

Lincoln County Fair Board Minutes

September 10, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.
225 West Olive St, Room 108
Newport, Oregon

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Chair Frank Geltner called the meeting of the Lincoln County Fair Board to order at 10:00 a.m. Bill Hall and Jim Buisman were present. Kim Herring took minutes.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of July 16, 2015 were approved as presented.

3. **Other Business**

a. **Lincoln County Emergency Services**

Jenny Demaris informed the board of the upcoming Readiness Fair that is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Sep. 12th at the fairgrounds. This is the second year that this event will take place at the fairgrounds. The major sponsor is NW Natural who will provide a lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers. There will be over 30 booths where citizens can receive information to help them be prepared for a natural disaster.

b. **Port of Toledo**

Bud Shoemake came to discuss having the County Fair scheduled on the same weekend as the Toledo Wooden Boat Show. He is worried that there may be some long term negative effects to both events should they continue to be scheduled on the same weekend.

c. **OSU Extension/4H Update**

Todd Williver and Michele Osterhoudt presented a preliminary report on the 2015 County Fair. All numbers included are preliminary only:

13,382 attendees

\$12,800 withdrawn from the rented ATM

\$34,000 in sales at the Food Court

\$23,134 brought in at the 4H Livestock Auction

\$5,000 in ticket sales for the Bull Riding Event – 1,000 tickets were preprinted for bleacher seating and when those were sold out they opened up the gate and allowed standing room only – 1,300 estimated attendees

\$66,000 revenue including contribution from the Fair Fund and \$2,000 collected from donation jars

\$83,000 in expenses

Todd said he was able to make up the difference with money in his 4H budget but they will need to resolve that gap in the future. He mentioned some concerns that were expressed to him by attendees one of which was the subject of Confederate Flags. There was one Civil War display that had a confederate flag and one vendor was selling a confederate flag. He also heard from one person that he/she would not attend the fair in

protest of the Bull Riding event. Todd expressed an interest in continuing to produce the Lincoln County Fair and if so desired by the Fair Board he would go to OSU for authority to move forward. **Mr. Hall moved and Mr. Buisman seconded to direct staff to move forward with an agreement for OSU Extension/4H to produce the 2016 Lincoln County Fair. The vote was taken and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0.** The Fair Board also directed Mr. Belmont to research what should be allowed to be sold at the Fair regarding the Confederate Flag and other potentially controversial items. Possible areas to improve for future events: bleachers, cattle panels, lighting for night events, water system (especially the 4H barn) and continuing electrical issues. The Food Court was without power from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday due to electrical issues. Todd will work with County Staff to come up with a recommended project list for facility improvements to be presented at the October meeting. Michele inquired as to what the requirements were for disabled parking. How many spaces needed? How do you designate each parking spot? Todd underestimated the time it would take to clean up the fairgrounds and appreciated the cooperation of County Staff.

Todd has been working with the Pacific Equestrian Club (PEC) regarding the riding pass program and 4H is willing to manage the riding passes and use the funds collected for future fair events. He has already contacted TCB Security to negotiate a cost for opening/closing the gates for riders should they move forward with this activity. This item will be discussed further at the October meeting. PEC and 4H will work together to hold equestrian events at the fairgrounds. **Mr. Buisman moved and Mr. Hall seconded to authorize Mr. Belmont to negotiate an interim plan and work towards a permanent plan for the riding passes with OSU Extension/4H. This motion also authorizes the Fair Fund to cover any costs for TCB Security that isn't covered by the riding pass fee until a permanent plan can be agreed upon. The vote was taken and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0.**

d. **Update on Redevelopment Plan / Mission Statement**

Mr. Belmont gave an update on the Newport Urban Renewal Plan. There is a minimum of \$3 million included for the fairgrounds and the earliest those funds would be available is 2018. Mr. Geltner read the following mission / vision statement to be voted on at the October Fair Board meeting:

“Our vision is to see the Lincoln County Commons (formerly the Lincoln County Fairgrounds) become an important gathering place for Lincoln County.

Our mission is to offer a variety of venues which will make the Lincoln County Commons a preferred destination for residents and visitors.

Our core values are to respect traditions of the past and cast new directions for the future.

Our strategic areas of focus for the Lincoln County Commons are the activities contemplated in the ORS 565.230: The Lincoln County Commons shall "be utilized to

the fullest extent for pleasure, recreation and public benefit . . . and for the holding of any exhibitions, shows, carnivals, circuses, dances, entertainments or public gatherings."

Our strategic goals are to facilitate the development of venues to realize our strategic areas of focus.

Our action plans will be developed between the Fair Board, the Lincoln County Commissioners and the citizens of Lincoln County."

d. County Staff Update

Amy Howard came forward to seek approval for the Soccer Association to use the fairgrounds again this year for \$400 and it was approved. She also informed the board that the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet won't be held at the fairgrounds next year. She is requesting permission to use one of the "bumps" of the Farmer's Market for the Friends of the Yaquina Lighthouses. She doesn't know what their event is but the board agreed to consider it.

Emily DeHuff from FOLCAS inquired about the possibility of night time lighting and whether it would be automatic or only for certain events. Mr. Buisman said that this will be considered in the infrastructure discussion. She also mentioned that the thrift store staff and customers are very thankful for the newly paved walkway.

4. Adjournment

The next Fair Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Commissioners Conference Room. Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

DATED this 16th day of October, 2015.

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD



FRANK GELTNER, Chair



BILL HALL, Vice Chair



JAMES H. BUISMAN, Member