

Custer County Agricultural Society

Special Board Meeting

March 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Nelson. President Nelson informed those present of the location and availability of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act publication. The meeting notification and agenda were posted in advance at the Custer County Courthouse and mailed to each board member.

Members present were Blair Hartman, Rodney Lamb, Casey Cooksley, Kent Nelson, Shane Ryan, Ira Spanel & Marla Stallbaumer. Absent were Becky Pearson & Steve Horn.

Others present were Administrator Michelle Nelson, Mona Weatherly (Custer County Chief), Dwayne Bryner (Custer County Supervisors) and numerous Custer County residents.

*At 7:01 PM Pearson & Horn entered the meeting.

Committee Reports

Administrator Nelson has been working on the Custer County Fair concert and would like to use \$10,000 of the \$17,273.50 that was raised at last year's concert for seed money.

Mail

None

Claims

None

Minutes

Stallbaumer read the minutes from the March 11, 2021 regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

-Camper Pedestals along Muddy Creek

President Nelson has talked to the City of Broken Bow. They are willing to provide a transformer, trenching and the labor to install a new transformer 560' from the existing transformer. The city asks that the CCAS purchase the underground wiring at \$3/foot to cap at \$1500.00. The following quotes have been submitted to the CCAS:

-JB Ross: \$9,200 (\$9,000 + \$200 for pedestals with feet)

-Talon Electric: \$7,942.08 (pedestals without feet) and he would work with Larson Pump to put in 6 hydrants using the same trench for an additional \$1600.00.

-M&M Electric: \$10,640 (pedestals with feet)

Regardless who did the work, the city would be ready to go the end of March, however it will take a month to get the pedestals before work can start.

Horn made a motion to work with the City of Broken Bow. The city will provide the transformer, trenching and labor. CCAS is responsible for paying for the underground wiring not to exceed \$1,500.00. Seconded by Cooksley.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

Spanel asked if there is any problem with the current pedestals that do not have feet. Consensus was that there are no problems because posts are placed beside them.

Spanel made a motion to accept Talon Electric's bid of \$7,942.08 to put pedestals in with Larson Pump's bid of \$1,600.00 to put hydrants in so that electric and water lines are put in at the same time. Seconded by Hartman.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

-Manure Pile

Spanel reported that due to the rain and time constraints, Pearson nor Cook are going to be able to take the manure. Myers Construction would charge \$125/hr for a side dump and \$195/hr for a payloader. They would be willing to take the manure to their farm/ranch in the Gates area. Lamb noted that it is an expense to the CCAS but it is the cost of doing business.

Spanel made a motion to pay up to, but not exceed \$15,000 to allow Myers Construction to haul out as much manure as they can. Seconded by Cooksley.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

-Skid Steer

President Nelson has visited with John Smith of Nebraska State Bank and Smith is more than willing to work with the CCAS in financing a skid steer purchase. Smith would offer a rate of 4.25% or match any rate a dealer would have. He would term out 84 months and would like to see \$5,000 down.

President Nelson has talked to the following dealers:

-AKRS: 324 G like we currently have.

Terms: \$43,000 with \$7,000 down financed at 4.5% for 84 months.

-CAT: 242 D3 (CAT's version of the JD machine currently being leased)

Terms: \$40,949.57

-Murphy: 324 G

Terms: \$40,157 plus we would have to purchase the extended warranty for an additional \$849. Lease option would allow for purchase price of \$32,000 at the end of the lease.

Spanel asked if the CCAS currently owns the fork and bucket that are on the leased skid steer. Pres. Nelson said that the CCAS owns the fork, but the bucket stays with the machine. Spanel asked if there was a repair that needed made, who would be responsible. Lamb voice that AKRS is local and would be quicker repair time. He also noted that we do ask AKRS for donations for various events. Cooksley agreed that AKRS has been very good to the CCAS.

Cooksley moved to purchase the 324 G skid steer through AKRS equipment and finance through John Smith at NSB. Seconded by Lamb.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: Spanel

Motion passed.

Discussion as to how much money to put down and if it needed to be decided tonight or at the next meeting.

Hartman made a motion to amend the previous motion to add in \$43,000 for the purchase price, \$3,000 for the down payment and to finance \$40,000.00. Seconded by Pearson.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: Spanel

Motion passed.

Discussion as to when payments should be due. Pres. Nelson said that taxes come in through October.

Horn made a motion that the payments on the skid steer note through NSB be due November 1st. Seconded by Cooksley.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: Spanel

Motion passed.

-2021 Concert

Admin. Nelson asked for approval to use \$10,000 of the 2020 concert profits (\$17,273.50) as seed money for the 2021 concert. She would like to start advertising April 1st.

