

Elbert County Fair Board

Minutes

4-21-14

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Ben Duke at 7:07 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall. Those in attendance included Brad Henderson, Dave Rook, Dan Carpenter, Pat Kelley, JW Zion, Kyrei Zion, Vicky Whitman, Sarah Patterson, Kristi Strachan, Russ Steen and Sheila Kelley.

Approval of Agenda:

It was suggested by Carpenter and Duke to include appointing a new secretary under “Old Business.” Agenda was approved with addition.

Approval of Minutes:

The wording in the paragraph on Fair Grounds Report should say “K. Zion reported that she was investigating a couple of avenues to supply Wi-Fi; however, most tended to be very expensive.” The minutes were approved with the change. Patterson/Whitman.

Guests:

Fair royalty Queen Kinsee Dodge and Princess Tara Hyatt, along with their coordinator, Mary Louise Jacobson were guests. The young ladies explained their clinic this weekend and invited all members to attend. Bios and photos will be given to Whitman this week for the fair book. Jacobson reported that there will be no fair book changes. The two teens will be attending the National Western doing WhizKidz promotion on Sunday.

Old Business:

Patterson reported for the publicity coordination committee: Fair FaceBook page is up and running. Jill Duvall looking for publicity for fair. Are there possibly any 4-H’ers who could write stories for publicity? New photos needed; encourage clubs to send photos. Kelley has reserved the electronic Chamber of Commerce sign in Elizabeth for July 28.

Duke stated that the EDCLA BBQ will go out to bid for people catering (3 bids); they should have finalized info after their May meeting. Hickory House in Parker suggested by K. Zion.

Secretary Amy Fordyce was contacted by Duke to see if she planned to continue on the board and as secretary. She said with her current commitments, she would be resigning from the board. Patterson was elected effective as secretary starting in May. Whitman/Carpenter.

Tammi Schneider and Rod Sigmon – names sent on to BOCC if still interested after Ben talks to them one more time.

Fair book changes (not take changes out for swine, just make comments that they are “not applicable” for this year). Whitman and S. Kelley working on it.

K. Zion reported that getting Wi-Fi for the fairgrounds buildings is part of the capital outlay of the county’s IT department. Slated toward end of 2014.

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced the PEDV is now a reportable disease. Information went out to 4-H members regarding the upcoming changes in the swine project for just this year.

Extension/4-H Report:

S. Kelley reported that all three MQA’s were complete, but she hadn’t had a chance to get the data in to know how many members were still needing the class/test. There are only two carcass classes left, both in May.

Fairgrounds Report:

K. Zion asked if there was money in the budget bounce houses and it was confirmed to be available. She said another company had contacted her to see if we wanted to have a human hamster ball – no money this year up front and 15% back to us from ticket sales.

Road & Bridge staff will be providing samples of gravel from pits to have OK’d for beef barn next week.

Commissioner Ross got a call about the Loren Green sign not being replaced on the new grandstands. K. Zion said County Manager Ed Ehmann does not want to set a precedence of permanent signage. Could something be assembled at the green belt area? Group would like to talk to Ehmann at future meeting. Also asked for Ehmann to talk to the Green family and explain situation.

New business:

Open class superintendent – Linda Almquist is stepping down and co-superintendent Debbie Maul is not comfortable being in charge. May need to get someone in to help run open class. S. Kelley asked to send email asking for security needs. Co-superintendent needed to help Maul if possible. Strachan talking to Elbert’s Women’s club. Whitman calling schools to see about kids needing community service.

Lama show same as last year. Becky Leach wondered if there was an interest in a fiber lead contest? The group decided it was too late to add for this year. Start thinking earlier next year.

Duke confirmed that the Cattlewomen would not be sponsoring the small fry/pet animal class. He was going to see if Tammi Schneider would be in charge of pet animal show. Small fry classes are usually handled by the species superintendents. Swine small fry contest tabled to the May meeting.

Marcia Dewerd, fiddle contest coordinator, asked if she needed to come to May fairboard meeting for any reason. After discussion, it was decided that Whitman would contact her for any new information and let her know that she does not need to come to the May meeting.

Duke asked that the county fair theme be sent to all clubs.

Adjourned 8:37 p.m. J Zion/Strachan

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila G. Kelley
Extension Director
Elbert County