

Sanders County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2021
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 7:06 pm by Randy Woods

Present: Randy Woods, Kim Bergstrom, Brian Crain, Ted Forkum, Melissa Cady

Also Present: Hailey Coe, Karen Dwyer, Julie Thurston, Don Burrell

Approval of April 21, 2021 meeting minutes – Motion made by Kim, Seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

NON-AGENDA:

Randy Woods asked for public participation in Non-Agenda items. Don apologized for their reefer not being removed yet and asked if the garbage contract was still up for bid. Randy told him yes and informed him that Katie has all of that information. Melissa told Don that for insurance purposes they need to remove their stuff from the long concessions and return the keys until fair time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Melissa does not have a problem with comping out parking passes for some volunteers but other than that, there should be no comp tickets unless specifically stated otherwise. Melissa wants to round ticket prices up from the odd dollar amounts to prices ending in 0s and 5s. Randy pointed out that slightly raising the ticket prices provides the fairgrounds with the money to make needed improvements to the grounds and to better the events that are put on.

Kim motioned to approve raising ticket prices to the next \$5 increment, seconded by Ted 4-0 pass

Judy from the Montana Bar would like a few board members to help with checking IDs at the gate for the monster truck event; and just for there to be a fair board presence.

Melissa asked how many hand-washing stations we need for Monster Trucks; Randy recommended one in the back, one in the beer garden, and one per food vendor as well as one handicap accessible stall and two portapotties in the back for the drivers. Melissa thinks that we will need roughly 50-60 hand washing stations for fair and Kim said that she wants to address that with the Board of Health as well.

Stirrin' Dirt would like to bring an additional car lift for inspections and some safety lights for the jersey rails in the arena for an extra \$600.

Kim motioned to approve rental of the lights and lift for \$600, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

The board looked over the Grand Marshal nomination form.

Brian motioned to approve the nomination form, seconded by Kim 4-0 pass

Julie presented the board with a list of potential fair themes. Included were: “Who Says Life’s Not Fair?”, “Hoots, Hollers, & Hooves”, “Summer Nights & Sunflowers”, “There’s No Place Like Fair”, “Summer’s Great Farewell”, or “Country Folks Can Survive”.

Ted motioned to make the 2021 Sanders County Fair theme “There’s No Place Like Fair”, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass

Julie Thurston gave the 4H report. The last time she talked with Michelle, she said she was speaking with a few different groups about trying to get horses in the stalls for fair. Ted asked if we could possibly do a grand entry for the rodeo in the future and let the 4H kids ride their horses in the arena before the rodeo to encourage them to keep their horses on the grounds during fair. Julie has swine tagging scheduled on June 6th and a hoof trimming scheduled for July 16th on the grounds.

Melissa Cady gave the fair manager’s report. Somebody did a joy ride in the main arena so Kim will now be shutting the front gate at night. Smith Electric came and put the plugins in the back of the long concessions as well as a light outside of the fair office. Josh will be back to do the 20 amp plugins, install the dusk to dawn lights on the end of the barns and give a price on changing the pavilion lights to LEDs. She is waiting for the vector image so that she can put in an order for the sweatshirts and t-shirts. KPAX, KGEZ, and PRCA agreements have been signed. Jim from KPAX is going to come and film new commercial footage for next year because our current commercials are extremely outdated. The cooler in the beer garden needed new Freon and there was a hole in the tube, Melissa spoke to Heidi and she said that the Fair Foundation would probably be more than willing to pay the \$470 for it. The Blue’s Festival will pay \$2500 in addition to handling the trash and cleaning the bathrooms to rent the grounds, this does not include usage of the buildings or the arenas. The toilets that were ordered for the 4H bathrooms do not fit, so that price may change significantly. Melissa needs to set up a merchant account for the new ticketing system.

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

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

Kim motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 pm, seconded by Brian 4-0 pass