
**Fremont County Fair Board
Minutes
July 9, 2024**

The Fremont County Fair Board met July 9, 2024 at the Fremont Center Boardroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Scott Walters, Nikki Horton, Trevor Bekken, Rob Dolcater, Kourtney Hanger and Alex Eckhardt (via video), Megan Sims was absent. Staff present were, Fair Manager Pat Hart, Laura Harrington, Administrative Assistant and Rick Wilmes Grounds.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by President Scott Walters

President Scott Walters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hart gave the board prayer

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trevor Bekken moved to approve the July 8, 2024 agenda; Kourtney Hanger seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. PATRONS

- Harlee Speyer Miss Wheelchair Wyoming asked the board to please make accessibility a priority at the Fairgrounds. She asked if she could do a wheelchair rodeo one night during fair. The purpose of the event would be for participants to be able to experience what maneuvering a wheel chair feels like and to educate the community on the need for accessibility. She will have prizes for participants. Pat Hart said she would contact Harlee to set up a date and place for the Rodeo. The board thanked Harlee for coming in.
- Alan Sinner reported on the Northern Arapahoe Indian Tour Rodeo. He said they had over eight hundred contestants and paid out over \$380,000.00. This was the largest Tour Rodeo to date. There were 100 casino employees that helped with the rodeo. He thanked the Fair Staff for their help and support of the rodeo. Mr. Sinner presented Rick Wilmes with a Belt Buckle for all of his assistance and hard work with the rodeo.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes from the June 11, 2024 Fremont County Fair Board Meeting.
- Current Bills and financial report for June 2024
- Alcohol Permits- None

Alex pointed out that Kourtney was listed on a motion that should have been Alex Eckhart. Trevor Bekken moved to approve the consent agenda with the correction to the minutes, seconded by Rob Dolcater; motion passed.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

- none
- Letter received 6/6/2024

V. EX-OFFICIO BOARD REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen was not present.
- **County Extension** –not present due to 4-H camp
- **Wind River Extension** – not present

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Royalty Committee** –Pam Rivers sent an email to Pat Hart reporting that the Royalty has been very busy. They helped with the Indian Tour Rodeo and have participated in multiple parades as well as their weekly practices. The royalty has been invited to participate at the Sheridan Rodeo where Kaydence Daniels will represent the Royalty. The Royalty will participate in the Cheyenne Frontier Days parade. They will be assisting with the Horse Show, Fashion Review, livestock shows and night shows during fair.
- **Youth Ambassadors**- The Ambassadors participated in the Lander and Dubois 4th of July parades. They had a booth at Hudson Days and will be at Day in the Park. Alex stated that the Ambassadors are doing a great job.
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Carmen Vasco reported that the Sale Board is working on finalizing things for the Sale. Save the date cards will go out soon. Walt Neal is working on getting the equipment ready. Retagging will take place at check in for the animals that have lost tags. The meal at the Sale will be provided by Wyoming Community Bank. Resale process will stay the same as it was last year. Exhibitors will be called Saturday evening about processing. Their next meeting will be on July 22.
Junior Show Advisory Committee – No report. Next scheduled meeting is July 18, 2024 at 6p.
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** – Jeremy Hill gave the board a hand out on how Calcutta’s will be handled at the 2024 Fair. He asked the office to please advise Hog and Mud teams of the new procedure that will save a good hour of time for events. Jeremy reported that the awning for the wash rack has been delivered. It is a beautiful blue color. Jeremy commended Rick Wilmes and his team for all their hard work on the grounds. Nikki Horton asked if a place has been determined to hang the large banner. A location is being worked on. Next meeting will be July 15th.

VII. FAIR MANAGERS REPORT

- Pat Hart reported that the fair budget was not cut. The new employee for the arena has not been approved yet. Susan asked about staying however her position has been cut from the budget. A discussion will need to take place.
- Night Event tickets and Mega passes are on sale now.
- Steffens will not be producing the Ranch Rodeo this year. Jake Nicholas will be visiting with Pat about taking that event over.
- Volunteers are needed for fair. The Ranger will MC the parade, Kiwanis and Key Club will be helping with the gates and parade. Abbi Santee will help with clerking livestock shows and, in the office,

Amanda Small will assist with the awards table at livestock shows. Rachelle Saxton will be staying in the Vet Office house while she is here if we can get a bed. Nikki Horton volunteered a bed for use.

