

Lincoln County Fair Board Minutes

January 14, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
225 West Olive St, Room 108
Newport, Oregon

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Vice Chair Bill Hall called the meeting of the Lincoln County Fair Board to order at 10:05 a.m. Jim Buisman was present. Tanya Graham took minutes.

II. Approval of Minutes

No Minutes were presented for approval.

III. Other Business

A. Extension 4-H Update - Todd Williver:

- a. The horseback riding passes program is still in process and acquiring insurance coverage is not going to be an issue. The final step in getting the program started is to receive final approval from the University; a Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted in anticipation of that approval.
- b. A draft Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Fair was submitted to the University. There are some clarifying questions that need to be addressed before final approval is received. Todd will be scheduling a meeting with Wayne Belmont to review the MOU and the University's questions.
- c. The 2016 Fair sponsor packet is in development. Todd has been working with Casey Mценeny to finalize the artwork and poster.
- d. Staff will be attending the Oregon Fair Association Conference from Jan 14–16, 2016.
- e. 4-H used the fairgrounds for the "Youth in Action" Centerpiece project. This year approximately 60 volunteers came together and built approximately 300 holiday centerpieces. The centerpieces were then given to the Meals on Wheels recipients.
- f. The Harney Building has had a major leak this winter and Jack Whaley from maintenance has been working on the issue.
- g. Todd and Jack are also looking at ways they can clean up the interior of the main exhibit hall. They are looking to see if storing the tables and chairs in the workshop area is an option.

B. County Staff Update – Board of Commissioners – Bill Hall:

- a. Bill Hall reported that at the December 30, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting, Don Mann presented his plan for the future of the fairgrounds. Also during that meeting, Jim Buisman presented a recapitalization plan for the fairgrounds.
- b. Bill Hall also reported that the Commissioners were in consensus of renaming the fairgrounds to the "Lincoln County Commons".

- c. Don Mann's plan is a long range fairgrounds improvement plan. Where Jim Buisman's plan focuses on short term things such as upgrading and/or repairing waterlines, electricity, restrooms, roofs etc. Mr. Buisman's plan would keep the current grounds and buildings functional for approximately 10 - 15 years.
- d. The bigger challenge with the fairgrounds is finding ways to pay for improvements and/or repairs. Currently the Fair Facilities Fund has just under \$1.5 million. These funds have accumulated from the 2007 transient room tax measure. To implement the short term improvements, it is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000, leaving about \$1 million to go towards the long term plan.
- e. For long term plan financing, the City of Newport's Urban Renewal Plan has pledged \$3 million. This is a huge step in moving forward but there needs to be more funds secured before implementation of the long term plan can begin.
- f. In order to secure a long term revenue source, the commissioners are looking at possibly a transient room tax (TRT) measure ranging from 1.5% - 2%. The Board of Commissioners would need to make a decision on moving forward with the Transient Room Tax Measure in February in order to have it on the May ballot.
- g. Jim Buisman reported that the recapitalization project will be put on hold until a decision is made concerning the TRT measure.
- h. Linda Neigebauer, from the Blue Ribbon Committee, wanted clarification on the Board of Commissioners plan for the fairgrounds. Commissioner Hall and Jim Buisman recapped the short term and long term plans for the fairgrounds.

C. Other Staff Updates – Maintenance – Jack Whaley:

- a. Jack Whaley from Maintenance presented a request from Emergency Services and the Sheriff's Office. The request is to relocate two Conex containers from the Sheriff's Office impound area to the Lincoln County fairgrounds. The containers are used to house emergency water, shelter and other supplies for the students of Lincoln County when in session and the general community when school is not in session. Lincoln County will place a solid gravel base for the containers to help prevent settling at no cost to the Fair Board. **Bill Hall moved and Jim Buisman seconded to approve the relocation of two Conex containers to be permanently placed on the fairgrounds property next to the Animal Shelter. The vote was taken and passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0.**
- b. Jack also reported that there have been a number of leaks throughout Lincoln County facilities and the maintenance team has been busy making repairs.

D. Other Updates - FOLCAS:

- a. Karen Dirlian from FOLCAS reported that the space they were going to rent from the County for storage needs too many repairs to bring it up to code. At this time they are declining using the storage space.

IV. Adjournment

The next Fair Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 10 a.m. in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Commissioners Conference Room 208. Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

DATED this 11th day of February 2016.

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Frank Geltner

FRANK GELTNER, Chair

Bill Hall

BILL HALL, Vice Chair

James H. Buisman

JAMES H. BUISMAN, Member