

HCYLA Meeting

Meeting started at 5:45 pm

Attending - Ann Becker, Nicole George, Shane Otley, Amanda Tyler, Dr Katy Wallace, Gretchen Bates, Dr Masie Custis, Melissa Ward, Jay Nelson, Dave Bohnert, Steph Falkner, Melissa Mchallanon, Abby O'Toole, Katlen Schimmelegne, Diana Davis, Ann Langenfeld

Meeting minutes from October were approved and Dave Bohnert moved to approve them.

Nicole reported about going to the fair board and presenting what the needs are for the new facilities.

Treasures report - As we did not meet in November and December, the treasurer's report comined both months. Current balance \$77,216.02. Melissa M. donated \$36 for pass the pants that she had gathered

New Fairboard Liason - Jay Nelson - nothing to report.

Financial - The next meeting, February 13th will be the budget meeting. All sub committee needs to come up with their budgets prior to the meeting.

Sponsorship Request - Harney County Junior Livestock Camp and Livestock Show (July 19-20). Last year we donated \$1,000, this year - motioned to donate \$1,750 by Dave, Gretchen seconded it. Motion passed. Showman will help advertise the up coming show. There is a goat show of 400 entries that work with special ed children. Eventually, the goal is to include goats in future camps and shows. Donations help cover judges fees and hotels, food, and participant t-shirts (covered partly by entry fees). Shane's recommendation is to cover the judges expenses. Per judge costs ranged from \$580 to \$830 in 2023. Dave suggested that their be a hard certain amount given each year. At the event, a thank you letter writing class could be added.

Board Nominations - 2 year Terms. No nominations from the floor.

New Secretary - Autumn Toelle-Jackson

Show Chair - Diana Davis

Both will be added as managers of the Facebook Page.

Board and Committee highlights should occur throughout the year, please get highlights in by March 1st so we can let people who is on the board for the show and auction.

Weigh in dates - posted on Facebook

Judges - Diana has spoke to Jordan and he will be wiling to come back and will freshen up on diary goat knowledge. Linn Mayfield has been dragging his feet, so we are looking for someone else. Still looking for a small animal judge.

Add-on Discussion - 2 parents of kids approached Shane, concerned that we were losing bidders because so many people are doing add-ons. Shane said an option could be to add money to the auction bidding (multiple people purchase one animal). Concern is that it will restrict the kids that don't get many bidders to start with. Are they capping the add-ons anywhere? Amanda says its different every year. Discussion continued about why buyers do add-ons instead of bidding. Easier and quicker. Most people can't afford an animal by themselves, but can do an add-on. Gretchen suggested more awareness/recognition for the buyers with the newspaper, etc. Nicole brought up reaching out to the bigger buyers and using the newspaper (other?) to show how his purchase helped his business and we could help advertise the businesses, potentially making it more beneficial to buyers. Melissa mentioned use of the county collaboratives to help get the word out about the auction and how they can help buyers come and participate. Dave brought up the lunch that we provide for the buyers before the auction, how to acknowledge buyers and show appreciation for the buyers more!! Show true appreciation. Most buyers have a budget and already have it set as to what they can buy. 4H clubs and independents could write articles and highlight their buyers to put in the paper/facebook. Future option - use the online auction option to help buyers have more access. It was mentioned there may be lag time with using online bidding. Buyers gifts are huge and a thank you with a handshake are appreciated by the buyers. Dave liked pictures of animals with buyer boards. How to continue to help the buyers with advertising, buy a spot on the radio and say their name on a rotation basis until the next fair. The radio has offered free advertising for the kids and the auction. Only acknowledge the buyers and not the add-ons, to hopefully increase the buyers.

Fairgrounds facility improvement/expansion -

1. Got the go ahead in getting donations from the fairboard - Need to continue fundraising efforts. Pass the pants theme. Several civic groups that want to donate but they want children to come to help present. 2 kids from each club. First one is Feb 15 at 6pm for the Auxiliary Women's American Legion. Grant hunting and applications are occurring, Christine and Abby O'Toole are helping with that to get funds
2. Need to narrow it down to 3 distributors about supplying the panels - Options: Big R, Central Oregon Ranch Supply, Pioneer Feed, Oregon Trail, Lebanon Auction Yard, Burns Feed and Farm Supply, Andersen Valley have 2 people to present at meetings. Big R said that he will deliver them here at no cost and it will come straight from the manufacturer to help alleviate overhead. Dave suggested Build a simple packet to send out exactly what we need so its easy for them to know exactly what is needed. Amanda suggested that maybe each business could do sponsor each group. It will need to be purchased from one business or manufacturer to keep it simple. It needs to be collaborative with the fairgrounds for the panels that can be used for more than one use. Are there businesses that are willing to buy plaques to donate towards the panels? One main contact person to be the one to contact businesses to deliver the packet and talk to them about what's needed. Two main contacts can be Katlen and Shane. Ask Chance if they have mapped it out as to what they need to have for rodeo use also. Melissa shared that once we have half - \$150,000 she has a client that know 2 potential donors that can cover the other half.

It's important to remember this is a county project and the fairboard and the 4H/auction committee and are all working for one thing. Everything is for everyone. This needs to be clarified to the donors that anything that is on the fairgrounds and is kept there on the grounds becomes the property of Harney County for use by all. The county and Fairboard cannot move the livestock show and auction out of that building.

Shavings - Fairgrounds paid for the shavings. Somebody said you need to get the shavings out or pay rent on it. We need to go to the board can we have a container to store stuff and pay rent? The final say is the County Court on whether we can have a container on the other side of the pavement.

Jay brought up that it's looking like the community center is going to be more horse focused and the livestock show may be moved to another area. Lots of discussion about how the real use of the community center maybe just for rodeo and livestock show will be moved to the back.

Nicole is requesting to be on the agenda at the fairboard meeting to ask and get a commitment for the week of fair for the livestock show.

Fair dates to change - overflow of animal processing - Buermans will be an ODA kill facility by 2025, Russels can only do the first weekend in August and will be ODA kill certified by 2025, Morrisons in Vale can take animals, Butcher boys can't do it because too many fairs already happening. Buermans will know in March if they get the grant to get ODA certified but it's not a sure deal. Shane will let the fairboard know that it's pending. Butcher Boys is full all of August.

First weekend of August would be about the only possible date. All donated goes to Butcher Boys and then most of them are processed at Buermans only killed at Butcher Boys and then hauled back.

If the date changes to first week it will take several years to adjust the breeding schedules of animals.

Possibly try splitting the date with the rodeo, have the rodeo August 1st weekend and the livestock show keep it the same. Still new and different have events in the old arena. The horse show would still be the same time as livestock show. The time of the auction doesn't disturb the rodeo times.

New meeting day will start in February, second Tuesday of every month. 4-h meeting will be at 5 and Livestock meeting at 6 pm.

Autumn put out email for every second Tuesday at 6pm, with previous minutes.

Dave will make a invite to be recurring for second Tuesday.

Meeting adjourned 7:54 pm.