

**TORRANCE COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**June 30th, 2020**

***PRESENT:***

Marcie Wallin, Johnny Perea, Angela Redondo

Will Neish, Kyria Encinias, Bradi Herral

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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Marcie Wallin.

*Roll Call*

Marcie Wallin called roll; members listed above were present.

*Approval of minutes (June Meeting)*

Marcie Wallin stated that the minutes needed to include that Will Neish was going to draft virtual rabbit show guidelines.

Motion by Johnny Perea to approve as corrected. Seconded by Will Neish. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

*Agenda approval*

Motion by Will Neish. Seconded by Angela Redondo. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

*Public Comments*

County Commissioner Kevin McCall added that the fair board should try and move forward as normally as possible considering the circumstances and regulations.

*1) Tag in Of Open Animals*

Motion by Johnny Perea to allow exhibitors that were not able or did not tag in open animals to do so as the fair board sees fit up until the fair. Seconded by Will Neish. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

*2) Buyers Thank You*

Kyria Encinias asked the board for their opinion on doing something different this year for the buyers thank you instead of calendars because of the cost. She suggested mouse pads, which cost \$5.00 apiece, and can be easily be mailed with the sale pictures to the buyers. Marcie Wallin added that the price of the mouse pads would be \$3.00 less than that of the calendars. The fair board discussed this idea, and Johnny Perea asked the question of whether or not one buyer should get multiple with the purchase of

multiple animals. Fair board members also talked about rain gauges and reusable shopping bags as a buyer thank you.

Motion by Johnny Perea to include mouse pads with a picture as buyers' appreciation. Seconded by Angela Redondo. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

### *3) Pandemic and Torrance County Fair Events*

Marcie Wallin started discussion on this topic by saying that many other counties have made the fairs no longer open to the public as of this year. She also said that indoor exhibits are being done differently as well. The CDC recommendations do not recommend any large crowds or gatherings because of COVID 19. Marcie Wallin read a letter from Susan Samuels, the superintendent for indoor exhibits, that said that she would agree to cancel any events including food and to cancel the slime making contest. She also said that she would agree to cancel all indoor exhibits. Marcie Wallin also said that there would only be two helpers for the florticulture exhibits because of the virus, and that the superintendent, Shari Anaya advises to cancel the florticulture exhibits this year. Johnny Perea said that the fair board should go with the superintendents' wishes. Marcie Wallin Suggested adding to the fair book a rule that would allow for indoor projects that were intended for 2020 to be entered and displayed in 2021. The fair board also discussed allowing only youth to display their indoor projects by doing the exhibits outdoors. The fair board went back to the question of having a normal or amended fair, Angela Redondo stated that having a normal fair would be very difficult. The fair board agreed. They discussed how overnight stays were not recommended, and how a three-day time period would protect the fair from being shutdown forcibly. Marcie Wallin added that safety is still the main goal of having an amended fair. The board began to discuss the problems with not allowing animals to stay overnight. They agreed that it would be difficult for exhibitors to have their animals ready to show without the animals being able to stay the night. The board began to discuss allowing goats and sheep to stay one night on Tuesday before the shows on Wednesday, instead of a weigh in doing declared weights, then having them leave on Wednesday after the shows. The hogs and cattle would be able to stay the night Wednesday, show on Thursday, and the ones that would be in the sale could stay the night for the sale on Friday. The goats and sheep that would be in the sale would return to the fairgrounds. The board talked about having exhibitors declaring their animal's weight instead of weighing in, and discussed having a 5% weigh back on the top two animals of each class. The board moved on and began to discuss allowing exhibitors to reenter animals that they had originally planned to take to state fair. Members did not have any problem with this because of the unexpected cancellation of the state fair and Will Neish says that the board will just accept late entries. Kevin McCall said that the state encourages that all fairs or carnivals change their name to livestock show so as not to attract large groups of people. He also adds that allowing overnight stay for animals should not be an issue as long as the barns will be closed at night. He said that the purpose of alterations to the fair is to spread out the presence of people so as to prevent large crowds. The board started to discuss how the classification of breeds would work and whether or not they should hire a classifier. Kevin McCall suggested having judges classify animals, and allow the animals that the judge does not think belongs in a certain breed, to be pushed back to crosses. The board discussed the fair's schedule in more detail, most events besides shows will be cancelled, such as the goat roping, the wool lead, cotton extravaganza, parade, and awards ceremony. Johnny Perea added that members of the board will have to separate large groups of people at the fair. Marcie Wallin brought the discussion back to indoor exhibits and whether or not they would be cancelled. Kevin

