

**Fremont County Fair Board
Minutes
November 7, 2024**

The Fremont County Fair Board met November 7, 2024 at the Fremont Center Boardroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Scott Walters, Nikki Horton, Trevor Bekken, Kourtney Hanger, and Megan Sims. Alex Eckhardt and Rob Dolcater were not present. Staff present were, Fair Manager Pat Hart and Laura Harrington, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Scott Walters

President Scott Walters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hart gave the board prayer

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Nikki Horton moved to approve the November 7, 2024 agenda; Megan Sim seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. PATRONS

- