

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION  
EDUCATION/FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 8, 2020

12:00 p.m.

The June 8 meeting was held by Zoom and called to order by Chairman Pat Schroeder. Present in person were Chairman Schroeder, Roger Guthrie, John Patcle, Mark Stead, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, Bob Keeney, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, Brenda Schneider, Brian Heinrichs and Shane Drinkwater. Present by Zoom were Amanda Cauffman, Charisse Orth, Jenny Dixon, Jeff Kindrai, Steve Braun, Gary Pluemerr, Joyce Roling and Dave Timmerman.

The meeting notice was posted at the Extension Office, Youth & Agriculture Center and mailed to media and Administration Building by Lori Vesperman and posted on the website by the Grant County Clerk's Office.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Pat Schroeder stated it would be appreciated that any announcements or decisions regarding today's meeting be made by the Grant County Fair.

Amy would like to hold a normal fair, but knows with COVID-19 that will not be possible. She has been working with other counties throughout the state weekly to be able to come up with a plan to at least hold the youth exhibitor part. Amy, Charisse and Amanda have continued to spend a great deal of time brainstorming to plan a youth exhibitor fair. At this time, they have it narrowed from 16 days to a 12-day fair allowing exhibitors in all departments to exhibit, except for cats and covies. This plan would be having one species on the grounds at a time and leaving the grounds same day. Also, fewer exhibits per person would be allowed this year.

Grant County Fair is the only one Badgerland Midway carnival has scheduled at this time due to cancellations. Rides would need to be disinfected after each run. They will not be able to bring all rides due to guidelines from the carnival industry.

All 4-H members and FFA advisors (who were to pass information on to FFA members) had the opportunity to respond to a survey sent to potential exhibitors for feedback. The results were shared with the committee.

Lengthy discussion was held in regards to:

- Guidelines by WEDC and CDC
- Processing plants – availability for animals
- Exhibitor only fair
- Clean/sanitizing/disinfecting
- Financial impact
- Safety of volunteers/superintendents
- UW-Madison Extension staff
- Grandstand capacity

Further discussion was held with Jeff Kindrai on his current recommendations. He would like the held fair to be held but from a public health point of view it is not a good idea. It is important to keep people from gathering at this time. It is also important to know it will not only affect those who choose to attend the fair, but also those people who the attendees come in contact with.

After much discussion and consideration, a roll call vote was taken on whether or not to hold the 2020 Grant County Fair. Voting no – Gary Northouse, Roger Guthrie, John Patcle, Mike Lieurance, Pat Schroeder; voting yes – Mark Stead. The 2020 Grant County Fair will not be held.

Due to the fair being cancelled, discussion was started on guidelines of hosting a livestock show if someone inquires. Amy will reach out to DATCP and speak with Debbie regarding guidelines for a one-day swine show. Roger stated livestock shows should be a one-day show only. Jeff Kindrai stated CDC guidelines are to wait seven days for the next event in a facility

Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Roger Guthrie to adjourn. Motion carried.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held July 13 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stead  
Secretary

Lori Vesperman  
Recording Secretary