

## Fair Board Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2025

In attendance: Paul Longwell, Kathie McWaid, Baylee Ahrens, Kari Ahrens, Lance McElroy, John Murphy, Kolton Nash, Don Wadsen, Justin Wickoff

Excused: Heidi Thomsen, Kya Ramirez, Meren Gadman, Oscar Hernandez, Linsey Lyons, Mike Rendon

Unexcused: Misha Cherniske

- 1) Welcome and Introductions of guests: Mustee Family, Commissioner Clouse
- 2) Public comment:
  - a. Robert Mustee shared steer haul-out safety concerns, specifically kids in trailers with cattle
    - i. Suggested pen for steers for load out as option.
    - ii. Paul shared update from Cattle Commute Committee.
    - iii. Robert is willing to volunteer to help build panels as needed. Thomasina has his cell phone number.
- 3) Approval of September 3, 2025 meeting minutes: Don motioned, and John seconded; vote was unanimous
- 4) Correspondance: Fair Board received an invitation to the Cattlemen's Fall Harvest Dinner event on Oct 18 at 7pm. Thomasina will share event details via email.
- 5) Fair Foundation: Secondhand Safari coming up Oct 18/19; fair board members are encouraged to share about the event with their circles.
- 6) Volunteer hours: reminder to list your volunteer hours each month for tracking purposes. This is very helpful for the Fair office. You can also send them electronically to Kari Bodnar ([kari.bodnar@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:kari.bodnar@co.thurston.wa.us)).
- 7) Fair Manager report:
  - a. Fair 2025- \$315,000 revenue, above 2024 revenue.

- b. Premium checks mailed out earlier than in 2024, and easier with Fair Entry system. Thomasina to work on adding detail on check statements for 2026.
- c. Spring Show and Jackpot April 24/25; Lance is working to confirm spring show educators (such as Purina); Nicole and Oscar Hernandez for jackpot planning.
- d. Fair Board Recruitment – 3 open seats (1 youth, 2 at-large adults). 5 people (3 youth, 2 adults) have applied; invite them all to Nov meeting. Baylee and Kolton to work together on a question specifically for youth applicants.
- e. Retreat Oct 12, 10am – 2pm, the Atrium; lunch provided- board members welcome to bring treats to share.
- f. Holiday Party in lieu of December 3 meeting; will start at 6pm.

8) Committees:

- a. Updated list of committee members shared; all committees have at least one member. We are searching for at least one more history committee member.
- b. Ag and Facilities committees will co-meet every other month for shared topics, starting in January.
- c. Committee chairs will work on setting up meeting dates/times.
- d. Promotions Committee aims to increase parade participation, such as Tenino and Bucoda parades; Kari suggested participation in the Tenino Middle School event. Suggestions also included increasing use of radio advertising.

9) Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

10) Board members stayed for Open Public Meetings Act training