

Fremont County Fair Board Minutes August 8, 2024

The Fremont County Fair Board met August 8, 2024 at the Fremont Center Boardroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Scott Walters, Nikki Horton, Trevor Bekken, Rob Dolcater, Kourtney Hanger, Alex Eckhardt and Megan Sims. Staff present were, Fair Manager Pat Hart and Laura Harrington, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Scott Walters

President Scott Walters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hart gave the board prayer

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Rob Dolcater moved to approve the August 8, 2024 agenda; Megan Sims seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. PATRONS

- none

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes from the July 9, 2024 Fremont County Fair Board Meeting.
- Trevor Bekken moved to approve the July 9, 2024 Fair Board Meeting minutes, seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion passed unanimously.
- Current Bills and financial report for July 2024
Rob Dolcater questioned the cost for sound at fair. \$7782.00 was the cost for Dynamic Sound and Bob Hussa. Dynamic Sound handled the Free Stage and Bob Hussa handled the night shows and livestock shows. Scott stated that the sound was great this year. Rob pointed out that the sound equipment was just where it laid after fair. Bob Hussa came in a put everything away. Rob suggested heat shrinking windows in scale house to reduce dust.
Kourtney Hanger pointed out that all the checks were dated wrong. She also questioned the shipping on curtains for Heritage Hall. It was explained that Friends of Fair paid for the curtains and the Fair Board paid for the shipping, cost was high due to the weight of the curtains. She also asked when the judges and superintendents had been paid due to the fact that multiple contracts have not been signed. Kourtney also asked about the \$50,000.00 cash for premiums. Pat explained that the check has to be made out to a person (Pat) that is responsible for the money. She said Susan has a form that records balances. The money is held until August 31 at

which time the remaining money is redeposited. Kourtney requested a spreadsheet for the September meeting.

Nikki Horton asked about the pay structure for Superintendents and Judges, Pat stated department superintendents in the building are paid \$100 for the week. Building superintendents are paid \$8 an hour with a max of 10 hours per day. Other supers are paid \$350. Static judges are paid on average \$25 per hour plus milage and per diem at state rate. Livestock judges are paid \$35 per hour plus mileage and per diem.

Megan Sims questioned how the Nicholas Ranch was paid for the Ranch Rodeo. \$7000.00 was paid to Nicholas Ranch. \$10,000.00 added to payouts plus entry fees was paid out at 60/40. 40% went to pay judges, flaggers & clerk. Insurance was paid by fair. Stock was \$6500.00. Pat will send the board the breakdown.

Nikki Horton reported that the Beer Garden made \$23,960.00. 10 ½ cases of beer were left. Rob Dolcater moved to approve the Financial Report and pay the bills, seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion passed unanimously.

- Alcohol Permits- None

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

- none

V. EX-OFFICIO BOARD REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen was not present.
- **County Extension** – Chance Marshall reported that they are currently getting ready for State Fair. He introduced Tanya Santee as the new Riverton Extension Agent. 65 ewes were bred at their AI clinic. Nikki Horton pointed out that Chance Marshall received a national distinguished service award. The board congratulated him.
- **Wind River Extension** – not present

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Royalty Committee** – Piper Loomis reported that fair week went well. Sam and Cadence both showed and sold animals at the Junior Livestock Sale. She thanked the Ambassadors for all of their help during the week. Piper reported that Miss Rodeo Wyoming, California and Nebraska all made appearances at the Fair this year. The dates for the 2025 Royalty contest have been set with the clinic taking place on October 13 and the contest on October 27. She reported that CWC will be offering a \$1500.00 scholarship for the 2025 Queen.
- **Youth Ambassadors** – The Ambassadors Pat reported that the ambassadors worked hard all week. Alex Eckhardt reported that after visiting with Holly Putnum they have determined that they will come up with a more defined list of the Ambassadors standing duties. They would like to get together with the Royalty and define what each group will be doing in order to grow both sides.
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Carmen Vasco reported that the Sale Board has been working diligently on getting invoices out. The sale brought in \$666,727.15 just from buyers with an additional \$50,135.00 in add-ons for a grand total of \$716,862.15. There is growth in the add-ons each year. Trevor Bekken asked where the amounts were compared to last year, the grand total is down but add-ons are up. Next meeting will be August 26 at 6pm. With the use of Showworks the office has access and can help answer questions on add-ons. The board is only tracking purchase thank yous this year. Jared Hamilton reported that they have made appointments for all animals

coming to Franks this year. One survey was returned from buyers. Scott Walters thanked the Sale Board.

