



Clallam County Fairgrounds Parks, Fair & Facilities Department

1608 W. 16th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98363

CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR ADVISORY BOARD Minutes of August 27, 2025, Regular Meeting – In Person and Via Zoom

Name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Position
Bekkevar-Miller, Megan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					<i>Secretary</i> , At-Large
Mowbray, Julie	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X					Large Animals and FFA
Beckstrom, Teresa	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X					Agriculture At-Large
Kelly, Cindy	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X					<i>Vice President</i> , Grange
Cristion, Cara	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					Horse Groups
Sirguy, Katie	X	-	X	X	X	X		X					At-Large
<i>Vacant</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					Home Arts/Hobbies & Crafts
Johnson, Carol	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X					Port Angeles Chamber
Martinez-Bailey, Kari	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					City of Port Angeles
Cozzolino, Tina	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	-					Garden Clubs
<i>Vacant</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					Small Animals
Paulson, Christine	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					Sequim/Dungeness
Greer, Melanie	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					<i>President</i> , Arts/Photography
Wilson, LaDona	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					4-H Homemakers
Winn, George	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					West End

Guests Present	Bob Schilling, Debbie Baker, Dave Baker, Mike Morris, Mike Williams, Gayle Baker, Len Grim
Staff Present	Don Crawford, Melissa Earley, Angie Bronson, Barb
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Melanie Greer.
Pledge of Allegiance & Land Acknowledgement	Cindy Kelly led the Pledge of Allegiance and Land Acknowledgement.
Quorum	Yes
Request for Modification / Approval of Minutes	Cindy made a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Teresa seconded. Motion Passed
Public Comment on Agenda Items	None
Committee Reports	<u>Pacific Northwest Junior Livestock Auction:</u> Cara stated that the auction went well this year, and we had several new buyers which was great. It was also great to be allowed to have auction animals haul out at 5 pm on Sunday to get animals settled in at the farm during daylight. Teresa asked if the auction board volunteers who are not superintendents or fair board members

