Sale Committee meeting March 11, 2010

Those in attendance: Rob Frank, Ed Herrera, Michelle Tummonds, Angie Ketscher, Karen Moon, Dan McNeley, Chad Boyd, Lee McConnell, Dave Bohnert, Dustin Johnson, Tiny Pedersen, Erik Davies and Shana Withee.

The meeting was called to order at 5:06pm

Minutes: Angie Ketscher moved to approve the minutes of the February 18th meeting as presented. Dave Bohnert seconded and the motion passed.

Old Business:

Fair Board Livestock Director: Dan McNeley was present and is the newly appointed Fair Board Member representing the livestock area. Rachel McNeley was also appointed to be the new Fair Board Livestock Director. Dan introduced himself and is here to get to know us and what we are about, and how things work. Lee McConnell gave a summary of the Sales Committee to date and welcomed Dan to the group.

Open Class: Chad Boyd was present and has expressed an interest in looking into the Open Class exhibits. Dan McNeley stated the fair board has also discussed the open class livestock and agreed that one problem with the program is the fact that animals don’t sign up until Wednesday of fair. It was thought that we should set a deadline earlier in August for sign ups so that it will be easier to prepare stalls for the animals. They will try to set an August 1 deadline this year for open class livestock entries.

It was felt that Open classes should be the same as the 4-H and FFA classes with the exception of an aged class and a “feeder” class rather than a “market” class. Open class animals do NOT sell through the auction.

Tiny Pederson moved to have Chad Boyd, Dan McNeley and Rachel McNeley form a sub-committee to deal with the open class exhibits. Dave Bohnert seconded and the motion passed.

Sale Sheets: Dustin passed around a re-worked sale sheet. He added a phone number to the form. Bobby Jo at Bank of Eastern Oregon has reviewed the sheet as well and everyone is happy with the new form. We need to emphasize the payment within 7 days again this year. It was thought to include notice of the 7 days payment with letters sent out to buyers this summer.

Tiny Pederson moved to approve the new sale sheet. Angie Ketscher seconded and the motion passed.

Grandstands/Arenas: Ed Herrera stated that we now need an engineer to design the lean-to to put the bleachers in. The engineering firm he has been working with wants $1500.00 to design the lean-to and another $2000 to design the bleachers. Ed has received several other names of people who may be willing to work with us for a lower fee. Ed is also going to talk with the County Court and see if we can find some plans for a lean-to that are already existing that we can “borrow”.

Work on the second show arena is separate from the bleacher project and Ed said that Farm Bureau may be willing to donate materials to help big the new arena.
Steer tagging:  Tagging and weigh-ins will be this Saturday, March 13. Angie will start at the fairgrounds at 9:00am. Lee will be going to Diamond, Roaring Springs and Fields. Dave Bohnert is going to Drewsey. Lee will move panels over to the beef scales for tagging before Saturday morning.

We have new universal white tags this year which will be used for BOTH 4-H and FFA. The buttons on the backs will still be green for 4-H and blue for FFA.

Meat Goats: There was discussion on having weights for the meat goats. We have had more goats consistently over the past couple of years. It was decided to make the minimum weight 80lbs and the maximum weight 105lbs. We will also strongly recommend that market and breeding goats be dehorned. (This needs to go into the fair book changes.)

New Business:

Photos: There was discussion on the photos of the supreme champions during the auction. It was felt that the photos this last year were awkward. There was discussion on creating a photo shoot area outside of the sale barn, or if we even need the animal in the photo. It was noted that the sale moved along much faster with the two doors this year so should we worry about taking a few minutes to take the photos? It was thought it may be better to have the photographer elevated so that they could take the picture over the top of the sale panels. It was decided that we really DO want the Champion, buyer and producer in the photo if at all possible. Angie Ketscher will talk to the photography club to see if they are willing to take the photos.

Buyer letter: Dave Bohnert and Rachel McNeley will be working on a letter to be sent out to buyers to be sent out early this summer.

Website: Dustin Johnson has worked on the sale committee website that is linked through the OSU site. He asked everyone to go and look at the sight and send feedback. It was thought that we could add the Open class deadlines to the site.

Projects at fairgrounds: Angie Ketscher is still waiting for the list from Don Slone. It was noted that the door at the north end of the sale barn needs repair.

Sheep judge: A question was brought up as to whether or not we will hire a new sheep judge for this fair? The committee was reminded that we voted to ask the judges from last year to return again this year. There will be no special sheep judge. It is also hoped that things will move along faster with two show rings.

Banners: Lee McConnell will have the banners and plaques made for the Supreme champions the same as last year. It was the consensus of the group to keep them the same.

Final deadline for tagging: The subject was brought up as to a final date of tagging for Sale participation. It was felt at some point that a definite deadline needs to be posted in the fair premium book. Tiny Pederson moved that starting in 2011 the final deadline for all beef animals to participate in the Fair auction be tagged by the second Saturday in March. If there are conflicts with the tagging date then members who wish to participate in fair should make arrangements to have their animals tagged earlier than the tagging date. All animals must be weighted on a certified scale and be tagged by a
member of the Sale Committee. The final deadline for small animals (Swine, Sheep & goats) will be June 15th. Angie Ketscher seconded and the motion passed.

Angie Ketscher moved to allow a 30 day grace period from March 13 2010 to April 13, 2010 for kids to have market beef projects tagged for this year only until the fair premium book changes can be made. There will also be a 30 day grace period for small animals. Breeding projects still have the June 15 deadline for all paperwork to be submitted to the Extension office with no grace period. Tiny Pedersen seconded and the motion passed.

**Next meeting:** Our next meeting will be May 4th at 5pm in the courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.