

**Humboldt County Rodeo Board
Agricultural District #3 - Regular Meeting
March 11, 2020**

Board Members Present: Kent Maher, Chris Bengoa, Dale Owen, and Tom Brown

Board Members Absent: Fergus Laughridge, Dave Louk and Becky Hill

Staff Present: Kim Petersen, Gailynn Sam and Darrel Field

Others Present: R C Herrera and Claire Buchannan

CALL TO ORDER

Kent called the meeting to order at 5:42 pm at the Winnemucca Convention Center, West Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

R C Herrera read a letter from the new Professional Senior Rodeo Association. The new association is looking for a venue to hold it's championship event and would like to book the Winnemucca Events Complex in October of 2020.

R C notes that they currently have 100 members and a series of 23 rodeos leading up to the finals event. He anticipates acquiring another 100 members before the series ends.

The board cautions R C that Winnemucca has had un-favorable experiences with the National Senior Pro Rodeo association of the past.

R C commented that the association has all new board members from the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association which has moved all its events to the southern United States, mostly in Texas and Oklahoma. He anticipates gaining members from the western United States, mostly in Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Montana.

The board notes that we can place his request on the agenda for the next meeting on April 8, 2020.

No action was taken.

MINUTES CORRECTION - APPROVAL

Dale moved to approve the February 12, 2020 minutes, correcting Chris Bengoa, listed as present to absent. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Kim presented a copy of a recent opinion article in the Humboldt Sun asking why Fairgrounds road was closed during the Ranch Hand Rodeo Event.

He reports that the City Manager was notified of the closure with approval granted to close the road for the event. He also notes that he will be drafting a response citing safety of our participants as the reason for closing the street. He also notes that EMS vehicles were on the fairgrounds throughout the event including the Fire Department, Sheriff's Department and the Ambulance.

No action was taken.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

- a. Approval of surplus equipment list

Kim reports that he has not had time to complete the list.

No action was taken.

WINNEMUCCA EVENTS COMPLEX (WEC)

- a. Approval to dispose of surplus public property – Facilitated through publicsurplus.com

See previous item, no action was taken.

EVENTS UPDATES, REPORTS AND SCHEDULING

- a. Ranch Hand Rodeo

Kim reports that the event went very well. He cites record attendance with 1247 stall nights compared to 1044 last year and 327 RV nights with 120 RV's on site.

The board complimented the new display board noting that the scores were available within a few minutes of the completion of the rodeo, so that everyone knew who won.

Kim notes that the display was also live streamed so that people not in attendance were able to tune in via the internet. He anticipates that the technology will increase attendance in the future, but cautions against using it for multiple years as too much use may decrease actual attendance.

Kim reports that the horse sale was also a success with high prices for both good and lower quality horses.

Chris comments that a customer from Baker Oregon was very pleased with our horse sale.

Kim commented that the bucking horses were excellent this year.

No action was taken.

- b. Claire Buchanan request to move June 12 event to September or October

Claire Buchanan asked the board to consider moving her event from the reserved June 12 & 13 dates to the weekend of October 3, 2020 due to her volunteers' schedules. She also notes that she is working on a 501c3 license so that she will not have to run event finances through her personal accounts.

Chris stated that he is opposed to moving the event with the horse sale since his experience suggests that a horse sale happening five months before our Ranch, Rope and Performance Horse Sale will have more of a negative impact than an event happening four months after our event.

Kim notes that our calendar dates are limited due to other long standing events.

Claire suggested that she could partner with existing events to hold her rodeo and horse sale in conjunction with other events, specifically ACTRA.

Dale noted that he had spoken with Chad of ACTRA who was concerned about Claire's event conflicting with the ACTRA event.

Clair then argued that the board was discriminating against her event.

Kent replied that we are simply protecting our existing events from additional competition for participants, sponsors and spectators.

Chris moved to deny allowing Claire to move her event from the scheduled June 12 and 13 dates.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. SSIR

Dale reports that the event is looking for cutting cattle, noting a shortage since producers are currently selling their stock early. He also reports that he has 13 of the 37 saddles to be used as prizes in at this time. He notes that a change in vendors has resulted in better saddles at better prices.

No action was taken.

2019 - 2020 BUDGET REVIEW – MODIFICATION

Kim presented the budget. For the period ending on March 31, 2020 total tax revenue is at 78%. Fairgrounds revenue is at 108.99%. Fairgrounds expenses are at 52.68%. Event Center revenue is at 72.19%. Event Center expenses are at 73.14%.

Kim notes that Fairgrounds service and supplies account is over budget at 99.45%, Event Center expenses of Salaries, Group Insurance, Industrial Insurance and PERS expenses are also over budget. He notes that the Salaries account is due to calculations in the Comptroller's office which may not reflect actual time spent in the Event Center. He also notes that the Salaries account in the Fairgrounds section is well within the budget.

He reports that due to several costly repairs during the period we may need to request a budget augmentation from the County Commissioners before the end of the fiscal year.

No action was taken.

2020 - 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET & CAPITAL ITEMS.

Kim presented our capital expenditure requests to Humboldt County.

The items include:

\$10,000 for Event Center concrete work including a path from the event center to the pavilion and a 20' x 20' pad required for production of the upcoming horseshoe event.

\$125,000 for the Event Center Breezeway and Horse Tie Up Area.

\$44,000 for additional bleacher seating in the pavilion.

\$26,000 for 2 semi trailers with a dolly and portable loading ramp for storage of the new Event Center floor.

\$6,000 to winterize the water hydrants in Campground D.

\$8,000 for an additional Black Widow Groomer.

\$90,000 to add gravel at Campgrounds C & D.

\$98,000 to upgrade Barn 9 to covered roofs and walk through gates and install water for 100 stalls.

\$40,000 for phase 1 of east end parking lot lighting.

\$25,000 to move and compact stockpiled dirt to raise the level of the warm-up arena on east end of the pavilion to improve drainage.

\$20,000 for gates, panels and alley upgrades.

Kent asked if we need more stalls.

Kim replied that we have a total of 720 stalls with over 500 covered. At this time he feels we do not need more stalls but would like to continue covering existing stalls.

Chris asked if Kim had considered sterilizing the ground instead of continuing to spray for weeds.

Kim replied that he will consider the cost of on-going labor compared to the increased cost of adding soil sterilizer.

Kim also presented the standard budget for the 2020 through 2021 period.

Kent asked him to increase sewer and water accounts since the scheduled rate increase could be more than Kim had estimated.

No action was taken.

VOUCHERS – EXPENDITURES APPROVAL

Tom moved to approve the outstanding vouchers consisting of:

\$11,953.03 for Ag District #3 through March 11, 2020

\$6,708.96 for the Indoor Event Center through March 11, 2020

The motion passed unanimously with Kent abstaining on items from Communication Creations because his spouse owns and operates the business.

FAIRGROUNDS REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Kim reports that we are ready to install the covers over the swamp coolers at the pavilion. The covers will protect the swamp coolers from damage due to heavy snow fall.

No action was taken.

INFORMATION, PROPOSALS AND OR REQUESTS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS, INCLUDING COMMUNICATIONS AND DEALINGS WITH OTHER BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS AND PLANNING AND SCHEDULING FUTURE EVENTS

Darrel notes that we may need to find a new venue for the next meeting depending on if Shooting the West goes forward with the Coronavirus outbreak.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments; no public was present at the end of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chris moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Field, Secretary