

**ELKO COUNTY FAIR BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, October 13, 2010
STOCKMEN'S CASINO
ELKO, NEVADA**



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Elliott, Dawn Leyva, Nancy Porter, Tony Buzzetti
Dick Harris, Steve Wines, Walter Winchell

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Steve McDermott

STAFF PRESENT:

J.J. Roemmich, Secretary/Treasurer

Sabrina Reed, Ranchers Ball Director

GUESTS:

Bryan McIntosh Aaron & Patty Means Don Neuman, ECVA
Don Zumwalt
Elko Rodeo Club officers and directors- Nancy Winez, Chandler Jenson, Josh Winez,
Tes Turk, Chancy Scott, Jesse Vega, Justin Oros,

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Elko County Fair Board Chairman Walter Winchell called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Meeting Minutes-

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 11, 2010 meeting by Tony Buzzetti, Jim Elliott seconded all approved

Public Comment:

Elko Co High School Rodeo Club presented a certificate of appreciation to the Elko County Fairboard for sponsoring the State Finals and the rodeo club. Nancy Winez Club director with Aron Means Senior Club Director stated each kid present is an officer of the club. Chandler Jenson filing in for recorder, Josh Winez and Tes Turk club secretaries, Chancy Scott sergeant of arms, Jesse Vega, and Justin Oros President. They also announced the Nevada State High School Rodeo will again be in Elko in 2011.

Dick Harris also presented another certificate of appreciation of the promotion of tourism in Elko from the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority.

Sabrina Reed reported on the rancher's ball and they were low on ticket sales the silent auction brought in over \$2,300.00 total brought in \$4,000.00, and we are short \$1,000.00 on expenses over income. She hopes this next year maybe doing the dinner on Wed after the team branding starting the branding at 1pm she also has a facebook page asking for comments and the majority of comments were on the bathrooms and not having enough handicap stalls, and most of the women's stalls were closed off due to being broke. They would also like to have more to do on every night like dances and events. Walter Winchell commented the Fairboard appreciates all the work she is doing for the Ranchers Ball. We needed better communication next year for set up and tearing down with the Elko High School Rodeo club.

Don Neuman also reported they have talked about bringing a bigger singer or event into the convention center during fair time. So when planning include them in the process to help bring something in next year.

Barrel Racing at the Elko Co Fair:

Aron & Patty Means talked about the barrel racing at the Elko Co Fair. They would like to continue the process as before on the same night. Dick Harris made the motion to continue the barrel racing the same night in the back arena Steve Wines seconded. All approved.

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority:

Don Neuman reported he has liked the partnership with the fair board on past events and would like to on some future events. He reported on the rodeo they had this last weekend with 203 contestants primarily from Utah. They had a food drive instead of admissions for the senior pro rodeo this year. The High School Rodeo ran the concessions and the tickets from the gate for this last rodeo and will keep the money for the state high school finals next year. They had 180 people from out of town. He would like to have the same deal again as a partner with the Fair Board next year including the Senior Pro Rodeo event. Jim Elliott thinks the partnership we have formed with the ECVA is a benefit to the town and we need to encourage this partnership Jim Elliott made the motion to partner with next years Senior Pro Rodeo in May -June and the Rocky Mnt Pro Rodeo Assoc the first of October. Dick Harris seconded all approved. In addition the ECVA helped us a great deal with the racing this year. Don Neuman also commented on the support for the AQHA in addition to the money

they also ran more ads to the amount of \$7,200.00 for the Elko Co Fair racing meet. They are going to continue to support the NQHA event and the more we can do at the fairgrounds the better we are all going to be.

Racing Department (security, racing budget, Pari-Mutuel, Race Program, Friday early starts and AQHA races 2010 and 2011:

Dick Harris reported on the security this year at the Elko County Fair, the police officers expressed a concern on the dance and there being a lot of juvenile drinking. It was reported that a lot of calls on certain nights with 7-8 ambulance calls. Don Zumwalt views there were great events and no problems with gates or horses and the sheriff's department dealt with most of that. The bars were handled responsibly and he did talk to Pooch and they were on the same page. The problems they had were parents purchasing alcoholic beverages for their minor children. The only problem with the dance was the area is sitting too close to the adult bar and he would like to keep the adults separate from the kids and set up boundaries and checkpoints. There were not so many fights and arrests that concerned him but they can make some adjustments to make things better. The dance is possibly going to have to be only 21 and over unless there is somewhere else to have a dance. Maybe next year his concentration will be on the night time hours more officers and not so much in the day time. Dick also stated the Elko Co Fair Board is putting that event on and our liability is out there on the limb. If something happens to anyone our liability is out there and we are in trouble. Don Zumwalt stated if you take steps to make it better then you are trying to take care of it and that will show. A suggestion to have a teen dance somewhere else to give them an alternative place to go would be the best policy. Don Neuman had a suggestion if we had to fence off the bar or move the DJ to the other end of the grandstands and separate the bar area. Nancy Porter stated security at the front gate was great this year and Dick also stated that the Elko Co Fair board really appreciates all the Elko Police Department and the Elko Sheriff's Office has continued to do to help us out at each fair.

