

**FAIR BOARD MEETING**  
**February 4, 2021,**  
**Virtual Meeting, 7:30 a.m.**

Thwing	Speer	Moulton	Voorhees	Cunningham
Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent

Others Present:

Corey Buller – Fair Manager, Lane Events Center Division Manager  
 Rachel Bivens – Marketing Manager/Assistant Fair Manager, Lane Events Center  
 Emily Zajac – Marketing & Sales Specialist, Lane Events Center  
 Dan Hurley - Lane County Public Works Director  
 Laurie Trieger - Lane County Commissioner  
 Elizabeth Gangwer – 4-H Education Program Assistant

**1. ITEMS FROM THE COMMUNITY:**

None.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Home for Good has begun building the permanent supportive housing on the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and Tyler. Fair Board asked Commissioner Trieger if a tour could be arranged for Board members. Commissioner will check and let the Board know.

A small pallet shelter will be placed south of the Amazon in the fairgrounds parking lot. This will generally be up during the winter months and will not be present during the Fair.

**ACTION/DIRECTION:**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 4, 2021**

<b>MOTION: René Speer</b>		<b>COMMENTS:</b> René Speer moved to approve the February 4, 2021 minutes as written. Debra Moulton seconds. All in favor.
<b>SECOND: Debra Moulton</b>		
<b>VOTE</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>	
Randy Thwing	Yes	
Richard Cunningham	Absent	
Debra Moulton	Yes	
René Speer	Yes	
Sid Voorhees	Yes	
Commissioner Trieger		

**4. GOVERNOR'S GUIDELINE UPDATE**

Staff reported that no additional changes have been made to the Sector Risk Guidelines as of this week although large changes were made on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March specifically to the Outdoor Entertainment guidelines. New guidelines allowing for attendance numbers to be determined as a percentage of the maximum occupancy allowed under Fire Marshal regulation have been added. At Extreme risk, allowance is 50 people; High Risk, allowance is 15% of maximum occupancy; at Moderate Risk, allowance is 25% of maximum occupancy and at Low Risk, allowance is 50% of maximum occupancy. Discussion surrounding calculations for our grounds during the Fair and the ability this allows for the Fair to open this year.

Commissioner Trieger reminded everyone that we all need to maintain safety protocol at this time including social distancing, face coverings and getting vaccines. Commissioner mentioned the early registration link and asked everyone to share it with everyone they know. Discussion surrounding the fact that 16 and older will all be eligible to get the vaccine as of May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ACTION/DIRECTION:**

Staff will email the quick link registration and the Sector Risk Level Guidance Chart to all Fair Board members for their reference and information.

5. **LAYOUT/BUILDING DISCUSSION:**

Staff shared that in an effort to maintain social distancing and decrease overall costs of the Fair, the following layout changes have been made:

Commercial Vendors have all been moved outside vacating the Performance Hall.

Senior Social has been moved into the Performance Hall to allow for better spacing and ventilation.

Land Products and Granges will remain in the Wheeler Pavilion but will have door attendees to monitor the capacity levels.

The interior of the Livestock Building will be closed to the public. All Horse activities will occur in the Warm Up arena.

4-H/FFA will be moved primarily into the Expo Halls allowing them to spread out more than in previous years.

VIP tents have been removed from the Main Stage area and will be repurposed as open covered air seating tents in other areas of the grounds.

ACTION/DIRECTION:

None

6. **4-H/FFA UPDATE:**

Emily Zajac and Elizabeth Gangwer have been working together on the 4-H/FFA layout of the Expo Halls. To the attendees it will look very similar to previous years. They are working through the logistics of entry, exit and capacity monitors at this time. Elizabeth reported that there is a new Rabbit virus that is very contagious so 4-H is working through whether or not this can be managed with protocol or the animals will not be able to be at the Fair this year. They are still working on the Auction piece for this year. It will be moved to 5-South this year. Final plan is dependent upon the guidelines in place closer to the Fair dates. LCLA has a new Auction board that consists of 12 people including Emily as the Fair representative and Elizabeth as the 4-H representative and another spot for an FFA representative.

ACTION/DIRECTION:

None

7. **ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE:**

All five of the Main Stage concerts are booked for this year. Four of the five rolled over from what would have been the 2020 Fair. The fifth act cancelled all 2021 dates but was replaced with another great act that cost significantly less which is helpful to the overall budget this year. Seating for the concerts is still up in the air. Plans are in place for a full seating layout as well as a socially distanced layout. If the socially distanced layout is the way to move forward, staff will be revisiting the contracts to either have the acts perform two shows to allow for more tickets to be sold or to reduce their fees since the reduction in seats has a significant impact on the overall revenue potential for the concerts.

Grounds Entertainment is almost fully booked. Returning this year are the All Alaskan Racing Pigs, Professor Smart, Clown College and Circus Imagination and Fritter Critters. New this year are Karen Quest Cowgirl Tricks (she has performed at the Fair before but it has been several years), Canine Stars (agility and dock jumping) and Kiddle Karroo & the Barnyard Bash. Still looking for one more acts and then the lineup will be complete. As this line item was decreased during budgeting and savings in the Main Stage arose after that, staff shifted some of that savings to allow for more grounds entertainment to be schedule for this year to bring it back to the level of years past. Community stage will also be up and running this year allowing for community groups to come together and perform at the Fair.

ACTION/DIRECTION:

None

8. **OFA UPDATE:**

HB3173 which proposed an increase in lottery dollars to all the Fairs in the state has passed out of the Agricultural board and is moving to the joint Ways and Means committee. If this passes, it will result in an increase of annual distribution of funds from approximately \$50,000 to between \$100,000 and \$200,000 annually. This bill also includes capital funding for Fairs around the state. Discussion surrounding the value of Fairgrounds in the state as a resource during times of crisis.

Staff also discussed the active role they are playing in OFA. Corey Buller is on the Capital funding task force. Rachel Bivens is on the Legislative Committee and serving as the Alternate Area 2 Director. Discussion surrounding potential of upcoming conferences and meetings.

**ACTION/DIRECTION:**

Staff will keep the board apprised of conference and convention dates as they are confirmed.

**9. OTHER:**

a. Official announcement of the Fair moving ahead: discussion surrounding why staff has not made an official announcement that the Fair will move forward. Staff discussed the changing guidelines and potential for further announcements from the Governor’s office providing more concrete protocol moving forward. As this has not come, staff will be evaluating the current risk levels moving forward to determine the best time to make the official announcement.

b. Board thanked the staff for all of their hard work and keeping everyone informed. Commissioner Trieger added the same sentiment.

c. Next meeting: June 3, 2021. If possible, this meeting will be in person but that will not be determined until shortly before. Staff advised that if the OHA/Governor’s guidelines change between now and then and the Board wishes to add another meeting before that date, staff will schedule this.

**10. MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn at 8:10 am.

<b>MOTION: Randy Thwing</b>		<b>COMMENTS:</b> Randy Thwing motions to adjourn the meeting. René Speer seconds. No discussion. All in favor.
<b>SECOND: René Speer</b>		
<b>VOTE</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>	
Randy Thwing	Yes	
Richard Cunningham	Absent	
Debra Moulton	Yes	
René Speer	Yes	
Sid Voorhees	Yes	
Commissioner Trieger		

Meeting adjourned.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Sid Voorhees, President

**MINUTES ARE DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL APPROVED BY THE FAIR BOARD AT THE NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING.**