

Oklahoma County Free Fair Association  
2500 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Meeting Minutes- January 30, 2024

Board Members Present:

Jeff Parker, Walter White, Don Alsup, Joe Baker, Kelly Cathey, Kenny Paine, Josh Nowakowski, Tyler Messer, JT Langston

Guests:

Brandon Stallings, Lisa Hamblin, Paul Pieper, Andrea Pieper

-Meeting brought to order by Jeff Parker at 7:05pm.

-Election of fairboard officers for 2024

Officer nominations and votes: Jeff Parker-President, Kelly Cathey-Vice President, Secretary-JT Langston, Treasurer-Walter White. No other persons were nominated for these positions.

-Reading of minutes from last meeting

Reading and approval of minutes from the last meeting were tabled. Previous secretary resigned from the position and no minutes were available for review.

-Treasurer's report

Treasurer's report was given by Walter White. Available budget is \$52,677.26. Pending debit of \$4,500 to pay Jones Public Schools for rental of facility for county fair. The checking account has \$575.15 balance with \$314.50 in checks from the Fall Free Fair still outstanding.

Kelly Cathey made motion to approve treasurer's report, Joe Baker second, motion passed all in favor

-Selection of planned Oklahoma County Fair Board Meeting Dates for 2024

Kelly Cathey made the motion to table the item until after date for Fall Free Fair is voted on in later agenda item. Don Alsup, second, motion passed all in favor.

-Discussion on Spring Horse Show date and location

Tentative date of April 13, 2024

Lightning "L" facility located at 63<sup>rd</sup> & Air Depot offered free of charge

Facility will need to be toured and approved by board prior to agreement. Jeff Parker and Walter White will tour.

Walter White made the motion to approve April 13, 2024 as tentative date for horse show and to have the show at the Lightning "L" facility if considered acceptable after the board tour. Kelly Cathey second, motion passed all in favor

-Discussion of Spring Shows Awards

Kelly Cathey is working on getting sponsors for ag mechanics awards. Possible scholarships.

Walter White would like to increase the prize money for ag mechanics classes.

Kelly Cathey made motion to raise prize payouts to the same amount as livestock classes and to have the same ag mechanics classes at the spring and fall shows. Joe Baker second, motion passed all in favor

Walter White discussed having banners and backpacks as prizes for winners at spring show. The cost would be \$1,560. Walter stated he also counted all the ribbons that are in stock and there are plenty to cover the next several shows.

Walter White made the motion to purchase banners and backpacks for awards in the amount of \$1,560 for the spring show. Josh Nowakowski second, motion passed all in favor

Jeff Parker discussed bringing the traveling trophy back for the heifer show. This trophy began as a memorial trophy several years ago and was awarded to the Grand Heifer. It was agreed upon to bring trophy back starting this year. Previous names will be removed, and trophy will start fresh this year. Jeff Parker will have trophy restored. No action needed by board.

Judges have been determined for the spring show.

Hog- Kyle Baade

Sheep/Goat- Caleb Boden

Cattle- Brandon Callis

Motion made by Walter White to pay hog and sheep/goat judges \$600 since hog judge will be judging showmanship and show on separate days and sheep/goat judge will be judging two species. Don Alsup second, motion passed all in favor

-Discussion on changing Livestock Show days of the week

Discussion to change show days to earlier in the week to ease set up for show and to possibly increase attendance from public.

Don Alsup made the motion to formerly look at different days and dates for the shows after the spring show in February. Kelly Cathey second, motion passed all in favor

-Discussion of Fall 2024 County Free Fair (Exhibits)- date and location

Josh Nowakowski and Kenny Paine discussed issues they have with hog showmanship being before the show. This discussion will be reviewed after spring show.

Kelly Cathey made the motion to have the Fall Free Fair Livestock show August 26-28, 2024, with hog showmanship being held on the evening of August 25, 2024 unless a decision is made at a later date to move the hog showmanship to a different date or time. Walter White second, motion passed all in favor

Discussion to have the indoor exhibits competition at the Will Rogers Botanical Gardens located at Portland and 36<sup>th</sup>. It would cost \$1,800 to rent the facility and this would include tables and chairs. Dates available August 15-17, 2024.

Walter White discussed purchasing wood and paint to create tiers on round tables to increase area for exhibits and for aesthetics. The cost for supplies would be about \$2,000. These would be reusable and would be stored in county facility.

Kelly Cathey made motion to use money previously approved to purchase tables and chairs plus \$500 to purchase supplies to create wood tiers.

No second by board, motion dies

Kenny Paine stated he thinks we should try the location the way it is first before making purchases.

Kelly Cathey made the motion to approve the dates of August 15-17, 2024 for the Free Fair indoor exhibits competition to be held at the Will Rogers Botanical Gardens for no more than \$1,800 rental fee and to postpone buying tables and chairs previously approved by the board.

-Selection of planned Oklahoma County Fair Board meeting dates for 2024, previously tabled

Regular Meeting Dates:

April 23, 2024

June 4, 2024

September 24, 2024

Jeff Parker made the motion to schedule regular board meetings on April 23, June 4, and September 24, all in 2024 and to schedule other meetings later. Kelly Cathey second, motion passed all in favor

-Motion to Adjourn made by Joe Baker, Jeff Parker second, motion passed all in favor