Dick Harris reported on the racing Budget which \$137,200.00 was budgeted an \$137,245.00 spent with approximately \$45.00 over budget. Dick raised \$9,500.00 for the fair board for the challenge races and didn't get the \$500.00 he was promised. Without the challenge races we would have been short 58 horses, we ran 61 races this year. Pari-Mutuel we handled \$302,635.00 and the special races did \$11,000.00 on the John Deere with \$2,000.00 profit. Details on the different races ran and the handle they brought although the race that disappointed him was the Pfizer race. When the race payments started out there were 11 in it there were only 6 in that race when we got to August. On race day one of the six horses scratched and we could not have Trifecta betting due to Nevada State NRS Statute. Don Neuman stated the locals don't understand the talent of the AQHA Races and this will give the ECVA an area to promote in the future as this is huge for the future. He thinks there is a huge upside to all this for Elko. Dick also reported on the race program invoice from Print N Copy. They approximately sold all but 354 race programs over the 7 days of racing and we saved approximately \$8,000.00. Friday late starts versus early starts, on the first Friday we didn't draw anymore than we have in the past this may be due to all races being trials. The second Friday late start paid more than last year with approximately \$3,000.00 more in betting. Dick Harris reported the AQHA wants to understand what our standpoint is and they are prepared to give us 4 races in addition to the John Deere Challenge. Dick Harris stated he is pretty confident he could go back to the people he had gone to and ask again for 2011 sponsorship for these races. If Boise opens in 2011 Elko would still get all the races here. These same races would run in Idaho Falls in the spring and they would have to come here in the fall meet. There would be some impact to our futurity and derby races but numbers did not show that this year. Some issues that arose would be trials would need to be run 2 weeks between trials and finals. The Friday before Ely meet could possibly run trials on that Friday. Brian McIntosh reported Ely will request that Friday again so the Nevada Gaming Control Board will not allow their staff to be in 2 places at one time. He also talked to Doc Scott on this and they used to do the Trials on Tuesday without pari-mutuel betting. This would have to be added to the application and description of what our intentions are with that addition to the days. We are being robbed a race day with the trials running on the Tuesday or Wednesday and we will have to come up the purse money for those trials. The AQHA would possibly help us with anything over the \$10,000. Walter suggested that we may change all post times to 2pm this next year everyday for the 7 days of racing. With trials on Tuesday will we want to run the first Friday, Dick stated with our races now trials are mostly run on that first Friday we will fill up sat and sun and we will lose what pari-mutuel money we do get that first Friday. He is leery of offending the thoroughbred people and turning this race meet into an entire quarter horse meet. He handed out an additional race to offer the thoroughbred people and this would give the thoroughbreds more races to run. In order to run the trials on a separate date we will need the racing personnel including starter and gate crew, an additional photo finish and video crew from Tony Harris, and will need the track ready to go earlier than we have in the past. Dick Harris made the motion based off information provided to the board the ECFB accept the responsibility to take the AQHA challenge races and trials and run them with only \$10,000 expense to the Fairboard with the remainder of the race meet to run as in past years. Jim Elliott seconded all approved.

Concessions:

Dick Harris reported this issue rose up the second week of the fair. The fire department was going to shut down both concessions stands with Travis explaining what was going on at the time, Dick Harris went down to the little concessions stand to talk to the fire department personnel that were down there. We had to buy a fire extinguisher for the small concessions stand and they allowed us to continue using the big stand that would require a fire suppression system with the understanding when fair was over we would address the issues immediately. Dick and Jim will meet with the Fire Department and suppliers to get ideas on what the cost and areas to address will be this will be tabled to the next meeting.

Grounds Report:

Travis not here Aaron Means reported the parts are in for the water truck. He has to weld the other water truck tank and it will be ready to roll. Jim Elliott reported he did get the belting from Newmont and nothing has been done with it yet.

Treasurers Report:

JJ Roemmich reported on the treasurer's report presented Nancy Porter made the motion to accept and pay the bills as outlined with those bills selected to be submitted to claim Jim Elliott seconded all approved.

Committee Reports:

** Home Arts- Dawn Leyva- asked about the sponsorship of the fair and needing to hire someone to get the sponsorship for all the divisions of the fair. People are all being hit up 3-4 times and this would help us to get possibly more money. We need to hire someone and pay them by a commission to get sponsor money for the fair.

**Admission-Nancy Porter- passed out the admissions report; we took in over \$45,000 at the gate. She reported on the days that were sold. Also would like an agenda item on the next month for admissions policy and price of getting in to change.

** Promotions-Jim Elliott - he will be submitting the post event report when he gets the numbers.

**Stockhorse Tony Buzzetti- will have a stockhorse meeting in the next month possibly at the next meeting. Nothing on the stallion stakes situation from the committee as of this date.

** Chairman Walter Winchell- will ask about pursuing the city about the water stuff and reducing the bill during the winter.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting November 10, 2010 Stockmen's Casino 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer JJ Roemmich *Elko County Fairboard Secretary*