

Sanders County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2024
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 6:02 pm by Randy Woods

Present: Randy Woods, Brian Crain, Ted Forkum, Jim Newman, Kristy Sheehan, Jolene Burke

Also Present: Rachel Largent, Ed Moreth, John Holland, Hannah Riffle, Tyler Riffle, Elizabeth Riffle, Rick Sanders, Holly Sanders, Lisa Kinser, Karen Dwyer

Approval of Minutes from August Meeting

Brian Crain motioned to approve the minutes; Ted Forkum 2nd – Motion Passed

NON-AGENDA:

Randy Woods called for public comments on Non-agenda items

John Holland wanted to thank the board for putting on a great fair and had mentioned that we should look at doing something special for Powder River Rodeo next year since it was their 40th year of being here and their 40th year of being in this business. Randy Woods also spoke on how smooth the fair went. He said that there were a few things that came up, but we would have different things come up that need addressed every year.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Fair Recap: Kristy commented that it was a really good fair. She gave the numbers and they are as follows: We showed that we made a profit of \$145,368.36 for the 2024 Fair this year. Total sponsors brought in \$55,861.70; Commercial Vendors brought in \$23,575.00; Food Vendors brought in \$57,854.84 so far, but we are waiting on 1 more to be paid; the amount of tickets sold were 700 tickets higher than last year with 1310 tickets being sold for the Thursday night rodeo, 1698 tickets being sold for the Friday night rodeo, 2598 tickets being sold for the Saturday night Rodeo, 180 tickets sold for our Concert, and 4038 tickets sold for our Demolition Derby; The Rodeo brought in \$19,732.81 Profit; The Demo brought in a profit of \$52,975.00; Parking made a profit of \$40,586.85.

We made \$23,250.00 on the presale carnival tickets so we only owed the carnival \$1,582.40 for coming to our fair.

There is no way that we can make money on the open class or the parade, so the losses are as follows: The open class departments and midway music showed a loss of \$19,324.74; the parade showed a loss of \$850.00; we also lost on our concert this year in the amount of \$3,245.00.

For our contracts that we had with everyone to make the fair run and keep it clean, we lost \$24,178.50 so far, but I am waiting for 1 more invoice to come in.

Jolene Burke had expressed that we need to come up with a better plan on making sure the debris was picked up out of the arena after the Demolition Derby. She had noticed several items left in the arena after the demo crew said that they had done their walk through and picked up debris. This takes us into our next topic, which is the beachcomber to comb the arena after the demo to pick up all of the debris and even the small to large rocks. Kristy had gotten a quote on one of these combers and it was over \$32,000. Randy is working with someone to see if he can get a better price through one of his suppliers through his hardware store.

4-H Report:

Juli Thurston spoke on behalf of the 4-H and said that the sale went wonderful and they had record sales on the animals. All of the barns and pens were full and the 4-H dining hall was the busiest it has ever been. Randy had mentioned if they could come up with a different name for the outside sign because many people thought that it was just for the 4-H kids to eat. She is taking suggestions for a new name.

She stated some things that she would like to have addressed for next year. They were that some wiring needs to be looked at and addressed along with the Hot water heater in the 4-H bathrooms needs to be cleaned or replaced because it is not working properly. She would also like to ask that the Demo people not be working on their cars after a certain time at night. They were working on them at all hours of the night into the morning.

Fair Managers Report:

Kristy had talked about everything when she was giving the fair recap. She did say that there was over 1500 entries in the open class divisions, but many people were confused on when they needed to have their items at the fair to be checked in. Many people missed the check in date, so over half of the items never made it to the fair to be seen or judged. Kristy said that she is planning to highlight the dates on the different check in days so it is more noticeable and easier to read.

There were a couple of open class superintendents and judges there that wanted to talk about our ShoWorks program and how they would help to try to make it easier for everyone even if we need to get a new program. Kristy stated that she plans on studying the program and taking classes to improve her knowledge with the program this winter to see if it is one that we want to continue to use or not. The superintendents and judges wanted to express how easy and enjoyable it was to work with this year's management. They are happy to say that they are planning to come back next year.

Claims:

Motion to approve the claims made by Brian Crain and Jolene Burke 2nd – Motion passed.

Financials:

Motion to approve financials made by Brian Crain and Jim Newman 2nd – Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

7:16 pm adjourn