

Verde Valley Fair Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes May 21, 2024
5:30 p.m. - Regular meeting

In attendance: President Beth Canedy, Vice President Steve Drake, Treasurer Lewis Rice, Secretary Ginny Rench, Board member Joel Rosenberg and Director Coleen Gilboy in addition, public Steve Rench, Dan Sullivan, Eric Banuelos, Katy Welch, Danielle Rosenberg.

Absent: None

- I. **Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Canedy
- II. **Call to Public:** Mrs. Welch stated that fair was really smooth, volunteer helpers were awesome, livestock RV camping was so much better. Awards ceremony time was good, there was better communication the whole fair, all kids need to come to awards ceremony. Mrs. Rosenberg liked the little kids asking for help.
- III. **Consent agenda** – Mr. Drake moved to approve the Minutes from March 19, 2024. Mrs. Rench 2nd the motion. No discussion – all in favor
- IV. **Chairman’s Report** - *GREAT WORK EVERYONE, we had some minor hick ups but they were handled professionally and quickly. Mr. Drake stated he talked with Mr. Danny Brown and the carnival would like us to not put vendors with the carnival, there are concerns about tents flying.
- V. **Administration Report** - *AFA fair manager meeting is June 3 and 4th in Phoenix . July will be going to Butte for the 4th of July and South Dakota to take mother to family reunions. IAFE will be in Phoenix in December so the Arizona Fair Association is not doing their annual convention and going to IAFE as a group.
- VI. **Financials** - * Monthly Reports, the investment account is not correct, those were last meeting numbers. Mr. Drake moved to accept the Financials with the understanding Browns Amusement will be sending in new numbers. Mr. Rosenberg 2nd the motion – all in favor.
* Fair 2024 – Preliminary numbers – we have all our financial numbers in, we just do not have all our free tickets, field trip and exhibitor numbers in the final reports.
- VII. **Committee Report** –
 - A) **Livestock:** * Everything ran really well, 781 add ons which is how many extra letters the livestock committee has to read. There was \$52,210.80 in add-on money. There were barn sales that the livestock inspector was not able to approve – in the future we might only be able to do pigs in the future due to the inspection requirements. *There might need to be rules about posting on social media * Buyers want a shorter auction and maybe a limited amount of small stock, or only blue ribbons * Great job flipping the show barn to the Auction arena, clubs sent kids to help and it was greatly appreciated, * the quality of the animals was up this year and it showed. * Discussion needs to happen about who will be helping with each of the shows, each committee member take a show and make sure there is an announcer, judge, ribbons and such so one person is not in charge of many shows. * Again, it was a great fair.
 - B) **Arena Report:** Nothing to report
 - C) **Rentals** – Very slow for the next 4 months.
 - D) **2024 Fair** – *Need to review the rodeo – good and bad, but very expensive entertainment * Mr. Drake – Brown Carnival discussion about vendors – and Gate did great. * Mr. Rosenberg – the staff needed to be hired sooner, but Brandon and Levi did an amazing job in a short amount of time – this will help with getting the TVs up, the hay picked up – overall better fair than last year. * Ms. Canedy would like to take a thorough look at the rodeo, cost and benefits and all the issues coming through that gate and parking. No parking behind the rodeo chutes – GCPRA no vehicles inside the gate – change the codes at arena daily. * Mr. Rice – a few times found people smoking and vaping and just asked them to stop or go to the parking

lot, would like to see more signs. – shade for benches – Carnival a sign for kids to ride rides.* Mrs. Rench – people loved the new millings because it kept the dust down.

VIII Old Business

- A) **Security Cameras** – The Cameras are installed and we were able to use them on one incident.
- B) **Water Storage** – Mr. Drake would like to find a water tank that would help with the water pressure when so many things are happening during fair to keep the pressure up – this would be an above ground storage tank in a looped system. We have the current 10,000 gallon tank but would like it to all link together so we never notice a dip in pressure.
- C) **Governors Fund Appropriations** – the state has not adopted a budget yet and we do not know if we will get a grant or not this year. 7 of the fairs are planning on no grant coming in so that we do not over budget our income.

IX New Business

A) 2024 Livestock Election –

- i. Introduction of candidates – none were here
- ii. Election results – the votes were counted and the following individuals were elected to the livestock committee – Mrs. Joanie Gerlach, Mrs. Kim Demoney, Mr. Joe Bleak, Mrs. McKenzie Banuelos, Mr. Robert Mier, Mrs. Natalie Taylor – congratulations to everyone and thank you to Mr. Brian Bolton, Mr. Eric Banuelos and Mrs. Jennifer Niederer for all your hard work and dedication to the fairgrounds.

B) Livestock Scholarship – The livestock committee recommended \$5,000 in scholarships, there were 7 complete applications – the livestock committee does not know who each of the applicants are or how they scored, we keep all names out of the process because we are such a small community. The auction brought in \$2,700 and t-shirt sales brought in another \$1,006 for the program. Mr. Rice would like to keep it consistent. Mrs. Rench made the motion to accept the livestock committee recommendations and issue 3 scholarships for a total of \$5,000. Mr. Drake 2nd the motion and all in favor.

C) Show Barn Mural – when we put in the spray foam and painted the show barn we took down the mural that is above the auction ring. The mural needs some TLC and before staff did they, we wanted to know if we were going to keep the mural or do something different – direction was given to fix the mural and keep it.

D) Mules – we have the 2 mules here for staff to use, they have an OHV sticker but not a plate to use on the road – we are asking the Director Gilboy be able to make changes to the titles to allow us to use the mules to go to ACE hardware across the street – YES changes can be make

E) 2024-2025 Budget – included in the packet is the wish list we started in 2014, the Capital Improvement (CI) list and staffing changes projected for the next year. With the uncertainty of the state budget we will be budgeting for no grant from the state. Please everyone submit CI projects for us to start planning our next 4 years.

F) Direction to Livestock committee – regarding the auction, the Executive Board has had many buyers comments that the auction is too long – the Executive Board wants the livestock committee to come up with ways to reduce the length of auction ie: cut small stock sales to Grand and Reserve only, Limit the number of animals per species, only sell blue ribbons. This recommendation needs to be done before the rulebook comes out in September.

X. Future Agenda Items- Solar, Shade, large water supply with a boost pump

XI. Executive Session – 8:14 Mr. Rice moved to go into executive session, Mrs. Rench 2nd the motion.

The board came back into session at 8:43 pm.

XII. Adjournment – 8:44 pm Mr Rice made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Drake seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.