

Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED Minutes
Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee Meeting
Thursday – September 16, 2021 at approximately 5:00 p.m.

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 the September 16,, 2021 the Meeting of Sonoma County Fair Competitive Exhibits & Education Exhibits Committee meeting was held virtually. All actions were voted on by roll call.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Annette O’Kelley, Chair; Kanani Reynolds, Vice Chair, Bev Palm, Marilyn Herzog, Marcia Mickelson, Kevin Howe, Hugo Mata

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHER DIRECTORS PRESENT: Teejay Lowe, Neysa Hinton

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Michael Margetts, Debbie Townsend, Cliff Sanders, Carrie Wimer

The meeting was called to order by Chair O’Kelley and roll call was taken at 5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Mickelson moved to approve the agenda; Director Palm seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: INCREASE MINIMUM WEIGHT ON MARKET STEERS

Director Mickelson stated that the cattle coming in at the current minimum weight of 1,000lbs are not finished and not grading at the show. Chair O’Kelley stated that if we do recommend this change and the board approves, we should get the info out to leaders, exhibitors and parents as soon as possible.

Motion was made by Director Mickelson and seconded by Director Herzog to make the recommendation to the Full Board, to change the minimum weight of Market Steers from 1,000lbs to 1,100lbs, keeping the maximum weight the same. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: INCREASE MAXIMUM WEIGHT ON MARKET SWINE

Chair O’Kelley stated that the maximum weight on market hogs is currently set at 270lbs, which was decreased years ago from 280lbs. This was due to our packer’s equipment at that time could not handle the extra weight. Staff member Wimer stated that the contract signed for the 2021 Market Grading Event shows they will take animals up to 285lbs. Wimer also stated this is due to them moving to a new facility with new equipment.

A motion was made by Director Mata and seconded by Director Howe to recommend to the Full Board, to change the maximum weight on market hogs from 270lbs to 280lbs. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed.

UPDATE: MARKET GRADING EVENT JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION COLLECTION

Staff member Wimer reported that we have \$86,392 to collect from buyers. Discussion was had to contact the solicitors of the buyers who owe and to have office staff call the buyers. Director Herzog stated she will contact a couple of the buyers she knows.

Motion was made by Director Herzog and seconded by Director Mickelson to make the recommendation to the Full Board that the remaining exhibitor checks be mailed out. A roll call vote was taken and motion passed.

UPDATE: CARCASS EVALUATION AWARDS

Staff member Wimer reported that all of the grading information from the beef carcass contest had been received, however, there were no photos taken of the actual carcasses. Discussion was had regarding if we could safely have an in person presentation of these awards during this ongoing health crisis. A suggestion was made by Director Mickelson if we could do it via Zoom and have example photos of the meat grade. Director Reynolds volunteered to get the presentation together to help office staff out and to push the date to sometime in October. **No action taken.**

UPDATE: COMMENTS/NOTES FROM STAFF AND DIRECTORS RE: MARKET GRADING EVENT

Director Howe stated that it was very hard to find the exhibitor photos on the photographer's webpage and that the pricing seemed high and that he liked the use of Richard and Saralee's Barn for the livestock auction. Director Reynolds stated that it was odd to see the photographer staff in the hog exhibitor photos, although she understood they were there to get the hog setup correctly for a good photo. Director O'Kelley also shared that she like the use of Richard and Saralee's Barn, the box lunches and that the beef scale definitely needs some maintenance prior to next year's show. **No action taken.**

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Staff member Wimer: Due to Superior Farms' recent change to weights on resale goats, will need to seek a potential new packer or resale buyer.
- Director Herzog: Brown Swiss Association reached out and would like to hold their National Show at our facility.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER

Director Palm moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Reynolds; motion passed and meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.