

Rodgers Committee Meeting 2.6.24

Attendees:

Minutes taken by: Jessica Marquez

Audri Bakke	Eric Moxon
Alice Johnston	Melissa (sub)
Antonio Rosiles	Bob Safford
Tony Turri	Sarah Richardson
Emily Brown	Todd Henderson
Jason Armstrong	Justine Felton
Jared Caylor	Jason Enos

1. Call meeting to order: 4:04 p.m.
2. Endowment Update: Eric shared that many anticipate rate drops. The value dropped a bit from 1 month ago and nothing called anytime soon. Rates were low for many years and last year they were up 7% this year they are down about 1%.

Total Value - \$3,162,915
Par Value \$3,256,000- Bonds and CD's
Target Par Value \$3,300,000

Ideas:

Short term rates higher for longer
Long term rates are starting to move up
We think Feds are going to hold until 2H 2024
As rates drop price of munis will rise

3. Student Update- Hailey is the FFA President and reported on the following:
 - Annual 3rd grade Ag Day
 - Haunted Barn raised \$2,000
 - Fair Animals have arrived with 13 pigs and 10 sheep
 - Greenhouse is up and running with succulents
 - 8th grade Ag Day
4. "Ranch Period" Update- Emily Brown has it this semester. Alice had it last semester. She worked on social media to keep everyone informed. Other things that they are able to do doing this time are as follow:
 - Facility request for teachers who come out to visit the Ranch
 - Getting greenhouse spick & span, they will be planting this Friday
 - Hiccups with irrigation
 - Controls are working well
 - Newsletter is up and running
 - Ranch PD- hosting a Professional Development
 - Ranch Showcase

A lot of staff has not been at the Ranch so they would like to do tours, lessons, get departments out there. The art department could even come out and paint out here. The ideas are endless so if anyone has ideas, please feel free to share with Emily. Jared mentioned that as we develop we will grow those opportunities.

5. Ranch Maintenance Update- Tony Rosiles shared the following:
 1. Water lines were leaking under the concrete. Mark and RJ helped with that project.
 2. He has been trying to clean up the place.
 3. There are a lot of speeding cars racing up the road (daily and especially at night).

Jared asked that Jason E. do some research of prefab speed bumps. Asphalt and speed bumps would be great but might be costly. Safford suggested that we get more gravel and also, he mentioned that the palm trees by the septic are getting huge. Tony Turri asked if Tony R. had any plans to clip the pasture on the marguerite, and Tony plans to take care of that this spring.

6. Pigeon Mitigation Team- Jared has not been able to speak with the pigeon person. There were some people that might be interested in coming out with pellet guns to take care of this problem. Sarah has 2 volunteers and we would just need to communicate with the staff. It may take a few days. Jason E. shared that Mark can take care of it too. Felipe didn't want to do it. But Jason will discuss with Mark to see if he is still interested.
7. Spring Showcase Event- 4/17 5:30-7:30
 - 5:30 Welcome
 - 5:30-6:00 Eating (culinary will help)
 - 6:00-6:05 Supt will give a message and introduce the keynote speaker. He is hoping to get Gallagher or Dahle if possible. Emily has a contact with Dahle so she can reach out to him.
 - 6:20-7:30 Breakouts

Justine and Emily have been discussing ideas based on the notes that we had from our last years events. Jessica shared those with Justine and there were some particulars that they wanted to make sure to touch on this year. They want to create a map of the Ranch that will show where everything is and also show what we need. There may be some people willing to help with that or know contacts. Emily would like a 'sip and see' event, like a happy hour where people can go around to tables and still follow up. Also, a table talk where people are able to chat and interact with one another. This included community outreach, partnerships, industry folks and more.

Jared likes the idea of having a table talk. He envisions something like this example:

Natalia Caylor (Media/Design Teacher)
Rene from Interland (Business Owner)
Students

Jason A. shared that we need advisory too. We need to invite reps from your industry.

Tony Turri shared that last years event was great, but its nice to see that the group want to make it even better this year. Justine shared that Jeff Nelson is on the list and ready to cook so we will have to decide if we want tri tip, tacos or something else.