- Sponsors are still needed.
- Daily Fair Board meetings during fair week will take place at 3:00PM
- Horse Show is July 19 and 20.
- Wyoming Department of Audit Training needed to be complete by June 30. It was completed by everyone but Rob Dolcater.
- Food Trucks are still needed for the Food Truck Rally.
- Scott informed new board members that texts will be sent out on events. Randy Kintzler will be driving the Fair Board in his new wagon for the Parade.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Capital Revolving ARPA, LATC funds- painting is near completion in the Fremont center. There is an event in the Fremont Center on Friday and they should be done by then.
- Fremont Center Project- Bathrooms are not completed but are moving forward. Contractors say it will be done by fair.
- Barns- tabled for now
- New Arena- The internet has been installed; cables will need to be buried. Wedge Fike gave Pat a bid of approximately \$11,000.00 cameras and internet. \$80,000.00 has been requested from EDGE funds and an application has been submitted for MOVE funding. Funds may be received from only one entity. If approval is given by the Commission Pat will start advertising for an employee for the arena. Utilities have all been changed over. Knights of Valor horses will be housed at the arena during fair. Some cleaning will need to be done prior to their arrival.
- Shade for Beef Barn- Pat purchased two separate pieces of shade cloth for the Beef Barn. Carmen stated that Becky Walters will loan some free-standing panels to use in the Barn. Pat reached out to Megan about the Honor Farm helping set the Beef Barn after the Horse Show. Rob suggested that the barn be graded while it is empty. Pat will check and see when the Honor Farm can help. Nikki asked if road base could be brought in to put in the holes where the rain water pools. Pat stated that the parking lot should be striped before fair.
- Laura told the board that a few award donors are still needed.
- **Counting down....19 days until 2024 Fremont County Fair "Whatever Floats your Goat!"**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Mechanical Bull- Hadley Becker has a mechanical bull she would like to bring to fair. Pat will contact her to make arrangements.
- Livestock Superintendent requests- Jeanine will be doing some repairs on pens. Jeremy said to reach out to Friends of Fair to help pay for supplies. Carmen would like carbonless copies of show rules for exhibitors to sign. Pat stated that she will buy otter pops for after the meeting.
Carmen received a phone call and text from an exhibitor requesting early release of animal and supplies on Friday. Rob Dolcater moved that the exhibitor's animals not be allowed to leave on Friday, seconded by Kourtney Hanger; motion passed unanimously.
- Hog N Mud setup-Scott will get panels from Co-op. Rob will check on the Vac truck. Pat will check with Rick and see if there is any bentonite left. Scott will get plastic. Pat will call Shawn Steffen about borrowing three gates.

- Beer Garden- Pat requested a tent for the west Beer Garden. Beer needs to be ordered ASAP. Nikki reported that she and Megan have the Beer Garden under control and Pat should not worry about it. Nikki would like to block off part of the grandstands for Beer Garden use, having three Beer Gardens. They will be making a schedule with four volunteer and a backup for each Beer Garden with one trailer that product could be shuttled between. Laura asked if anyone was TIPS certified. Nikki stated that she thought Megan Sims had TIPS training. Nikki said their goal is to have more volunteers. Nikki will get her volunteer list to Scott and Pat.
- Parade- Pat said it is up to the Board on what they wear. Pat will put a request in with Cinch for shirts.
- Reminder the grounds will be closed at 9PM Friday and reopen at 11:30AM
- Signup sheet- Pat would like the Liaisons for each group to be over their areas at fair, with Kourtney being the liaison for 4-H and Scott for night events. She would like board members to have a species that they are over. Scott will do water coolers.
- Pat asked the board who will be having campers behind the Fremont Center.
- Nikki Horton said she will attend the Sale Board meeting so they can work out the details of the mandatory meeting.
- There may be some issues with the meat processing this year due to a shortage of processors.

IX. Executive Session

None

Meet adjourned at 7:47PM.

Next Meeting

The **August meeting** will be held on **Thursday, August 8, at 6:00 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.

Scott Walters, Fair Board President

Megan Sims, Fair Board Secretary