

## Meeting Minutes for Board Meeting - Monday 1/15/2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. on Monday, January 15, 2024.

Treasurer/Secretary Jen Milne reported the results of the Shoot Out. Net revenue after expenses was \$16,859, however it was noted that there are a few expenses that still need to be paid. The hats for the Shoot Out need to be paid, Mary Heffernan mentioned that last year the invoice was around \$400 so our numbers should not be too far off. Jen Milne also discussed the Sponsorship money raised this year is \$35,200. She also mentioned that we will need to purchase the sponsorship gift and advised last year we spent around \$1200 on the sponsor gift. It was discussed that we would need to pull a total of \$2,580 to pay for the silent auctions for Challenge of Champions, Jr High State Finals and High School State Finals. Kate Boles mentioned that she was willing to take on the silent auction committee and purchase the gifts for the silent auctions. It was mentioned that each District is asked to bring a silent auction package and the money raised goes to the state.

Jen Milne also discussed the fundraising for the scholarships. Susan Hughes confirmed there are 35 seniors graduating this year. So far we have raised \$7,680 for the scholarships, this was raised from the gun raffle, District 1 sweatshirts and tee shirts sales, and vendor fees. We have collected \$1725 in vendor fees so far this rodeo season, and the vendor fees are going toward the scholarship fund, this amount is included in the reported \$7,680. Laura Lafayette has volunteered to chair the scholarship process again this year. Laura advised that she talked to the Loft informally and they are willing to donate to a scholarship. Kiwanis will be at the next rodeo and we will confirm if they are going to be issuing a scholarship or not, last year they were not certain they would fund a scholarship or not. The scholarship applications will open in February and be due 2 weeks before April 5-7th rodeo. The interviews will be held at this rodeo as well. Laura will put together the interview committee.

The end of year awards budget was brought up and discussed. Mary Heffernan shared with the group that many of the high school contestants have reached out to her with an interest in our district purchasing year end event winners saddles or saddle certificates. The cost to purchase saddle certificates for all high school events was discussed and it was advised this would add an additional \$18,000 to \$20,000 cost to add to our year end awards budget. Mary confirmed that last rodeo season she helped to raise additional award sponsorship money, around \$8,000 in additional sponsorship money. She will be doing this again and has added the ability for a business to be a saddle sponsor. Mary advised that Slone Saddles will match 20% of the purchased certificate, for Shoot out we bought \$2000 and the certificate was for \$2,400. The idea was

brought up to maybe reduce the saddle certificates to \$1000 so we could still get awards down to multiple places. Jenny Adams commented that \$1,000 to \$1,200 is not enough and she likes to see more kids get awards at the end of the year. Andree Early also agrees with giving more kids awards and was concerned if we didn't give a saddle to every event who would decide what events received the saddles. Colton Suther mentioned that there are several other districts that give saddles for event winners and he would like to see that happen in our district. PJ Davis commented that he felt the event winners for high school should get the event winning saddles and it would be something a junior high member would strive to achieve when they were in high school. Mark Kampmann mentioned that he would like to see a better budget of what the actual cost would be to purchase the event saddles. Clinton Cash mentioned the idea of getting a gift certificate for a cowboy hat, maybe from American as they are a National High School Rodeo sponsor. Brian Sites mentioned that the rough stock riders would prefer awards that were in line with their event, bull riding spurs were an example, rather than regular spurs. Jen Milne mentioned that if we do event winner saddles award that we need to ensure that we are able to sustain this going forward, Mary Heffernan also agreed that we need to make a long term plan to ensure we can continue this into the future. It was discussed that the executive board would put together a survey to go out to the members and associate members regarding their preference on the event saddles and willingness to support raising additional sponsorship money.

Jen Milne asked the question regarding the queen contest and who was in charge of organizing the contest. Jenny Adams discussed that the silent auction Josie had for the Shoot Out raised \$1,345 for the next incoming queen to help support the purchase of her queen attire for state finals. Josie has also created a list of queen duties and expectations to help the next queen, which also includes a day by day breakdown of what to expect at State Finals. Josie is willing to have an informative meeting with interested candidates to discuss the role and job duties of the District 1 Queen, it was discussed that we will announce that to the district and try to put the meeting on the schedule. Mark Kampmann advised that he spoke with Stephanie Hammons who has previously been involved with organizing the queen contest. She said that if she is in town she will help with the organization and competition. It was discussed that incoming freshmen are not supposed to run for the queen. It was also discussed that the state will provide the paperwork for judging. The competition is being planned to take place the weekend of the April rodeo with the new queen being crowned at the Etna Rodeo. Mary Heffernan advised that she would work on getting the queen crown and buckle ordered.

Mark Kamplann mentioned that animal treatment after runs needs to be addressed. PJ Davis agreed and advised that as a District and representative of the sport of rodeo we

need to take treatment of animals seriously to ensure we are good stewards of the sport of rodeo. Clinton advised that he will check with the date and agreed it needs to be taken seriously. It was also mentioned by John Suther that when the event happens or when a contest is noticed to not follow the rules of animal care that the executive board needs to be advised immediately so that it can be addressed with the disciplinary committee. All agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55p.m.