

Sanders County Fair Board

Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

Fair Pavilion, 30 River RD, Plains, MT 59859

Call to Order

A board meeting of the Sanders County Fairgrounds was held on August 14, 2024 at the fairgrounds in the pavilion. It began at 6:00 PM and was called to order by Randy Woods, President with Kristy Sheehan as Fair Manager and Rachel Largent as Administrative Assistant.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included: Ted Forkum, Jim Newman, Jolene Burke and Brian Crain. Guests in attendance included Commissioner John Holland, Juli Thurston, Derek Von Heeder, William Largent, Ed Moreth and Tracy Scott.

Regular Business

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous July meeting was made by Ted Forkum and seconded by Brian Crain. Motion carried.

Public Participation: None

New Business

Hospitality Tent Food Update: Kristy Sheehan advised the board that Butcher's Nook has been hired to provide the bulk of the food needed for the hospitality tent. Clark Fork Meats has agreed to donate 50lbs of brats. Ted Forkum suggested that the board members handle the grilling in shifts.

Security: Kristy Sheehan reported that Search and Rescue declined our request to adjust their contract so we will only have the Sheriff's Office for security this year.

4H Report: Juli Thurston reported that the horse wash is complete. She went on to say that fair readiness day is scheduled for August 24th and she has Blackfoot scheduled to turn on service for Wi-Fi. Again this year 4H will be providing fair employees and fair board with meal tickets. UFFDA has been hired to pump the grey water tanks. There are 13 new families in 4H this year and she wanted to remind everyone of the dance Saturday night in the pavilion.

Fair Managers Report:

Sponsorship Update: Kristy Sheehan reported that year to date sponsorships are totaling \$54,000 now and additionally Pepsi has promised to contribute \$1,000 for sponsorship.

Wi-Fi Update: The Ticket office has now been upgraded with fiber by Blackfoot and Ather Technologies, LLC is in the process of installing access points and mesh to extend the wi-fi for our vendors, ticket ushers and beer garden. William Largent with Ather Technologies, LLC went over the equipment and installation process in detail for the board.

Fair Progress: Kristy Sheehan reported that we are at 63 vendors and a few on a waiting list we are hoping to get scheduled. We have had 3 food vendors cancel and a few concession stands are still available at this point. Ted Forkum mentioned that equipment needs to be topped off with fuel and extra fuel on hand.

ATM Update: ATM is fully functioning now at the ticket office and we will be installing an additional ATM in at the beer garden next week for fair week.

Financial

Claims: Claims were reviewed by the board. Jim Newman questioned a finance charge from Studs Hardware Store. Kristy replied that it may be because of when our meeting is scheduled and how long it takes the treasurer's office to send the check for payment. Brian Crain made a motion to approve the claims and Jim Newman seconded it. Motion carried.

Review Financial Report: Board reviewed the financial report. Ted Forkum made a motion to accept the financial report and Brian Crain seconded it. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Brian Crain made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and Jolene Burke seconded it. Motion carried at 6:49 pm.