

CACHE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
February 13, 2024

The Cache County Fairgrounds Advisory Board met in a regular session on February 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Cache County Event Center, 490 South 500 West, Logan, Utah 84321

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members in Attendance: Advisory Members in Attendance: David Zook, Chair – County Executive Justin Clawson – USU Extension Agent Bart Esplin – Fairgrounds Manager LaMont Poulsen – County Rodeo Manager Casadee Hudson – CCEC Assistant Mark. Direct Bartt Nelson – Cache County IT Director Sandi Goodlander – County Council Taylor Sorenson – Interim County Attorney Dirk Anderson – Chief Deputy County Executive

Voting Members Absent: Advisory Members Absent:

David Erickson – County Council Shawn Milne – Economic Development Lane Parker – County Fair Manager Julie Hollist-Terrill – CV Visitors Bureau Mark Hurd – County Council Ron Bjorkman – CCEC Marketing Director

Also in Attendance:

Margaret Gittins – Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: A motion was made by LaMont Poulsen and seconded by Justin Clawson to approve the minutes of October 23, 2023 as written.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

1. County Fair Table Top Exercise update

Esplin stated on March 27 0900, at the Event Center, Esplin and Wil Lusk will facilitate table top discussion a meeting for the Cache County Fair. Invitations were sent to the Cache Valley Cruise In and Summerfest. Anyone is welcome to attend including council members, fairboard. Hoping for insight of things we can do to improve.

Goodlander: Just for County Fair?

Esplin: Invitations have been sent to others that use the facility for large events

Goodlander: How long of a discussion?

Esplin: A few hours

2. Event Center Update

Ron was excused for being gone and floor was given to Casadee Hudson.

Hudson reported that quarterly bookings included 54 bookings. Including Beef Clubs, Gardeners Club and more. Sage Hall included, 75 bookings inside Event Center. Discussed others who have booked and are using the facilities. Ron Bjorkman submitted Rapz applications for Cheese and Dairy Festival, 2024 Fair and Rodeo enhancements.

Esplin: He got applications for Rapz in prior to leaving. Those applications do not compete with those submitted for Fair and Rodeo

3. Rapz Update

Arena Lights - big projects were funded in 2023 cycle. These will be noticeable to patrons. Watching power usage before completing and understanding what is needed for generator in case of evacuation.

Livestock Barns concrete - 90% complete. Concrete was poured in January. There is possibly 3 days of work that should be finished by March

Event Center Sound- short a few materials that are now in. Just waiting for contractors to come in. The sound is substantially better, and will have a better idea later as more events are held.

Cell Booster- project with CVE is complete and paid out. Waiting on cell phone providers as we become essentially a cell phone site. Emails were sent again this morning. AT&T has gone back and forth with the contract that needs to be signed. Verizon has an easy temporary option. No info from T-Mobile

Well - Pond fill is complete. Waiting on well driller who has been here for the past few months. Pump should be installed and running water soon. Should be complete by fall.

Poulsen: Are we drilling well or going into tank?

Esplin: Well was dug 25ft. In. Water level was low, so installed a different pump that has improved and will provide plenty of water to keep area green.

There are still 2 projects that are being worked on and discussion of restroom change where Boardwalk is currently. Project is currently with engineering for plans and design work to determine costs for request of additional funding.

Parking lot lights east of arena. Larger project for area where the carnival feeds off. Still work in progress.

Poulsen: Crossbar on the lights?

Esplin: This is in engineering and production. Will be 6 weeks. The generator wanting to install for arena lights will also help with that.

4. Indoor Arena Reservations/Riding Pass

Esplin stated that it has been brought to his attention the lack of time available for open riding specifically in the evenings, when youth can ride. School is not out till 3:30-4, leaving very little time to ride prior to reservations. One Patron asked for dedicated 2 hour time for those not affiliated with 4-H. This would allow for a riding time for them one time weekly. This will affect revenue a small amount as pass riders pay as well. We would not be getting reservation revenue. Esplin explained June reservations that allow Fall/Winter riding times. 4-H program has grown, having us allow them a 4 hour block. Open reservations have become smaller with larger groups taking most reservation times. Another arena is needed, and is in the Master Plan. Eplin is asking for approval of open 2 hour block, 5:30-7:30, Tuesdays and 2 spots on Sundays for open riding.

Nelson: How is that staffed?

Esplin: We staff with an hourly employee to open and close the facility. That happens regularly, and does not change staffing.

Nelson: Mon-Sat. is already on the table?

Esplin: We try not to have reservations on Saturday as that is used by open riding passes. We try not to break the day up with small 2hr. Blocks. We will continue to do all day reservations. Less pass riders on Sunday.

Goodlander: How did increased fees affect us?

