

Torrance County Fair Board

Meeting

2/13/24

Present: Marcie Wallin, Kyria Encinias, Patrick Riley, Johnny Perea Absent
Albert Chavez

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Marcie Wallin at 6:37

Roll Call

Members present are listed above

Approval of Agenda

Johnny moves to approve agenda, PR second, all in favor, motion passes.

Approval of minutes

KE moves to approve the minutes of January 9th, PR seconds all in favor motion passes.

KE there is one correction on the minutes of January 24th special meeting, change the time of adjournment from, we adjourned at 7:49 not 6:49. MW are there any other additions or corrections. It has been moved by JP and 2nd by PR to approve the minutes with the mentioned correction.

Public Comment

Johnny Romero-You know we're still wanting to try to do something to encourage all the young kids and new farmers and ranchers coming into the county a lot over just small time to give their kids an opportunity that if they show in in the fair to have an opportunity to sell at least one of their animals and what I'm saying by that, I don't want to take away from the ones that plays Grand Champion, Champion, whatever. I'm just saying that when that's over with, why can't all these kids that have put the effort to show animals and have gone and done need to sell an animal? Because there's a lot of people that I've talked to that can't afford five and ten thousand and fifteen thousand dollar animals. but they're willing to pay \$500,000, maybe even \$1,500 for another animal and help these kids out. Because selling their animals at market value, they put a lot more money into it to do that. And a lot of parents can't afford to keep doing it year after year, or if these kids have an opportunity to make a little money there, and you can have that money to go to the next--year and buy another animal. We'll be encouraging all these kids to stay in that FFA, to stay in 4-H, and give them an opportunity to say, "Hey, this was nice. I'm going to do this again." I got rewarded. We know it's not everybody can be a grand champion. I know nobody can win them all, but we're giving each kid an opportunity to sell their own whether they want to sell it or if they don't want to sell it, they can keep it. And I know for a fact that I've talked to a few people that a fair board can make this happen

if they want to. You know, it's not, you may have gone the other way for years and years, but let's get these kids out of trouble. You know, one of the things that we're touching on in the Farm Bureau is we're trying to encourage small ranchers and new people to stay here and to keep going.

Alan Moreland-Spoke on behalf of the Farm Bureau and states that the Farm Bureau would still like to donate \$10 to each kid. Also states that maybe kids could put up a sign saying their animal is for sale.

Johnny Perea- You want to make a difference as a hero? That would show me that really, you guys want to do it. I mean, everybody wants to say, I mean, you guys are, and I appreciate it, but 10 bucks-- and I'm sorry, I'm just being real. 10 bucks doesn't do anything. It doesn't buy half a sack of feed. Gas company is the same way. This deal, we're not going to spend an animal. We're not going to spend money on an animal. But we're going to give each kid a little bit here and there. That's a cop out to me. And that's just my own personal feeling. Is that you basically put your name out there. Look at all this that we did.

Marci Wallin-We appreciate you guys comments, I think for now, this item is going to come up later in the agenda.

Fair Day

Marci Wallin-As you guys saw in the previous meeting, we decided August 13th through 16th. Santa Fe is July 30th through August 3rd, we usually butte up to them week after week. So, I didn't, I don't know if we want to have a week break in between fairs, because it's Bernalillo, Santa Fe, then there would be a week off and then us.

Johnny Perea- I move that we have the 2024 Torrance County Fair August 3-9. Kyria Encinias 2nd.

Marci Wallin-It has been moved and seconded that we have the 2024 Torrance County Fair August 3-9. All in favor, passes unanimously.

Tag in and Clean up days

Marci Wallin_ So May 1st, ownership deadline for steers and heifers as for the state fair in eastern and southern. May 1st for steers and heifers and June 15th is for dairy.

Johnny Perea moves to set tag in dates to April 17-4 to 7 and June 8th from 8-11. Kyria Encinias 2nd. Motion passes unanimously.

Clean up day

Marci Wallin-we just did one last year right before the fair. Johnny Perea moves to have clean-up day on August 3rd, 7-12. Kyria Encinias 2nd. Motion passes unanimously.

Buckles/Banners/Tumblers

Marci Wallin -Buckles?

