

By ROBERT PIERCE

• Daily Leader

The Seward County Fair Association hosted its annual meeting Thursday evening at Seward County Community College/Area Technical School.

The board elected three new members, including two for three-year terms and one for a one-year term to finish the term of former member Ryan Orrick.

Those elected include Angela Eichman, who was selected to fill Orrick's position, along with Erin Russell and Tasha Newton. Judy Williams was re-elected to a three-year term.

According to records obtained from former treasurer Evan Winchester, the fair association has grossed just more than \$11,500 as of Thursday for its 2009 fiscal year.

Fair board members were also asked what they believe can be done to improve the Seward County Five State Fair.

Jeff Louderback, president

"I'd like to see more evening time activities brought in of different varieties than what we have had – concerts, rodeos, things like that.

See if we can improve on the ground facilities a little better than what they are at the time.”

Barr Moon

“The grounds are in dire need of

repairs. We’ve been using almost 50-year-old buildings for a long time. Have to make a lot of repairs before the fair. I would like to see a lot more diversity in our fair. See more of the Hispanic community involvement along with their affiliation.”

Terry Davenport

“I think we need more of the public participation and involvement.”

Karen Warden, first vice president

“A lot more participation from everybody in the community. We need the numbers out there to show the support for the vendors and all the kids and everybody who’s out there. That’s what I think is being looked at, is for the numbers to show up for the exhibits, to look at everything at the fair, stuff like that.”

Judy Williams, secretary

“I think we need more activities for the variety of the people and patrons of our community.”

Tasha Newton

“In my opinion, there needs to be a lot more awareness throughout the community about the events that do go on at the fair and also events that people are really interested in such as our diversity in our community. There needs to be events focused towards the more diverse crowd. There just needs to be more awareness throughout the community so everybody could get involved and the whole community can get involved – young, old, anybody.”

Erin Russell, treasurer

“We need to reach out to the community somehow and see what the community as a consensus thinks needs to be done. Everybody has ideas. We’re a group of people, but Liberal’s a bigger group. I think if we can figure out a way to reach out and ask a larger group of people what they think, we might have some more turnout.”