Esplin: We lost renters. We were in 30-35 range, and now to the 17 range. Our revenue will not have changed much with increase. Has not looked at numbers, but not currently seen that effect. Impact comes with seasons. Also helps with Rodeo contestant availability.

Poulsen: We should look at stalls. He is embarrassed with the way they are. Speciality Act will not use them with the quality and price of their horses. Was the individual who was concerned about open riding give us a specific time?

Esplin: He indicated just an evening a week would be nice. We want to keep all patrons happy to the point that we are able.

Poulsen: So he is just asking for an open time?

Esplin: Yes, just allowing open times

Poulsen: Who is there now?

Esplin: Avalon Hills who rent weekly for Horse Therapy.

Esplin: Not necessarily a voting item as being aware of what is happening.

Poulsen: Is 4-H still at USU? He thought they had split.

Esplin: They are here every Wed. night. Continues to discuss the past trends with arena availability and current options. We will try for a year and see how that goes

Anderson: Feels that we are doing what we can to make the public happy.

4. Prioritizing 2024 RAPZ Requests

Please see attachments/proposals;

Some of these may work for ARPA Funding

1. Sheep and Goat Panels. With the new concrete, we are in need of additional panels. \$25,000 project. Due to contractors sharpening pencils and 10% contingency on all RAPZ, the money is available in Rapz currently. Do we consider that a continuation of the project and ask council? This

is a \$25000 purchase locally and gives us pens for all animals. There is funding in the project that was not used for concrete. This seems as a continuation of project. Was not in request for Rapz, so needs to go to council.

Goodlander: Thats a good idea to avoid gray area.

Esplin: Agreed

Goodlander: shouldn't be a problem

2. That takes us to next with Map of storm water issue. North of the Event Center, there is a bad erosion problem that can not seem to be fixed. This is roughly a \$100k project, engineers estimate. This would install a sidewalk and dish gutter to drain to west end and a small retention pond.

Goodlander:above ground?

Esplin: Yes. Will go along asphalt to gate at 400W.

Poulsen: depth?

Esplin: 2-3 in. Engineers will let us know. Could be storm water project for ARPA funding.

Discussion of when those applications need to be complete in order to be used, and how they can be used.

- 3.Adding additional sound treatment to the east wall of the Event Center. Additional \$20k needed for more improvement. With COVID traffic, it took a toll on flooring - and could also be used with ARPA funding.

Nelson: Asking about flooring options

Esplin: waiting on hard number from contractor.

4. Not ARPA eligible. - backup generator for Event Center. Asked several times, with no success. Roughly a \$250K project currently at design. Waiting on plans possibly late spring that can be put out for bid.

Anderson: This could be part of emergency planning area?

Discussion of how/what/where was used for Covid effects. We have gone through FEMA process, but was rejected. The facility is used for emergency shelter and reunification plan. If we do not have power, we are not effective. This is on RAPZ list, as we have asked all other options.

- 5.Ventilation in public space that should qualify for ARPA funding. Used Cain dairy examples of the ventilation process and how they are used. Jr. Livestock is in much need of this and how it affects animals. This would require us to rip out the West side and rebuild and install these fans. Discussion of the possibilities of this option. This is not currently an option.

Nelson: New Arena Proposal? Would this be introduced then?

Esplin: Yes

Continuing discussion of what this means and improvement for the indoor arena.

Goodlander: Has the money allocated been spent and can we use that?

Esplin: Explanation of what we are currently working on to solve this problem. Looking at close to a \$300K project for fans. New arena in master plan and be more effective in that area.

Poulsen: Moisture is creating problems with mold and rot

Esplin: This is a hard fix without rebuilding.

Clawson: Could something be rebuilt on current foundation?

Esplin: Built in 92? Code may not allow that. Lets not continue to put money into bandaids.

Nelson: Armory?

Esplin:

Anderson: Explanation of the work that has been done to work on this and how we are trying to move forward. Shawn Milne is also working on these options. We are looking at the potential of 3

more years.

Goodlander: Can you please explain how the Armory is helping us?

Esplin: This add 5 acres, building and office space.

Goodlander: Senior Center? Could it be used for that?

Discussion of Senior Center needs and options for them. Other areas available for building space and what space would be used for. Zootah is also an option, and could be potential property.

Anderson: Alma has asked about refinishing floor and was that done? Alma has stated that could be done with ARPA funding.

Esplin: We could get that done and under contract quickly.

Esplin: Storm Water on list and could possibly be ARPA. Issue of timeline with ARPA vs Rapz. Will still submit.

Sound Treatment is not high priority item

Sound barrier in function rooms is not great. Proposal would add doors inside the barn doors to sound barrier. Small ticket item that could be added.

Any Open Items? Asked room. No questions asked.

Nelson: asked Fair related questions that were answered by Esplin.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

May 14, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cache County Event Center

ADJOURN