Kyria Encinias- I just need to get bids going like now. I have to get 3 bids? I try to get 3 of similar types. I can get samples and bring them to you and get your opinion. I will have them by next meeting.

Marci Wallin-Handy-Helper (Top hand) buckles. Do you want to give buckles for this? It goes to kids that really help out a lot. Do not put a year and if there are not two recipients the buckles can be used for the next year. Patrick Riley moves to have 2 Handy Helper buckles, Kyria Encinias 2nd. Motion passes unanimously.

Marci Wallin Do you guys want to give banners this year, for the Grand Champion, Reserve and Champion Torrance County bred. We gave tumblers for Torrance County bred. Johnny Perea moves to buy tumblers for Torrance County Bred Champion, Kyria Encinias 2nd, motion passes unanimously

Gymkhana

Marci Wallin-At one of our meetings we decided to do our Gymkhana the Tuesday of Fair. The question came up about Old Timers Day, what is happening on Old Timers day? Patrick Riley-The reason for moving it was to get more participation. Johnny Perea-If someone wants to use the grounds for another event, they can rent it. Old Timers day was never really ours it just got pushed over to us, we used to do the big bar-b-q when it was a big fundraiser for the Fair Board.

Old Timers Date

Marci Wallin- Old Timers day is set for July 27th. The Special Events committee is in charge of the parade.

Judges

Marci Wallin-We usually have judges for two years in a row. Johnny Perea, well I assumed that because I already asked her. Marci Wallin-Is she available? Johnny Perea-yes, that one, I do not know about the rabbit and poultry judge. Kyria Encinias-with the date change, is that going to matter. Johnny Perea-I don't think so.

Marci Wallin-are you guys ok with the rabbit and poultry judge and the breeding goats.

Patrick Riley-So are we going to have the same judge as last year doing all the species again, is that what we are talking about?

Marci Wallin-yes that is what I was thinking, how about you guys?

Johnny Perea-That's what we typically have done the last two years? That does not mean we cannot change.

Patrick Riley-the reason I am asking is I have had some people ask about the same person doing or, complain about really, I am sure you know one of the people I'm talking about, about the same judge doing the small species and then doing the cattle the next day.

Marci Wallin-We get it every year no matter who we have for a judge.

Johnny Perea- We have had several, just this one is qualified to do them all, so it saves us money.

Johnny Perea-I move that we have the same judges as last year for the Junior Shows. Kyria Encinias- 2nd. All in favor, Motion passes unanimously

Concession/Food Trucks

Marci Wallin-I like the idea of the food trucks, and no one really wants to run the concession because no one really has the time or the help. Kyria Encinias-Food trucks would be interested in coming back, they did well. Marci Wallin-We could use the refrigerator and add indoor event which require refrigeration. Johnny Wallin-I move to invite food trucks back. Patrick Riley 2nd. All in favor, Passes unanimously.

Jr Sale

Johnny Perea-Based on the discussions I have had, I had Martha put that on there. I respect what they are trying to do, there were 48 exhibitors last year in the Junior shows. Respecting what these gentlemen think, I definitely want to see as much as we can the benefit to kids from the sale, the deal there is we get into all this, well with all due respect these participation deals, here you go you participated so we are going to hand you something, and I am totally against that, basically you show up and you get in the sale, and that's my dilemma. I think it's different with livestock, you are going to have to meet the qualifications of being tagged in, they will have ownership, they will have to take care of them, so its not like a track meet where everyone who shows up gets a blue ribbon. Say we have 48 exhibitors again and we did our sale as to everyone gets to sell one, that would not deviate too far from our current sale slots. But we say now everyone gets to sell one and then 80 of them show up. This will cause out roar, and I don't know that I don't care, if we change it to every kid gets to sell one animal total. Then we make the sale and let the chips fall where they may. Not every kid, every kid that makes the sale can only sell one animal, that's not automatically going to say that every kid gets in there, but if we keep the number of sale slots and the number of exhibitors

Patrick Riley-I see what you are saying, it will shift it so that every kid by default, I have seen counties that do that because I have done a little bit of research, I did not realize this was going to be on the agenda tonight but there are other counties that pull two slots from their sale to do lottery slots. Johnny Perea-Every kid still has to "make the sale" but saying in that the kids that make the sale are only eligible to sell one animal that would pull way way deeper into the species and possibly could if our numbers stay that way it could have every kid who is in the livestock show get one into the sale.

