

Sanders County Fair Board  
Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2021  
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 6:05 pm by Randy Woods

Present: Randy Woods, Kim McMahon, Ted Forkum, Melissa Cady

Also Present: Hailey Coe, Juli Thurston (via phone)

**Approval of September 15, 2021 meeting minutes – Motion made by Ted, seconded by Kim 3-0 pass**

**NON-AGENDA:**

Randy Woods asked for public participation in Non-Agenda items. The board received a letter asking them to consider letting floriculture and horticulture entries be brought in Thursday morning to allow for optimal freshness of the items.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There are a few upcoming projects for the fairgrounds that need to be discussed. We need a building for the equipment to go in, somebody has to go to the courthouse and talk to Kathy about the requirements that need to be met to get that done. Melissa would like to purchase a hospitality tent instead of having to rent one again next year.

**Kim moved to purchase a hospitality tent for up to \$1000, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

Mike is doing a bid on changing the ag bathroom stalls from the short stalls to regular sized stalls. He is also doing a bid on heating for the ag building; the overhead heater would be the cheapest option. Josh is working on the bids for installing LED lighting in the pavilion. The stoves in the pavilion need to be replaced; Juli said that 4H may be able to pitch in on that. Mike is doing a bid on replacing the flooring and removing the stage and cupboard in the pavilion. Melissa wants some sort of commercial flooring that is easy to clean and waterproof, Kim recommended epoxy. Josh Smith provided a bid right before fair for installing LED lighting on the ends of all of the buildings.

**Ted moved to approve Josh Smith's bid to install LED lighting on the ends of all of the buildings, seconded by Kim 3-0 pass**

We need more 50 amp plugins installed on the grounds for food vendors, campers, etc.; Josh will provide that bid.

The bylaws had to be amended due to the changed time and date of board meetings. Randy and Melissa have signed them, Jim still needs to sign them.

**Kim moved to approve the bylaws as amended, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

Kim pointed out that Melissa has and continues to go above and beyond to improve the Sanders County Fair. She fears that if her hard work isn't appreciated, we are at risk of losing her to other fairs. Kim would like to increase her current rate either 20% or 25% and increase her weekly allotment to 35 hours.

**Kim moved to increase the fair manager's salary by 25% and increase her weekly allotment to 35 hours effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**

Juli Thurston gave the 4H report. Their sale was amazing and they ended up getting a couple new members. She brought up getting one or two new stoves in the pavilion, possibly a new cooler, and asked about a dishwasher; Randy suggested a sanitizer. They will be holding their blood drive in the pavilion on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

Melissa Cady gave the fair manager's report. She would like to look into reevaluating the nonprofit pricing for usage of the fairgrounds. The coke cooler in the pavilion leaks so Juli would like us to look into replacing it; 4H would be willing to split that fee. All of the lines have been blown out, there is one camper still here with power but no water. Mike is coming to do all of the bids. Jerren has agreed to come back in the spring. Hailey has been looking into which website designing platform she likes best. Melissa and Hailey need to make a trip to Kalispell to talk to their fair's administrative assistant about the Showworks system for open class entries. We need to look into capping and etching the numbers into the seats in the bleachers and grandstands to help eliminate confusion when people are trying to find their seats; and that way we don't have to keep repainting them every year. There is a boat show scheduled here June 2-5, they want to rent the whole grounds except for the arena. Monster trucks are scheduled for July 8-9, all of the food vendors are already lined out including Judy at the Montana Bar. Melissa will be meeting with the Franzens when she goes to Las Vegas to try to set up a bareback or saddle bronc event Thursday of fair instead of bulls. She would like to set up a merchandise booth where the little pop booth is to sell our fair merchandise; John Franzen also mentioned wanting to sell Powder River gear. Kim asked if it would be possible to set up a Venmo account for the fair for the merchandise booth; Melissa said we would have to run that by Jessica and Nichol.

**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 7:54 pm, seconded by Ted 3-0 pass**