8. Walnut Orchard- Tony shared that there is not much going on . Pruning soon and removing the stakes. They have a value and we have about 1180 of them. They are 8 ft tall / 2 ¼ inches. Tony Turri paid .50-\$1.00 for some before and he might be interested in them. We will bundle them into 500 per bundle and surplus them. They will be able to load them when it comes time for people to pick them up.

The pruning will be 1 full year of no harvest and then at 1 year out, we should see a full harvest.

9. Olive Orchard- Tony shared that they are growing. 80 trees total and some died. Some are not pushing. They already expected this and they will be replaced. There is always a little erosion to be expected and it is not as bad this year.
10. Peach Orchard- Tony asked, do we want a new one or not have one at all? The trees have a fungus. Jared likes having the peaches. Tony Turri asked if the fungus was on the ground. Tony R suggested that if we get some that maybe we plant in another areas. We may want to replant a new orchard. We can plant something else even if we wanted to. We would let the current orchard stay as is since fungus could be in the ground.. Emily likes that idea of having a new peach orchard.
11. Lamb Pens- Emily shared that there is no permanent space and we have 9 lambs and we keep growing every year. Should we invest long term. The group discussed aluminum type pens and possibly having a dedicated space for them.
12. Electricity to Hog Pens- Right now we are using heat lamps and recently had a blown circuit. Tony R mentioned that RJ looked at it and he said it may need rework on the entire panel. Emily thinks it would be nice to have electricity for the long term.

Bob shared that there are 200 amps but RJ stated that we needed a bigger panel and then we'd need to do all the breakers.

Jared shared that in this committee if all were in favor of doing things like this. We come up with a plan, he takes it to the board and add it to the budget development for 24/25. Emily shared if we got the trees donated, we'd only have to do irrigation and that would minimize the cost. Jared likes that idea.

Tony Turri thinks the kids could probably help with irrigation if it's possible maybe through Ag Mechanics. Safford thinks we could even talk to Laurel, they have donated to us before.

The group walked over to the pens to take a look at the current space to see the possibilities. After looking at the space, the group returned to the meeting area. Jared will bring the 3 items to the board to see how we can pay for it.

Some questions and discussions were shared: Can Nolan help build. How would students be involved. Could it be a student project. Can kids complete enough work in one period. Would that allow enough time. Can kids work during the weekends and get paid to do the work rather than the district hiring someone to come out and do it. There becomes the question of supervision. Jason shared that having the kids work on a project like this would be great but it takes a great deal of planning, supervision and coordination.

Jessica will add this item as an info. item on the February board agenda for the Board to review and discuss.

There was a discussion of the sheep and Alice shared that they like them to be on concrete with shavings. Tony R also mentioned that we can do the project in sections if that helps.

13. Cow Update- Emily met with Ty and shared a calendar of events happening each month. She tried to work calendar from an educational standpoint to allow the students time to participate.

Ty's Formal Recommendations are:

Keep herd commercial, you can provide the same student experience without the investment of time, money and staff needed. Use local industry people to get purebred experience.
Send someone to ultrasound school and purchase an ultrasound, but still have Mike come to preg-he is very knowledgeable
Have Mike set up a vaccine schedule for cows and calves
Students should be doing EVERYTHING
Keep things easy and simple

Need to Add:

Cow Vaccination Schedule- Tell to Mike (Add working cattle in chutes along with this).
Moving Cattle/Rotational Grazing: When do we move them

There was a discussion of in the future possibly butchering steers. Emily thinks we could incorporate the following:

- Feed trails
- Butcher on site or go to Dales
- Raffle or fundraiser
- Staff BBQ
- FFA Banquet
- Not ready for managing sales but it could get to that point
- Serve it at the branding event

Tony Turri thinks this is a great idea and it would be nice to do a farm to fork and we should speak with Dave at Chico State for some ideas.