	could get passes into the fair for free with all the work that the board is putting in to help things run outside of the auction board. Don stated that he will make accommodations in future year if going forward. Cindy stated that she had a few people asked her about the animals leaving early. She explained that the fair board had discussed the issue and voted to approve the recommendation. 2. 4-H / WSU Extension: Melanie said that fair went well, and Laurie changed how people picked up record books this year which made things go very smooth. The big issue was getting kids signed up for state fair this year because it is all online. The internet/cell service/Wi-Fi at the fair did not work well and caused many issues. Don stated that they have already spoken with the County IT department, and they have reached out with the primary provider (Verizon) for help with next year going forward. Melanie asked if anyone has asked the Port of Port Angeles if they have some kind of blockers up that are messing with the internet because of the problems all around. Don said he is willing to make that phone call to find out. He will work with some local providers to see what he can come up for fair next year, especially for ease of signing up for 4-H state requirements. Don stated that Olypen is unwilling or unable to do things over the years. a. Barn Superintendent Facilities Request submittals due 8.27.2025: They are still waiting on some barns to submit their requests for issues with their barns and/or public and fair board members. The sooner people get those in, the better for everyone. b. FAB Barn Superintendent, judges, and barn volunteers staffing 2025 recap, and anticipated 2026 needs – submittal to Melanie due 8.27.2025: Don would like Melanie to know if any positions are opening and need to be filled. Clarification: Melanie is copied on things, she is not taking on that role It is still up to the fair office, etc. c. Continuing Biohazard requirements and plans (Rescue Disinfectant): Don asked if we still need the same type of disinfectant for years going forward. This stuff will be used extensively and there was a problem this year that it will be required to be used. LaDonna asked if we can reuse the bottles with the labels for years going forward because they must have labels. Don stated officially no, but yes, we can use them again. Don suggested writing a white sheet with problems why the barns were sorted the way that they were and the problems that came up and the biosecurity and why it paid off. Melanie suggested it would be a good idea to be brought to the state fair convention or super school.
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	There was an issue with dogs coming onto the fairgrounds when they were not supposed to be. It has since been confirmed that there was a confirmed case of Parvo with one of the dogs that was not supposed to be there. There was discussion regarding requiring parvo vaccine going forward for dogs that are exhibiting on the fairgrounds and recommending it for service dogs that come onto the fairgrounds. This cannot go away, our area does not get cold or hot enough to get rid of the disease that will continue to live on the fairgrounds. Don recommendation is to require the vaccine for dogs showing and recommend that all dogs on fairgrounds be vaccinated. LaDona asked if it is something that should also go into a public service announcement that there was a confirmed case of Parvo in the area. Don will check to see if they have a sign at the rodeo gate just like the other fairground gates with the RCWs for the dog requirements. Megan stated she did not, along with several other people, see a sign regarding no dogs on property except service dogs. Cindy made a motion to postpone discussion until the next meeting. George seconded. The following RCW's and WAC could apply, RCW 70.84.021, RCW49.60.040, RW 49.60.215, WAC 162.26.130 d. Service Animal ADA compliance Strategies: 1. Don said the issue is that the public at large has a complete misunderstanding of what a service animal is. Service animals are specially trained for a specific purpose. They are extremely well trained and behaved. They are not emotional support animals, pets, etc. The fair is allowed to ask two questions at the gate: Is this animal trained to be a service animal? What is it trained to do? Unless a service animal causes problems, they are allowed to be anywhere. If an animal causes problems, even a service animal, the fair can ask or demand that a service animal leave the fairgrounds. Don is trying to get a commissioned officer or set person who can be at the animal side of the fairgrounds to help with problems. He should have an answer within the next three months. It is a money issue because that person would have to be paid. For this year because it was such an issue signs were put up at fair saying not outside animals in the barns, including service animals, allowed in the barn, which is a problem but was the only solution in this case. 3. <u>Olympic Peninsula Rodeo Association:</u> a. Event Recap: Geroqe spoke it was a good rodeo; it was overall probably the best in the last three years.
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	Contracts for the stock, announcer and clown are signed for next year. b. OPRA event and operations communication specialist & equipping: Don said there was some problems with radios this year that came from Clallam County Emergency Services. He would like feedback on how they worked for next year. c. Junior Rodeo Recap: Report will be given at next fair board meeting.
Special Committee Reports	<u>Superintendents' Handbook:</u> No update <u>Fairgrounds Master Plan:</u> No update <u>Fair Budget:</u> No update <u>Fair Ribbons & Trophies:</u> Christine said there were a few barns that had a lot more animals this year than some barns were expecting so they were short on some ribbons but made what we had work. When Laurie gets back to town they will go through the boxes and get counts. She does think that eventually if we go to a one ribbon design (Clallam County only, not Open Class, 4-H & FFA) it would work better for going forward. <u>By-Laws Committee:</u> No update
Unfinished Business	<u>2026 Master Fee Schedule Recommendation:</u> No update
New Business	<u>FAB Member Fair Report w/ Action Items for deliberation:</u> If there is anything that needs talked about fair for the next meeting, let Don know by the next meeting. <u>2026 Fair Theme Recommendation Adoption Process:</u> Laurie sent out the theme ideas and once we vote them down to one, Don will get a graphic designer to come up with the logo for the theme, so it can be announced for the September meeting, hopefully for fair board to be able to formally adopt the logo and theme design at that time. <u>City of PA Fair Vendor permitting and a fair special occasion permit:</u> Don stated that during the fair we were notified that there are some permits that the fair has never gotten or has never required of us before. We are the only social type of event that does not require the permits. Nothing they are asking for is onerous permits. It would require them to ask for additional things when they get their business license from the City of PA. Fire Marshall has some items that some vendors violate fire code if they move a little from where their original space is. Over the next few months, they will be working on education for vendors to know the protocols the city requires, etc. There are different requirements for different vendor set-ups, and the individual vendors should know those requirements. Christine asked if there was a health inspector that came through because she saw a lot of health code violations such as no gloves, hairnets, etc. Don said yes, the health inspector did come through. Going forward, if someone sees something that does

