

Sanders County Fair Board  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2022  
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 6:01 pm by Randy Woods

Present: Randy Woods, Jim Newman, Kim McMahon, Brian Crain, Ted Forkum, Melissa Cady

Also Present: Hailey Coe, Don Burrell

**Approval of March 9, 2022 meeting minutes - Motion made by Kim, seconded by Brian 5-0 pass**

**NON-AGENDA:**

Randy Woods asked for public participation in Non-Agenda items. Don Burrell was upset that nobody informed him of the board meeting date and time change, Randy told him that it was posted at the court house and the post office and that if we reached out to him then we would have to reach out to everybody in the county to let them know. He is also upset that the fair took back the small pop booth, Randy informed him that the board has chosen to use that as a merchandise booth since the concessionaires group has another booth that sells soda as well. Don asked if they could set up tubs to sell drinks out of instead, the board said no because they would be blocking the walk ways. He also asked if we had any booths open because he has a group that may be interested in running it, Melissa let him know that we have one available in the long concessions

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The price of putting on the rodeo is going to increase around \$27,000 due to the purse increase, the need to hire extra help, and the price of bringing in more stock for three full performances.

**Brian moved to approve the increase in cost of producing the rodeos for up to \$27,000, seconded by Ted 5-0 pass**

We are going to need at least six people each night helping back in the chutes for the rodeos and need to figure out if they are getting paid or just volunteers; Randy said they can have parking passes and eat at the hospitality tent. Kim thinks it would be a good idea to have a typed out set of rules/expectations so that everybody helping knows what they are there to do.

Melissa would like to know what we are supposed to be offering demo sponsors because we don't have a replay screen to put them on or anything like that. Randy mentioned a couple seats in the bucking chutes and a parking pass but said that we should talk to Johnny to see what he thinks. This topic has been tabled until Randy and Melissa speak more with Johnny.

Randy, Melissa, and Hailey will be meeting with Riffles to get the domain transferred over so that we can get the website live. The initial cost to get ShoWorks up and running was \$2195, in

addition to this we need to look into purchasing 2-3 more iPads for the judges to use. Randy recommended getting new ones for in the office and letting the open class judges use the older ones that we already have.

Melissa spoke with Rich and the open class superintendents and clerks are considered employees of the fair, they are covered under our workmans comp. We need to write up an MOU with them to layout some more ground rules, specifically focusing on where they're allowed to park and what times they are expected to be here as well as letting them know that the fair will no longer be providing lunches for them on judging days.

We are coming into budget time so we need to start looking at any projects we might be interested in pursuing. Typically the county prefers that the budget is written up in May and turned in the beginning of June for commissioner approval. The fair is going to be taking over the river park so we will need to account for hiring another employee, purchasing a riding lawnmower, pumping the bathroom, a sprinkler system, etc.

Juli Thurston gave the 4H report. The sand, gravel, and mats for the horse stalls should be here April 19 and they will start putting them in around May 1. They got some wood to help decorate the inside of the home-ec building.

Melissa Cady gave the fair manager's report. The speakers are here, she let Derek know what she wants built. Josh Smith got the LEDs on the ends of the barns and he's working on installing all of the multi-plugs. Mike Taylor ordered the ag bathroom stalls and got the LED lights put in the pavilion. The website is done, we are just waiting to get the domain transferred over. The events have been created on Facebook; tickets will go on sale July 1 and open class entries will open the same day. All of the food vendors for monster trucks are secured, Melissa is trying to get Hope for Harlee to do a burger booth for monster trucks and motocross. The letter informing the fire departments that they must purchase a booth to sell raffle tickets will be going out certified tomorrow. The new owners of the Dew Duck didn't carry over any previous reservations, the cost of the rooms went from \$1800 to \$4700, and it has to be paid for upfront. We need to make sure that people dropping off open class exhibits drop their stuff off and leave, they cannot park inside of the grounds. We also might look into changing the day that people can pick up their premiums and exhibits due to the fact that Sunday is the busiest day of the fair and it gets to be overwhelming; Kalispell mails checks out the Monday after their fair. Melissa would like for our fair to become a sponsor for the Montana Circuit Finals jackets. Juli sent information about a charity golf tournament asking for money, Kim said she didn't think we could as a county entity. Melissa and Kim will continue to work on getting the permits in place for the new pole barn.

**Ted moved to approve the claims, seconded by Kim 5-0 pass**

**Kim moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Jim 5-0 pass**

**Kim moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 pm, seconded by Brian 5-0 pass**