steve Sims asked if any buckles had been cut, Natalie answered that none have been cut. Debbie asked about the grand champion meat pen of rabbits getting a buckle. She shared that she was told only Supreme qualified for a buckle. Natalie

made the corrections. Sami Matthews asked about cattle boxing for the horse show. It was clarified that High Point for the open shows were also added. Natalie reviewed the buckles. It was decided no buckles for cat and dog classes. Natalie shared that mini horse and performance classes have been streamlined. She requested feedback/suggestions on terminology for the performance rider title. Sami asked if PeeWee buckles could be added. Overall peewee buckle was discussed. The board tabled the decision till next meeting.

### **New Business:**

Fair review and feedback was shared, all of which was positive. Tamara shared that the day prior she had a debriefing meeting with Commissioners, and will provide the same report/statistics to the Tax Lodging Board.

Tamara shared that most fairs vote their dates two to three years in advance for the sake of long vision/stack planning. She also presented the idea of choosing themes for a couple of years in advance. She gave a list of suggested themes. The dates for 2025 and 2026 were presented as July 26th-August 2nd for 2025 and July 25th-August 1st for 2026. Brett motioned to set the dates for the 2025 and 2026 Fairs for those dates. Becky seconded. Motion carried.

Tamara presented the two options for fair entry programs and their comparable costs. The two options are to continue with ShoWorks, but with the caveat that a mandatory upgrade will be required by December at a cost of \$3,995; or Fair Entry with a likely cost of \$1,250. There is a lot to consider in making this decision. Wes Holmes, County IT is willing to come talk to the board about his insights regarding ShoWorks and its structure based on Access. Fair Entry does offer demos, which would be a must to gain more insight on its features. Mark asked about Fair Entry training, Tamara said she'd have to contact them about training and data transfer. Mark suggested contacting Sublette county to see how they did with the transfer/integration. Tamara suggested reaching out to Sublette county to come onsite to look at Fair Entry. Tamara will do more research to assist the board in making the best informed decision possible. Board members were encouraged to go to the Fair Entry website and research/educate themselves on the information provided there.

Tamara reviewed the three conventions that are coming up. Tamara reported that WAF as of now is a question mark. RMAF convention is in Rapid City, SD. The convention hotel is full, airline flights are filling up as well. The approximate cost per person for RMAF would be \$1,000-1200 plus. Registration fees are WAF-\$100/\$125; RMAF \$275 per person before Oct. 18/\$300 after; IAFE is in Phoenix, registration for the 4 day event is \$457 early bird/\$538 after that. Hotels are abundant in Phoenix. Brandon expressed his support for the benefits of going to RMAF. Tamara concurred on the benefits of the investment of going. Becky stated she feels the board should send someone. Brandon, Tamara and Natalie indicated they can make it happen. Becky and Brett said they likely could not. Tamara stressed that having board members present is very helpful. Tamara said if she decides to attend WAF she'll either cover it or reach out to the board. The board tabled the decision till the October meeting.

Becky motion to adjourn. Brett seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm

**Next meeting Oct 2, 2024 in Mountain View, WY**