



14th District Agricultural Association

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIR

Established 1885

Livestock Committee Meeting

March 23, 2022 07:00 PM – Heritage Hall

Committee Members: Stephanie Fontana – Board Member & Loretta Estrada – Board Member

CEO: David Kegebein

CALL TO ORDER -7:04 by Director Stephanie Fontana

Roll Call / Introductions: Introductions in round robin. Sign-in sheet passed around.

Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda: Jessica Ayala informed those present that serial meetings and emails that have been sent out are in violation of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. She suggested that violations could put our livestock program in jeopardy. A member of the public wanted to know how the entry guide production and edit process was conducted.

Director Comments – Don Dietrich, Board President, acknowledged and appreciated all the hard work the committee puts in. The fair is an almost all-volunteer operation and he thanked the group for a great livestock offering.
Director Loretta Estrada appreciates all the hard work of the volunteers.

Additions to Agenda – none.

Review of Prior Meeting Minutes – Notes from August 25, 2021 and February 23, 2022 meetings were distributed at the meeting. No comments were made on the notes.

Board Committee Member Reports – Stephanie Fontana & Loretta Estrada
Stephanie reported that the Directors meeting was postponed until April 5.

Co- Superintendents - Kyle Middleton & Danny Naranjo – Nothing to report.

Livestock Operations – Kathryn Hill – Nothing to report.

Items to review

Entry Guide Review and forward to Board

Process for the entry guide review: Policies of the fair and the livestock department are the same. The entry guide specifies the policies and is produced from comments/suggestions for change from the committee. Lists of modifications are compiled for each draft and sent to the committee for review. The lists are then discussed at Livestock Committee meetings. Draft 4 is the result of the modifications suggested after Draft 3 was distributed. The public will have the ability to comment on Draft 5 when it is included in the agenda of the April 5 Board of Directors meeting. The entire fair entry guide will be printed again this year. Final, approved version of the entry guide must be ready for print in May.



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Modifications/comments on Draft 4 were distributed to the committee. In addition to those distributed, the Carcass Contest department head requested that the date for the Carcass Contest results be shown as "to be determined (TBD)."

Dave was asked to define "Fair management". It is more than one individual and can include contractors, vets, judges. A list has been requested of the people who are authorized to handle certain tasks and decisions.

Discussion of comments included in the lists distributed at the meeting:

Should Bred and Fed only be opened to Santa Cruz? Because we are close to the tri-county line, we traditionally include residents from the three counties. Once an exhibitor has been deemed as eligible, they are treated equally throughout our fair. Other counties have more exhibitors than we do. Educational benefits of the program are very valuable. No change will be made.

Can we start the fair on Tuesday? The fair was scaled back a few years ago to cut some costs, but the Livestock Department was not able to receive animals and conduct all shows within the reduced calendar. Livestock is constrained by the size of barns and show rings. Now that we have reached capacity for all 5 days, we may go back to a 6-day fair. No change will be made.

Can breeding animals be walked out before 8 a.m. on Sunday? Fair goers want to see the animals. Sunday attendance is as large as Saturday attendance. If all exhibitors are treated equally, the breeding animals would stay all day. Could be more of a safety hazard moving animals out. If they are award-winners, the public would like to see them and their ribbons for the whole day. No change will be made.

Can we reject animals with no scrapie tags at the scale? We want to avoid rejecting animals. If an animal does come in without a tag and we can't get a replacement tag, the animal cannot go through the auction. We can work with the exhibitor and breeder to expediate a replacement tag is missing at scale or lost at the fair.

Artificial coloring – the judge will disqualify the animal if rule is broken. Pee wee showmanship needs to note the same show condition.

Judges – Working on getting judges lined up.

Survey results – The numbers were in the packet. Our surveys are not binding and while they help us get a sense of what we can expect, they are used as a marketing tool to get the exhibitors excited about the fair. Kathryn will add actuals from last year.

CEO Report

1 SB-5 Project – Electrical Upgrade Progress Report

Still stalled, waiting for circuit breakers. We're hopeful that it is finished by fair time.



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- 2 **Barn Layouts, Set Ups, New pens** - Dave received the approved set of plans for the next phase of work on the sheep and hog barns.
- 3 Dave encourages that we all read letter from Jessica Ayala included in the packet.

Additional Comments:

Draft 5 will be submitted to the fair board on April 5. Once the guide is approved, it will be printed and posted to the website.

Fair was extremely successful last year. Dave is working on acquiring more land at the back of the parking lot, near the nursery for more parking. County just made a deal to acquire 40 acres behind the maintenance shop for park/green space. A long-term project to create a bridge across the creek to the park is in the plan. Could possibly get a second access point from Paulson Road into the fair once bridge is built.

Intersection improvements at Holohan and East Lake – project is fully funded, working on right-of-way now. Job will be going out to bid this year. Our luck would find the project up and running during the fair!

No idea where the economy will be by September. Events are returning. The fair is in the best financial situation ever.

PA improvements, wi-fi and internet are on the list of things to do but not part of the electrical upgrade. The new pens were delivered from Texas.

Pens. We have a group of 40 pens that California Farm Bureau donated to our area. They are stored at San Mateo. We just bought 68 more hog pens which will free up about 50 6x6 pens. We might not need to borrow anything this year.

Don Dietrich suggests that we change our meetings to a couple of weeks before the fair board meeting. Fourth Tuesday afternoon for fair board meetings. Livestock will change to 1st Wednesday of the Month. Skipping April. First Wednesday in May is May 4.

Don wants to add the livestock meetings to the future meeting list on the Fair Board website.

Loretta's granddaughter's goat just had triplets today.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:40 p.m.