Marci Wallin-I don't agree with it, I think if you limit it to they can sell only one the numbers are even going to go down further they will leave more of them at home for the other fairs the kids that participate, our regular exhibitors, probably not the new ones because they are new to it.

Kyria Encinias- Most counties limit it to one per species, and we have not done that.

Johnny Perea-There are certain kids that are going to be extremely competitive and the sale slot is definitely that helps with the needed cash flow but I get it there are certain kids that will be left out, but I don't want everyone to have a participation ribbon and I would not go as far as saying everybody just gets in. I think they still have to compete, and we have our meeting and we set our sale slots and set the number of slots and those kids still have to compete for those sale slots but if they are only allowed to sell one you know how much deeper it will pull to get way more kids in the sale.

Ashley Romero-I showed in another state and we were required to bring our own buyers to the sale.

Johnny Perea-I see it is kind of like kids going out and begging and we get some push back.

Patrick Riley-There are some counties that do that and you see a lot of differential where a high placing animal does not bring as much as a lower placing animal due to what ever relationship the buyer has to the exhibitor.

Kyria Encinias-I will say this it is not going to hurt the buyers at all, the buyers will support whatever kid goes through that show ring, we are going to have some kickback with some show families and so what I say to you people is get out there and get some new showers into this county because that is what we are going to need and we are going to push some people out with doing changes like this so support bringing some people in because we need them.

Johnny Perea- To qualify to, there is a possibility that they all won't make sale, because if it works out and they do hear about this and 70 of them show up, or there are 70 exhibitors, that would be nice there is a better chance that I can make sale now. I do know that we would get 20 to 25% different kids in the sale. Kyria you have a valid point that the families that have been here and are extremely competitive there is going to be push back from some. What we are doing is not working and it is not just at this fair, participation in the last five to ten years has just dumped and that is part of the reason, it is cost prohibited and intimidating, and I am part of the problem, I know a lot and I can help kids more than someone who just wants to try this.

Marci Wallin-I have a question, are we going to do just one animal period or just like one pig and one lamb, species?

Johnny Perea-One animal period.

Marci Wallin-You don't think that if we changed it to one per species that kids would diversify and maybe bring multiple species.

Johnny Perea-Maybe but most wont

Patrick Riley-I don't think so

Johnny Perea-I move that each kid that qualifies for the sale is eligible to sell one animal. We are still going to set the sale, like Class 1 Durocs , first and second sell, we are still going to set it up that way, but because of this the pull will be way deeper, possibly pulling down to 6th place. This does not mean that you can just show up and say we are just in.

Marcie Wallin-There is a motion on the floor by Johnny Perea, Patrick Riley, 2nd.

All in favor, Patrick Riley and Johnny Perea, aye

Against, Kyria Encinias Motion passes 2 to 1.

Fair Board Officers

Marci Wallin-On to number 9 fair board officers.

Kyria Encinias-I do not agree that both of you step down at this time of year. I have wrestled with this since the last meeting. Seriously Johnny this time of year it is just rough at this time of year, I see where you both need a break, I understand that. I just feel like it is crunch time to get everything put together

and laid out to have a successful fair and if we try to do transitions right now that we are not going to accomplish that, that is my fear, so to me it would make more sense for officers to step down the meeting following fair if they so choose. So that we could start fresh for the new year going into the next fair.

Patrick Riley- I am on board with that.

Kyria Encinias-I would be comfortable at that point making changes. You asked, I told you

Marci Wallin-Ultimately October because of the sale, there is a lot of stuff that goes on after the fair is over with the sale stuff so I guess September.

Johnny Perea-I am ok with that, just know we are ready to make a change, I think we may be the ones up for new appointment. I am not trying to do a cop out, Kyria and Patrick you are great and it would be great to get someone like you two. If Marci is ok with it I am.

Marci Wallin-I am ok with it too, I will do it until September.

Patrick Riley-I move to adjourn, Kyria Encinias 2nd All in Favor, Passes Unanimously.