Horn made a motion to allow Admin. Nelson to use \$10,000 seed money for the 2021 concert. Seconded by Ryan.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mona Weatherly, Custer County Chief, apologized for misunderstanding the intentions of the demolition derby discussion at the March 11th regular meeting. She asked that she be notified if anything is reported incorrectly as she wants the news to be correct for the sake of history. She did note that the facebook page had 1100 hits and likes regarding a demo derby.

Horn moved to rescind the motion from the March 11, 2021 meeting to open the grandstands to other events including demolition derbies. Seconded by Pearson.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

Discussion to open up the grandstands to other events:

- Becky Pearson would like the demo derby to be separated out other events because of the debris that it leaves behind.
- Casey Cooksley voiced that at no point was the area ever dedicated to strictly livestock events only.
- Amanda Lymber was heavily concerned about a derby because of the debris.
- Stephanie Miller wondered about possibly moving the Trotter Arena as she was concerned about debris.
- Cooksley noted that even after the concert there is broken glass and debris left behind.
- Taylor Ruether voiced that riders trust the ground but would not after a derby.
- Brad Miller (Stephanie) brought the JH rodeo to Broken Bow years ago. It is mandatory that the kids participate in this rodeo to qualify for Nationals. Would not feel comfortable hosting after a derby. Would like to see some sort of compromise.
- Stallbaumer asked if the space in front of the grandstands was the best location for Trotter Arena.
- Dwayne Bryner has studied the fairgrounds and believes that the area east of the cottonwood trees would be a better location for an arena. Portable bleachers could be brought in.
- Bud Eberle didn't think there would be enough seating for bull riding.
- Karen Burnett asked why move the arena for one event (derby).
- Spanel suggested moving the arena to the east side of the indoor wash racks. The arena would be able to dry out as the grandstands wouldn't shade it. There would ample parking and closer to the horse barns.
- S. Miller worried that stall rent and other rents would go up to pay for the relocation of the arena.
- Cooksley thought it would be worth looking into, but doesn't want to rob Peter to pay Paul.
- Stallbaumer asked if there were any conditions set by Trotter when the arena was built.
- B. Pearson said that five years ago Jim Trotter told her if you can avoid them (derbies) he would.
- Taylor Reuther thought that the majority of horse events make money so why move it.

- Cooksley asked if the horse people would be okay with mini sprints in the arena.
- A. Lymber asked if dirt would be scraped away.
- Cooksley remembers Jeff Pflaster staying late into the night after sprints to get it back to how it was before the sprints.
- Reuther said that the horse people were willing to compromise but don't want a derby.
- M. Weatherly asked for clarification. For safety sake would the grandstands be a better place for a derby.
- Bryner thought perhaps it would.
- Gavin Higgins from the Chamber of Commerce would love to bring events to Custer County that are not necessarily horse events. The Chamber is putting together a committee to try to get new ideas and would like to have at members of the CCAS on the committee.
- B. Pearson asked if the CCAS would move the arena would the city be willing to help. She would love to see everyone come together and does not want the city to turn their back on the rodeo. Pearson hopes that the town of BB does not take the rodeo events for granted.
- Ginalee Sinner appreciates all of the updates that the CCAS has done to the grounds and does not want to see events moved out, should a derby take place.
- K. Nelson noted that it is not only the facilities that have contributed to the increase in events but also the personnel.
- Horn praised JJ & Michelle.
- M. Nelson voiced that it has been said that she has turned her back on the rodeo crowd. She stated that is not the case. Nelson is trying to bring in more revenue so that the current events do not have to pay more in rental fees. She grew up in rodeo.
- A. Lymber appreciates the work, just doesn't want a derby.
- S. Miller asked if the derby would need grandstands?
- M. Nelson expressed that she was just asking for permission from the board at the March 11th meeting to explore the possibility of bringing in a derby.
- B. Miller asked why the demo derby quit being held.
- B. Pearson remembers that the first year the Trotter Arena was built the derby was scheduled to be the first event. Pearson and Scott Reynolds went to the Chamber and asked that the Chamber put the dirt back to original state after having the derby. The Chamber did not think it would be feasible.
- Chris Pearson noted the progress made to the grounds over the past 8-10 years. If a derby would be held, there would be a stigma and event producers would start pulling out. Horse events bring people from all over the state through Custer County who purchase gas, food, and lodging. Not worth one event (derby) taking it all away.
- D. Bryner asked if the horse people are not willing to move the arena even if it would improve the drainage?
- B. Miller would like to find some sort of compromise.
- Linsey Stern asked if the board would be willing to move the arena if motorized events were brought in.
- Stallbaumer asked M. Nelson if she thought there would be enough events to offset the cost of relocating Trotter Arena.
- M. Nelson said she would sure try.

OTHER CONCERNS

None

Horn made a motion at adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Seconded by Hartman.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Cooksley, Lamb, Spanel, Horn, Ryan, Hartman, Pearson, Stallbaumer & Nelson

No: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Stallbaumer, Secretary