

Sanders County Fair Board
Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2024
Fair Pavilion, 30 River Rd, Plains MT

Called to order at 6:01 pm by Randy Woods

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

Also Present: Jolene Burke, John Holland, Dan Rowan, Ed Moreth

Approval of Minutes from March Meeting

Jim Newman motioned to approve the minutes, Ted Forkum 2nd. Motion approved

NON-AGENDA:

Randy Woods called for public comments on Non-agenda items. Jolene Burke wanted to present items that were found while picking up rock in the main arena. She presented several large items off of the demo cars, such as a tie rod end, speakers, etc. There were also several large nails, pieced of metal, and a bunch of plastic parts off of the cars. She stated that any of those items could cripple an animal or rider if they were to hit it just right while competing. She stated that she isn't against the fair, but just wanted to bring it to our attention that we need to be sure that the arena is getting picked up right after the demo before the dirt gets moved back into place and drug. She stated that we should hold the demo producer to the contract before he leaves the grounds. There has been concern by several barrel racers and the High School Rodeo about the arena not being clear of such items and that is why they will not come here to compete. Jolene has been in contact with the directors of the Montana High School Rodeo Association that live in the area and they are very willing to help do what they can to help get the arena picked of rocks and other items.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Arena Lighting Update: Kristy commented that Kim had gotten back to her on North Western Energy being able to supply us with the poles to replace the current ones that need it. They will also donate their time to change out the poles. As of right now there is no date on when that will happen. As soon as we find out a date from North Western Energy, Kristy will contact Josh at Smith Electric to let him know the date so we can get on his schedule. There is question that it will happen before fair or after fair.

Animal Use Policy: Kristy asked if she was able to redo the Animal Use Policy so that will allow the stock pens in the back of the Main arena so that she is able to hold more events in the large arena that includes brining in livestock. There was a question about having it ate down to dirt and there not being enough grass for Powder River's stock when they came in. Kristy assured that there would be a cutoff date for the events held in the arena that involved livestock coming in. She will also assure that there will be plenty of grass for the Fair rodeo stock.

Fire Evacuation Policy: Randy called Bill Naegeli about helping to come up with an evacuation policy just in case there was another fire that involved residents to evacuate their homes and had to move the

animals to the fairgrounds. Kristy also emailed Bill to ask him to contact her so we can get a plan in place. Bill said that he is going to find out more information on how other Counties plan the ones at their fairgrounds. Once he finds out he will contact Kristy to schedule a meeting to get a policy wrote up before summer.

Fair/4-H MOU: Juli Thurston was on the phone for this discussion and her and the board had no further changes to the MOU. Brian Crain motioned to approve the MOU and Jim Newman 2nd. Motion approved.

4-H Report: Juli reported that Josh Smith with Smith Electric has not got back to her yet with a bid for the electrical update in the steer barns, but he has her bid at the top of his list now and expects to get a bid back to her as soon as he can. Pat Wilson is going to get with Mike Wilson on the 4-H Horse Wash Rack. Once they have a plan, Mike will get with Kristy to get the project scheduled. Juli stated that the 4-H will be able to pay for most of the Wash Rack project since there are people donating their time and labor for the project.

Fair Managers Report: Kristy gave an update on the mower for the beach area. S&S Sports has one that they are holding for her. Once the claim is approved and it is paid for, she will go down and pick it up.

Dan Rowan had questions on why we needed another mower for the beach area when we had ones at the fairgrounds that could be used. It was explained to him by Randy that the ones at the fairgrounds were to large and would not be able to fit around in the tight areas.

Kristy presented the Request for Bids that she would like to open up to the public so we can start getting bids for the contracts that are due.

Kristy gave an update on the events that are going to be happening at the fairgrounds in the next couple of months. There will be a High School Rodeo on May 18th and 19th. They are going to be renting the main arena and there will also be around 30 horse trailers here to camp and stall their horses. The rodeo team may have a jackpot team roping on the night of May 17th. Kristy has everything done for the Plains Day Weekend events that are going on. She stated that she would like to bring a gun show to the fairgrounds, so she was looking into what she needs to do to make that happen.

Kristy gave a sponsor update. Right now most of the sponsors contacted have paid and we are still waiting on more to pay and to pledge what they want to sponsor. She has a total of \$26,200 in sponsorship money that is coming in for the rodeo sponsorship.

Kristy brought up that she would like a higher horse power tractor so that we are able to do the work to the arena and around the grounds that need to be done. As of right now the tractor that we have will not drag the arena if the grabbers are all the way down and it will not pick up the jersey barriers to move then if needed. The board gave permission to her to look for a quote on a larger one and the commissioners will look at the budget to see what they are able to do in getting one.

Dan Rowan asked Kristy on how the meeting went with the auditor. Dan had stated that the auditor would like to see the vault handled differently so that there is separate sections for money that is being used for different things. He also said that the auditor would like to maybe go to a set amount for the food vendors because we can't prove that they are giving us the full amount owed with the percentage amount. Randy stated that it is better to do the percentage not only because we can make more money

from the vendors that make more money, it will be harder for the smaller vendor to pay a high set rate than it would for them to pay us a percentage of what was made. Kristy agreed to work with Lisa Wadsworth during the fair when it comes time to do the deposits so we can distinguish how much money was made in what department of the fair.

Claims: Brian Crain motioned to approve the claims and Ted Forkum 2nd. Motion approved.

Financial Report: Jim Newman motioned to approve the financials and Brian Crain 2nd. Motion passed

ADJOURNMENT: Brian Crain made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Jim Newman 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 7:06.