14. Fallen Tree/Erosion Issue- Tony Rosiles shared that an oak tree fell and so he lit it on fire and got rid of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the tree. There is a partial trunk still there but will get that out and through it in the burn pile. Jared thanked Tony for taking care of that.
15. Tail Planning/Native Plants- Jared asked Dave Tinker to work on this and bring back some information. He will share the information with the group at the May meeting.
16. Pond Restoration Discussion- Dave has ideas and other folks have had ideas but does anyone else have thoughts on this idea? Tony R. shared that water drains to the north and water comes in and out, nothing is holding the water back. Jared thinks we may be able to dam it up and hold the water in. Tony Turri thinks that dirt, clay or bentonite might work. We dump a load of sludge in there or plastic liners. He has never done it but knows people who have. Jason A. knows Chad Santier he is a Wetland Program Supervisor for North American Waterfowl and restores wetland. He can possibly come and take a look at it. Jared thinks that is awesome and a great idea. Alice has a neighbor who had a pond restored recently so she can ask questions and bring back ideas as well.
17. Quotes on Dirt Work for A-2- Tony R got 3 quotes which were pretty close on prices. What are we going to plant. They can level it but if we do rows the prices will be different than if we did checks for alfalfa.

Tony Turri asked if we belong to irrigated lands program. It has to do with water drainage. They trace water in case there was ever something in it and we got sued. He also shared that we want to make sure we have a flood plan when we do the levelling. Tony T. Suggests we make it flat but

it might cost more money. 8-11 K is the ball park of bids for the 11 acres. Tony Turri shared if we level, they usually do drainage at the same time. Tony R. shared that they want to come and survey it. Tony Turri suggested:

1. Independent survey then put it back out to bid
2. Put back out to bid after hays off

A survey could cost \$500-\$800 . Jason Enos thinks we should do a survey first.

18. Ag Teacher Representation Discussion- Jared shared that when this group was restructured we landed on 3 teachers. But now Emily is the CTE Pathway Coordinator and she needs to be here so we have her, plus the 3 teachers.
19. Billboard Sign Information – Jared shared that Sierra Pacific approached us about advertising on South Avenue. This would be for job opportunities and mainly at the Richfield and Red Bluff Facilities. There is no firm offer yet but will pay 5-10K per year to have some level of advertisement. Jason and Jared met and it sounds like it will cost 50-70 K to install. The questions become:
 1. Will they pay and treat it like a donation
 2. Do we pay and charge whoever we want later
 3. Do we pay and have a term agreement

We are waiting to hear back from McHale's on the sign. It would potentially be lit. Jason shared that there are a lot of positives besides generating revenue. McHale's shared that once it is there, it is there forever and can generate money in the future for a long time. Jared spoke about this being a permanent component too. To recognize CUHSD. Rodgers Ranch (designate as school property).

Some drawbacks/thoughts:

It won't impede Harvest
We may have to take out a few trees
If it's a lighted sign, it will be at the top of the hill

Tony Turri asked if there were any county restrictions, Jared isn't sure but checking with legal counsel. Emily is concerned about the neighbors especially if its lighted. Tony Turri is not a huge fan but 10K is a lot of money. He wants this to benefit the students. Jason A. thinks we should do some more research.

20. Private Sector Rep Suggestions:
Emily shared that Ty will do it if we don't have anyone else.

Tony Turri suggested Kevin Randall
Todd Henderson suggested Dave Lester- He's commercial and always has an option – we get bulls from him.

Emily thinks that we might be able to find someone at the showcase event. Maybe we can have a sign up at the event. All agreed this is a good idea.

21. Non-Ag Rep Suggestions- Emily shared that some suggestions include: Button, Lamson, Fredrickson and Megan Johnson. All seem to really think Debbi Lamson would be a good person to add due to her background and experience working out here. Jared will reach out to Debbie Lamson to see if she is interested. The second pick will be Shaun Fredrickson. He is a science teacher and has studied vet medicine too.
22. Monthly Ranch Management Meeting- There is a monthly meeting to discuss the nuts and bolts. He just wanted to share the information.
23. Jason A. asked if we needed to keep certifying scales. There is a \$140 fee and we don't sell anything anymore, so do we need them certified. Tony Turri shared that we may want to keep up on it because it might be harder to renew it later if we need to.

Meeting Ended at 5:53 p.m.