



14th District Agricultural Association

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIR

Established 1885

Livestock Committee Meeting

February 15, 2024, 07:00 PM – Boardroom

Committee Members: Stephanie Fontana – Board Member

CEO: Zeke Fraser – not able to attend

CALL TO ORDER – 7 pm

Roll Call / Introductions

Additions to Agenda – no additions

Public participation: Becky Steinbrunner asked about the whereabouts of the game buzzer system she donated to Poultry last year. She encourages other species to have a knowledge bowl for exhibitors to demonstrate their knowledge beyond showmanship. Becky asked for the status of the investigation into the distribution of knives as gifts at the 2023 fair.

Review of Prior Meeting Minutes (January 10, 2024 – posted to the web) - Question: has the subcommittee for the replacement of stolen items been established? Not yet.

Board Committee Member Reports – Stephanie Fontana

Stephanie didn't have much to report from the board. The policy committee did meet a week ago, though. Next meeting of the policy committee will follow the board meeting. Zeke will apply for conditional use of the barns for 2024. Livestock meetings will be in the boardroom rather than the Heritage Hall.

Reports:

Superintendent - Kyle Middleton – No report.

Department Head - Kyle Plaskett. Office has new doors. We'll issue new keys for upstairs and downstairs. Will call Richard – hopes to have them by the 21st. Future repairs for spring: need to do a walk-through when it stops raining (April). The alarm system has been repaired, so when the keys are issued, keyholders will be given the alarm code. The storage containers are sinking into the ground – need to lift them up and place cement or other foundation-like materials under corners. Will work with fair maintenance.

Livestock Operations – Kathryn Hill – Four exhibitors from 2022 have not cashed their auction checks. They have been notified by email to contact Danielle.

Items to review

1. Species Head Reports

Swine: Jim Bricker has tried to reach out to a different judge, but has had no luck. He would like to use Brad Mendes one more year, but hasn't contacted him yet. He's been working in the background with Richard to get Greenline to come out and run the clean-out from the other direction to pin-point the location of the problem. Won't hook up water in the hog barn this year. It was suggested that we use the space between the hog and sheep barns for exercise. Might need more panels. The fair took down the hog wash racks on the street side – need to put that back up before fair.

Sheep/Market Goats: Sheep barn – they had talked about putting a strip of black-top down the middle; Stephanie will check.

Beef/Dairy Cattle: Needs to order ear tags for beef – exhibitors have been paying for the additional tags.

Ribbons/Awards: Most of the ribbons are ready for livestock.



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Poultry: The buzzer system has been locked up in Poultry storage. Hope to get into the storage area to take stock soon. Ag History has restored two brooders. Pam reported that Poultry has used the same judges for 12 years. They will ask the judges if they would switch from breed to showmanship, and showmanship to breed judging. Need to do some painting this year. Chicken feet on the floor. Exterior Poultry sign needs to be freshened up. April walk-through. Consider locking area inside the Poultry building. Pam will have a calf in August that could come to the fair.

Auction – Justin Trick, Auctioneer, has agreed to come back. Cynthia has reached out to Joe Rawls for trucking but hasn't heard back yet.

Round Robin – Rather than using the judges we've had in the past, Carie suggested getting a judging team from Modesto, Fresno or Cal Poly.

Vet – would like the same vet as last year. Ask Danielle to reach out now.

Sound system did not meet our needs last year. Horns in the barn are not satisfactory. Kyle Plaskett has speakers that can be owned by Livestock and used in the barns. Need a map for the layout. Suggests talking to Ron Haedicke about buying our own used equipment.

2. Entry Guide

Remaining items to be discussed:

Overall length of RVs: cut off at 30 feet.

Auction order – Putting all champions into the middle of sale didn't really work for us or the buyers. Return to the 2022 order (not really an entry guide issue).

Will be submitted for review at the board meeting on February 27.

3. Livestock Fundraiser to replace Stolen Equipment/Supplies

Kyle Middleton has reached out to Rebecca Alaga who is very interested. Sheila Alvarez, the new club leader from Corralitos, is also willing to help. Jeannie offered to cold call sponsors. Suggested we write grant proposals for small grants for \$1000 amounts.

CEO Report – not able to attend.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:01 pm