McCall suggested hanging some projects done by exhibitors up in the Torrance County administrative offices. The board liked this idea, they also decided that there would be booster shows and to weigh all animals instead of having declared weights. The board continued to discuss the fair's schedule. Will Neish brought up sale declarations and the need to move those closer to after the shows. Marcie Wallin informed the fair board that there would be no poultry superintendent, asked the board if the poultry show could be done online as well since they have the same judge. They all agreed and Will Neish said that Sandoval county is also having an online rabbit show, and he would email everyone the guidelines. The board went back to the topic of when exhibitors will declare their animals for the sale. They discussed giving exhibitors the opportunity to declare their animal right after the show, and then having a final deadline at 5:00 pm on Thursday. Since there will not be an awards ceremony, the board agreed that buckles would be given out after shows. They began to discuss what time the sale will be on Friday and decided on 5:00 pm, while animals will have to be in place at 3:00 pm. Kevin McCall suggested to the fair board to do the sale during office hours because many business employees will go during work hours. Marcie Wallin said that she would call perspective buyers and ask if the original timing discussed would work. Johnny Perea brought up making changes to the amount of animals exhibitors are allowed to sale this year, but members agreed that this year no changes would be made to the sale rules. The board discussed the schedule of the week once more and agreed on the following times:

Arrival of goats and sheep: 12:00-3:00 pm Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

Goat and sheep weigh in: 3:00-4:00 pm Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

Dairy goat show: 9:00-11:00 am Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

Market goat show: 12:00 pm Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Market lamb show: 3:00pm Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Cattle and hog arrival: 4:00-8:00 pm Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Cattle and hog weigh in: 8:00-9:00 pm Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Market hog show: 8:00 am Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

Dairy heifer show: 1:00 pm Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

Breeding heifer show: to follow

Market steer show: to follow

The board agreed that the judge will be the classifier for hogs and sheep. Goats and sheep will be able to stay Tuesday night, while cattle and hogs will be able to stay Wednesday, and if declared to sale, Thursday night. Animals in the sale will need to be inspected by superintendents and in place by 3:00 pm on Friday. The board began to discuss having food vendors at the county fair. Food trucks are an option, but the board agreed they would need their own power source. Marcie Wallin said she would get an announcement for 'food trucks wanted' posted. Kyria Encinias asked about spectators, and members discussed just allowing immediate family. They agreed that this year's fair would be closed to the public, with exhibitors and families only. Members discussed making people sign a waiver saying that Torrance County is not responsible for any COVID 19 infections. Marcie Wallin added that kids who show will be required to wear masks, and that the board needs to have some donated so that exhibitors

will be supplied. The bleachers will be replaced with tables and chairs for shows and the sale to limit contact.

Motion by Johnny Perea to put in place the Schedule discussed. Seconded by Angela Redondo. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

Johnny Perea added that after discussing the new regulations regarding the renting out of the rodeo arena with the renter, the rodeo would probably be cancelled this year.

Motion by Will Neish to cancel rodeo with the intent of returning in 2021. Seconded by Johnny Perea. All voted Aye.

Motion passed.

Motion by Johnny Perea to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Will Neish. All voted Aye.

Meeting adjourned.