

White County Ag Association Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

The meeting was held virtually over Zoom due to restrictions in place regarding COVID-19. All members were in attendance.

The meeting began at 6:30pm.

Emails were sent out to all Ag Association members regarding Purdue's guidelines. These guidelines were presented by Miranda and discussed.

There was discussion around the idea of someone else renting the fairgrounds and it was unknown at that time whether or not it would be an option. Luke touched on this topic saying he spoke with the County Commissioners, specifically John Heimlich. John was going to reach out to the other County Commissioners to see about someone else renting the fairgrounds, and he said he would like more time to discuss this with them.

One of the stipulations in Purdue's guidelines was to have insurance coverage in place during the fair to cover the issue of someone getting sick. Suzette discussed on this topic and said there is no policy available to purchase that would cover a disease/illness. There was discussion about the concern of being sued if someone were to get sick at the fair.

There was discussion during a prior Executive Committee meeting about potentially opening up a few food booths during the fair. Suzette talked to Roger Geisler and he was not in favor of opening up the Dairy Bar because it would be hard to gauge how many supplies, food, etc. you would need.

Some discussion was held regarding where the money would come from in order to get things purchased and ready for the fair. This brought up discussion how there are several other projects that need completed around the fairgrounds and the money saved could go towards completing those projects.

The social distancing rule was discussed and it was determined the seats in the arena would need to be measured apart in 6 feet increments. A family would be able to sit together, however, they would have to be 6 feet apart from the next person/family. Randy discussed how about 96 individuals would be able to sit in the main arena if they were seated 6 feet apart.

The Antique Tractors shared information to Ag Association members that they would not be having any activities during the fair dates, but discussed potentially having something on a weekend in the Fall. The show "Small Town Big Deal" was supposed to be at this year's fair and the Antique Tractors have spoken with them about putting our fair on the calendar for 2021.

There was a lot of discussion about the ability for someone else to rent the fairgrounds. Ag Association members were contacted by other people in the community who expressed a great interest in wanting

to do this. It was discussed how anyone is able to rent the fairgrounds, but they would need to make sure they have liability coverage and they would have to get their own insurance for the event.

At this point, there were two options moving forward that the board could begin planning for. The first option would be to have a virtual fair only. The second option would be to plan for both an in person fair as well as a virtual fair. The ability to have an in person fair is contingent on the county being in Stage 5 of the Governor's plan. A virtual fair would mean pictures only and no video as this is supposed to help "level the playing field" for all 4-H members.

There was a lot of discussion and questions regarding the wording of the documents sent out by Purdue such as who would have to wear masks, who would provide sanitizing equipment, etc. It was encouraged for members to review the documents and think of questions/suggestions to share/discuss. There was a suggestion to have a survey for 4-H members/people in the community to complete.

It was determined there were still a lot of questions and members were wanting more clarification on things. April made a motion to table the vote/decision until next week. This was seconded by Jon Tebo and the motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th at 6:30pm.

The meeting adjourned.