	not look right, they need to go to the office and let them know so they can try and correct the issues. Melanie wanted to make sure everyone knows that depending on the set-up there are somethings that are not required depending on that set-up such as gloves in some cases.
Staff Reports	1. <u>WSDA Capital Grant Application Update:</u> Don received permission from BOCC to proceed with grant for the rodeo grounds. He has all the information he needs from OPRA to get the grant written up. He will get it written and sent to OPRA to make sure nothing is missing and get it sent out by the deadline in September. 2. <u>Beef, Swine, Junior Livestock Auction Arena Covers</u> a. <u>Superintendent needs assessment – solution specifications & Capital plan:</u> Don state he would like to start working on getting covers for both the arena and stands of the beef arena, swine arena and the Sunny Farm Stage. Wiping off the bleachers if it is raining from the garbage or bathroom cleaning people. It did not happen this year and people were using sleeves, etc to try to get a dry seat. Don would like specifics for each arena and what the non-negotiables would be for each. It would be good to include in the revised master plan. b. <u>Capital Planning</u> 3. <u>2025 Fair Attendance and Admission Revenue:</u> A document was handed out that shows attendance for each day versus the last five fairs. The gate revenues in 2019 was \$139,464, 2022 was \$163,614, 2023 was \$183,615, 2024 was \$191.967 and 2025 was \$165,741. The fair attendance in 2019 was 29,515, 2022 was 31,509, 2023 was 29,408, 2024 was 28,773 and 2025 was 25,675. There was definitely a difference shown this year on the day with rain, but weather is something that we can never predict or do anything about year to year.
Other Items	1. <u>Melanie & Cindy Grant:</u> The National Grange offered 30 – \$1,000 grants and two \$5,000 grants to granges that partnered with another agency to increase membership. Dry Creek Grange and WSU Extension applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from National Grange (only two were given out in the country). They will be putting on a veterinary science class throughout the fall from 4-H & the Dry Creek Grange available to Grange and 4-H youth. They will be using a 4-H curriculum from the University of Florida.

	2. <u>Political issues:</u> Don stated that every year there are issues with political concerns. First amendment right within reason. Political parties' issues with someone wearing apparel that many people thought was in poor taste. There was discussion with the County sheriff's department that nothing can be done based on what someone is wearing. There was a line that was crossed with that individual and political party that is now being reviewed by the County Civil Prosecutor because of actions taken. 3. <u>Budget Questions:</u> Cindy proposed meeting with the staff on September 10. Don said that it is not possible until after the month of September because of additional things put on the staff in regard to the county. Cindy stated that we wanted to meet to have a report for the September meeting which probably will not happen without it. 4. <u>Royalty:</u> Cindy read Laurie's report of "The court finished out their year after fair ended this year. Our new year will start October. I will be sending out applications to all the high schools in Clallam County. I handed some applications out at fair as well. Our coronation will be held January 31 at 1pm at the Home Arts/Hobbies and Craft building this year." 5. <u>Volunteer Applications:</u> Don ask everyone to remember to have applications and rosters for any work parties.
Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items	1. <u>Gayle Baker of Sequim:</u> Voiced her concerns on inappropriate and aggressive behavior by the democratic booth towards the vendor selling Trump merchandise that should have resulted in dismissal of those individuals per the rules of the fair contract. 2. <u>Michael Williams:</u> He had a booth at the fair, not far from Carl Ramsey, Michael spoke with Carl, and he received an email that he thought would be read today at the meeting. Don stated that the email would not be ready, but that there are holes in the vendor agreement that have been brought to light this year and will be dealt with before next year's fair contracts. There is a fine line with the first amendment rights in maintaining order on the grounds. Don stated that he did not hear about the demonstration or skit until after the fair and since the and actions have been taken that involve the civil prosecutor. There was additional discussion. 3. <u>Bob Schilling:</u> Stated that the first amendment does not allow for falsehood; the Supreme Court has been over several times. That is based on the previously read RCWs: libel written or slander. There was additional dialogue on the subject.
Adjournment	George moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Cindy. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Bekkevar
Secretary

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