

Weld County Fair Board Meeting

Minutes

July 23, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Helus and Board Members Landon Cogburn, Bailey Naibauer, Levi Loveland, Tom Bledsoe, Courtney Smith, and Isaia Aracayos.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Member Cody LeBlanc.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Treasurer Courtney Smith reported that completion of drug testing paperwork was going well, and it was clarified that all drugs must be disclosed on the forms by the exhibitor.

Board Member Tom Bledsoe reported that there may be some discrepancies with the camping map and some problems with spaces in the FS lot.

Board President Aaron Helus reported that he had received a request to consider an appeal to the Jackson Place decision by the Board in July due to him not filing his animal health and housing form by the due date. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously to allow Jackson Place and his family to meet with the Board on July 24th to make his appeal.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

July 24, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Helus and Board Members Landon Cogburn, Bailey Naibauer, Levi Loveland, Tom Bledsoe, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos was excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Member Cody LeBlanc.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Jackson Place and his parents were present. He reported that he has been showing for some time now and that at this Fair, he was showing breeding heifers only. He noted that this will be his last year showing, and that he is part of an FFA Chapter. He is a Cattle for Kids Scholarship recipient. He stated that everything else is up to date and that he just overlooked the deadline for the animal care and housing form.

His father noted that when they realized the form was late, they approached his FFA Advisor who guided them to submit it anyway and that it would be sorted out later.

After discussion amongst the Board about Jackson's responsibility in this, the fact that he is showing in breeding not market, and Jackson's owning up to the mistake, the Board voted unanimously to allow Jackson to show, but not allow him to win above the class level.

It was noted that the Superintendent will be notified of this decision.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

July 25, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Helus and Board Members Landon Cogburn, Bailey Naibauer, Levi Loveland, Tom Bledsoe, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos was excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Member Cody LeBlanc.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board President Aaron Helus reported that vet checks are going well.

He also noted that he spoke with the Jackson Place family, who were pleased with the Boards' decision to allow him to show at Fair.

Board Member Tom Bledsoe expressed concern with an Extension staff member trying to tell the Royalty Court what to do. He stated that they didn't know who she was. Pat Kindvall is the Chair and is taking care of things.

Committee Member Cody LeBlanc made note that no one knew she was supposed to be helping and that they didn't need the assistance since they've been doing this a long time and know what they are doing and can handle things just fine.

It was clarified by staff that Kat Caswell is the Extension Agronomy Agent who was offering to assist wherever needed, so she was tasked with assisting the Royalty Court in whatever way she could, and that if they didn't need her, she could easily be used in other ways to help with Fair.

President Helus stated that if the Rabbit Show was not set up by 5:00 that day, City staff would be directed to remove all supplies and equipment from that area.

Kim Eastwood reported that 4-H project check in was challenging this year due to the ticket booth and route used to enter the park. She stressed the importance of families having the ability to easily access the 4-H Building to drop off projects on this day.

Discussion ensued about the challenges with the wrist banding and questions about who gets a wrist band and who does not. It was suggested that there be different colors of bands used for exhibitors versus families, for example, and they be marked with Weld County Fair or something that would help to prevent people from buying bands and putting them on themselves. It was noted that this really could work with some good planning and good communication about it.

The Board voted unanimously to direct the Committee to assure that questions are being asked at Vet Checks about Exhibitors and numbers of family members requiring a wrist band to get better control over wrist band issuance.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

July 26, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Vice President Landon Cogburn at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were Vice President Cogburn and Board Members Bailey Naibauer, Tom Bledsoe, Levi Loveland, and Courtney Smith. President Aaron Helus and Secretary Isaia Aricayos were excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Members Cody LeBlanc and Bridget Holcomb.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Vice President Cogburn noted that it sounds like the Goat Show is going well, as is the Sheep Weigh In.

Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon reported on an incident in the Goat Barn with an adult male who was lightheaded and feeling faint and weak. She noted that paramedics were called, and the individual was feeling better but being thoroughly checked by the professionals.

Committee Member Bridget Holcomb requested that an Incident Report be completed about this.

There was discussion about a camper who missed the check-in window the day before who was at the Fair Office trying to check in. After much discussion, it was determined that this camper would not be allowed to check in, and the Committee would meet with her to share the decision.

Additional discussions were had about the wrist bands and procedures that need to be firmed up for them to work.

The Board expressed concern about a vendor who arrived earlier than the vendor check-in time, but not allowed to check in and was left waiting in the Event Center lobby for quite some time.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

July 27, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Event Center, Fair Office.

Those present were President Aaron Helus, Vice President Cogburn and Board Members Bailey Naibauer, Levi Loveland, Tom Bledsoe, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos was excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Member Bridget Holcomb.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board President Aaron Helus reported that there have been some questions from Dairy Cattle and Beef Barn about drug testing and was specifically being tested for. Everyone did end up signing the forms and were reminded that they can declare all drugs on their forms.

He noted that Lamb testing went well.

It was noted that there have been some release issues in that there is no checking as they leave the park. It is something to work on to tighten up or maybe provide a second check out.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

July 28, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Aaron Helus, Vice President Cogburn and Board Members Tom Bledsoe, Levi Loveland, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos and Board Member Bailey Naibauer were excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Members Cody LeBlanc and Bridget Holcomb.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

It was noted that things in the Beef Barn are going well and that pigs are in.

There was discussion about a Pig Superintendent who could not find a rental car, so Board Member Landon Cogburn volunteered to pick him up from the Airport, get him to his hotel, and then get him to the show and back.

Board Members expressed concern that there was no one to take cards for the sale after rabbit show.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

July 29, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Aaron Helus, Vice President Landon Cogburn and Board Members Tom Bledsoe, Levi Loveland, Bailey Naibauer, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos and Board Member Bailey Naibauer were excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

Also present was Committee Members Cody LeBlanc and Bridget Holcomb.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Autumn Gunderson and her mom were present to address the Board about Autumn's late nomination for Fair. Her Mom noted that they had a death in the family and that she herself has been battling cancer and going through treatment and this just slipped through the cracks. Her Mom wanted it to be known what they've been going through.

The Fair Board voted unanimously to uphold their initial ruling and President Helus stated he would contact the family.

It was reported that the Poultry Show and Pig Show are going well and that the Rabbit Show is done.

There was mention of hoses coming undone in the beef barn and a broken swamp cooler there.

The CAM's Academy gave an update about their experiences at Fair. It was noted that Friday was slow but gearing up for a fun and busy Saturday and Sunday at various, high-traffic locations within the park.

Committee Member Cody LeBlanc reported that all members of the SNOW Committee, the Security and Risk Committee, and the Appreciation Lunches Committee would be resigning their positions effective August 7, 2023.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

July 30, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Aaron Helus at the Island Grove Park Buckle Club.

Those present were President Aaron Helus, Vice President Landon Cogburn and Board Members Tom Bledsoe, Levi Loveland, Bailey Naibauer, and Courtney Smith. Secretary Isaia Aricayos was excused.

Ex-officio/Staff members present included Extension Director Hannah Swanbom, 4-H Agent Kim Eastwood, and Fair Assistant Cheryl Aragon.

GENERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

President Aaron Helus reported on an issue in the Goat Barn that Security took care of. He also mentioned that there was a cow loose in the Barn which was concerning.

Board Member Landon Cogburn reported on an underage drinking incident that occurred in his camper. He noted that his sons are being dealt with by him, and that he had talked with security and the Sheriff's Office about the situation.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Cheryl Aragon, Fair Assistant and Acting Secretary
to the Fair Board