

Sanders County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2022
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 6:02 pm by Jim Newman

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

Also Present: Hailey Coe, Juli Thurston

Approval of May 11, 2022 meeting minutes – Motion made by Kim, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

NON-AGENDA:

Jim Newman asked for public participation in Non-Agenda items. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

The new budget is due June 15, the meeting with the commissioners will be July 14. Kim recommended that everybody look it over and email any suggestions that they have. Melissa would like to look into purchasing a truck for fair errands, getting a frontend loader, capping the bleachers, and replacing the water lines on the fairgrounds. Brian suggested replacing the dirt in the main arena to improve the quality for rodeo contestants.

We need a new parking/ticketing crew; Joe cannot get enough people to do it this year. The contracts need to be put out for bid legally. The parking crew was previously paid \$9000 to cover travel expenses since they were coming from Idaho, Melissa thinks that it could be reduced to \$8000 if they are local; the ticketing contract is at \$1000 and should stay at that.

Kim moved to advertise the parking/ticketing contracts with the parking contract at \$8000 with the potential to negotiate to cover travel expenses, seconded by Ted 4-0 pass

The board briefly discussed the ag-mechanic contest that Justin Wright proposed at the May 11 board meeting.

Kim moved to approve the Sanders County Ag-Mechanics show addition to the Sanders County Fair, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

Kim drafted a board travel policy. This topic was tabled until the next meeting so that Randy can be present.

Melissa feels that if the fairgrounds are going to be used as an emergency animal shelter location, we should set up portable pens in the south field. It is too dangerous to risk any chance of sick animals infecting our rodeo stock and the 4H livestock. Kim recommended discontinuing stall rentals at least a month before fair to ensure that there is enough time for them to disinfect

themselves. Jim suggested having a policy that requires proof of vaccination and a health inspection before allowing them to stay here. Brian attended the meeting and they said that they could possibly apply for a grant to get panels as long as we can store them on the grounds. Kim said that we need to adopt an official policy and run it by the commissioners to let them know why we feel the way we do.

Kim finished the pole barn application; it costs \$100 to submit.

Brian moved to pay the \$100 application fee for the pole barn, seconded by Ted 4-0 pass

Juli Thurston gave the 4H report. Their beef clinic will be June 17; the guy putting it on would like to leave his steers in the barn that night. The 4H entries will be open July 6 – August 3. As of right now, none of the shows can have poultry, if extended there will not be any 4H poultry at the fair; Jim said if there is no 4H poultry then there shouldn't be any open class poultry either. Juli offered to fill out a grant for a new cooler in the pavilion kitchen because the current one leaks. The ambassador group would like to sell popcorn and snow cones at the motocross event.

Melissa Cady gave the fair manager's report. The fire department sent a letter asking if we have ever experienced fraud due to 50/50 ticket sales before as well as requesting proof of where it states that they have to have a booth to sell their tickets out of. The Lions Club would like the board to consider lowering the price for them to have a commercial vendor booth to do their free vision screenings out of; the board all agreed we can't do that because we have to be fair to all nonprofits across the board. Knights of Columbus will be doing their bingo booth again this year. The mutton busting chutes are here and they are brand new. Melissa reached out to Justin Boots to see if we can get a Justin medicine team here for the rodeos as well as getting the mutton busting gear from them. The Wildhorse Trading Post has agreed to be a platinum sponsor of the fair this year, paying \$4000. The Huckleberry Festival is August 13-14, she would like for us to be there Saturday, the 13 to promote the fair. Josh has gotten three multiplugs done and has five more to do in the back; he is also putting in two lights in the beer garden. Mike is going to do a bid on installing a bathroom in the fair office.

Brian moved to approve the claims, seconded by Ted 4-0 pass

Kim moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

Brian moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm, seconded by Ted 4-0 pass