Junior Show Advisory Committee – Chance reported that the group met before fair to review rules and make sure everyone was on the same page. He felt fair went smoothly. He said unfortunately one goat had to be disqualified for horns and stated that the group needs to look at the horn rule for the future. They will also need to discuss some parent involved issues with the horse show. Trevor Bekken added that the Bred and Fed program needs to be discussed and have an open discussion on what needs to happen going forward. Rob Dolcater added that producers need to have a discussion and bring their input to the Fair Board.

Carmen Vasco and Rob Dolcater brought up that they believed a breeding beef had been removed from the grounds on Saturday. Tanya Santee reported that she personally removed that animal from the grounds on Sunday.

- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** – Tanya Santee reported that with her new job she will probably step down as the president of Friends of Fair. She reported that the Fair jackpots went well and that a lot of the kids enjoyed the opportunity to show again during the week. Backdrops will be taken down after State Fair. There will not be an August meeting. She thanked everyone for their help with the jackpots.

VII. FAIR MANAGERS REPORT

- Pat Hart thanked the board for their help during the week and prior to fair. She thanked extension and the committees for their help. She thanked the staff.
- Recap- General revenue for night events was \$120,341.00. Profit and loss statements will be sent out when they are completed. She reported that the Monday and Tuesday night rodeos did not do well and that the Ranch Rodeo would probably be a loss, she added all the other events should be on the positive side. 102 exhibitor passes were sold this year. Overall, she reported that fair went well.
- Vision Session- Pat will send out some options for dates.
- Wyoming State Fair will take place August 13-17, 2024
- The Board thanked the staff for all of their hard work during fair.
- Laura Harrington thanked the 4-H council specifically Katrena Crimm and Sarah Kassens for making and posting thank you videos to award donors from the exhibitors. Donors appreciated the recognition. She also thanked summer help Laurie Connell for another great year and Abby Santee and Amanda Small for stepping in with really no training and doing a great job. Laura also reported that sheep superintendent Amanda Winchester said that they carried the boards idea of a positive fair to their barn and things went smoothly in their barn. Laura personally added that she felt people were nicer and things went smoothly with the focus on positivity.
- Pat thanked Nikki for having her assistant Bailey help with Facebook and Instagram.
- Chance Marshall asked if herdsman and sportsman awards were given. Pat said they would be posted online. Nikki Horton said she would get the tattle awards posted after the approval from parents. Tanya Santee said 4-H Council would probably help with funding the awards. Nikki reported that some of the superintendents asked for boxes for their barns for kids to put their tattles in. Nikki and Alex will also create a QR Code, however she does like the personal interaction of the kids having to tattle directly to a person.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Capital Revolving ARPA, LATC funds-
- Fremont Center Project- Pat reported that the roof is still leaking. She gave the board photos of the seams on the roof that are still leaking. A roofer came and looked at the roof and said the roof on the east side is in major failure and needs to be addressed immediately with the rest of the roof in emanate failure but could possibly make it one more year. There is the possibility of asbestos. Nikki Horton asked if the roof has been a problem for a long time. Pat said yes. It has been patched multiple times. She questioned why it was not addressed by the county in the remodel.
- Barns- Pat asked architect Colleen Nelson about the roof on the barns. Colleen recommended that a roof specialist come look at the barn roof. Colleen suggested resheeting and adding flashings and drainage to existing roof. A new roof would create the issue of having to install a fire suppression system. Trevor suggested getting ideas from three or four different people. Rob Dolcater asked if Yoder's could possibly look at the whole roof not just the sheep barn side.
- New Arena-Pat will put out an advertisement for an employee. Several people have inquired about when there will be a meeting about the arena. Fair needs to be wrapped up before the arena can be addressed.
- Shade for Beef Barn- Carmen Vasco would like to see more shade cloth on the southwest side of the beef barn. Tanya said Friends of Fair has already approved \$20,000.00 for shade. They believed they were purchasing shade to go from the pavilion to the beef barn.
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- **Counting down....352 days until 2025 Fremont County Fair**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

Susan Cooper will be done the end of August. She has agreed to work during fair next year. The bookkeeping will be taken over by the county effective September 1st.

IX. Executive Session

Trevor Bekken called for Executive session including Pat Hart & Laura Harrington for personnel.

Into Executive Session at 7:27PM out of Executive Session at 7:40PM

The roles of committees and the Fair Board need to be made clear to the general public. People need to approach the proper committee prior to going to the Fair Board. Megan Sims reminded the board that if four or more members attend a committee meeting it needs to be advertised as a potential quorum. It will be posted on the website that all committee meetings have the potential of having a quorum of Fair Board members.

Rob Dolcater moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kourtney Hanger; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:48PM

Next Meeting

The **September meeting** will be held on **Thursday, September 12, at 6:00 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.