

Sanders County Fair Board  
Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2022  
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains, MT

Called to order at 6:10 pm by Randy Woods

Present: Randy Woods, Melissa Cady, Kim Bergstrom, Ted Forkum (via phone)

Also Present: Hailey Coe

**Approval of November 30, 2021 meeting minutes - Motion made by Kim, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

**NON-AGENDA:**

Randy Woods asked for public participation in Non-Agenda items. There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The board discussed requiring nonprofit to pay the same amount as other organizations for rental of the pavilion as it costs the same amount of money to operate the building either way. As of right now, nonprofits pay \$75 for the building and \$75 for the kitchen per day; whereas other organizations pay \$150 for the building and \$150 for the kitchen per day. This matching in price will also apply to the ag building once it is ready to be rented. Kim asked if the price change would impact 4H, Melissa reassured her that it wouldn't because of the memoranda that is in place.

**Kim moved to increase the nonprofit rental fees to match that of other organizations, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

The board also discussed increasing the prices of commercial vendor booth spaces during the fair. Right now, a 10x10 is \$285, a 20x20 is \$310, a 25x25 is \$335, and a 10x10 nonprofit is \$185. Kim proposed increasing each price by \$15; so a 10x10 will be \$300, a 20x20 will be \$325, a 25x25 will be \$350, and a nonprofit 10x10 will be \$200.

**Kim moved to increase the price of each commercial vendor space by \$15, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

Tim and Tyler offered to take care of the whole demolition derby, start to finish for \$71,000; including set up, tear down, registration, sound crew, etc. Randy would like to know who gets the entry fees and who gets the money made off of the pit passes. Melissa and Randy discussed bringing the 4H bleachers in to the arena in front of the timed event chutes, placing extra jersey rails, stipulating that nobody under 18 would be allowed to sit there, and using that area for the

people that had pit passes; Kim said the thought of having a set of bleachers inside of the arena fence made her very nervous and that she wasn't sure that the fair's liability insurance would go for that. Randy said that if we get the money from the pit passes, he would have no problem roping off however many seats are needed in the west bleachers for the drivers and pit pass holders; if the fair doesn't get the money from the pit passes then we will only set aside 75 seats. Melissa said that we will be waiving the registration fee for Braxton Eubanks to run his stepdad, James Cork's, car in memory of him.

**Kim moved to approve a contract for \$71,000 with Tim and Tyler contingent that they take care of the demolition derby in its entirety, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

The board briefly discussed the fair manager's wages.

Juli Thurston gave the 4H report. She has been working on some grants and was wondering if we would like for her to try to get one to buy a new Coke cooler for the pavilion kitchen; Melissa said that she can reach out to Coke and Pepsi to see if either of them have one available. Melissa recommended looking into a grant for the LED lighting in the pavilion. Juli brought to the board's attention that there was an issue with a family that entered animals in the fair this year and failed to take care of them so other families had to take care of those animals, they have had the same issue with this family in the past so Randy said that they are no longer allowed to enter animals in the fair.

Melissa Cady gave the fair manager's report. There was a water leak that cost about \$500 to repair. The pressure tanks arrived and are in the ag building. The flooring that was chosen for the pavilion was out of stock so we had to select a new one, Mike is still waiting to hear if that option is in stock. Mike has been working on the 4H bathrooms, fixing the toilets and the heaters. Melissa has a meeting with somebody for prices on mutton bustin chutes, she said we may end up running it through Powder River and cutting them a check since they get a discount. She had four banners made and is working on getting the Cowboy Channel here to film our rodeos. Rich has agreed to hire Jerren back this summer starting in May as a seasonal employee instead of a temp as long as he wants to. Melissa told Juli that if the county is going to charge us a dumpster fee then 4H is going to have to pay for their own dumpster during the fair.

**Kim moved to approve the claims, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

**Kim moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

**Kim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**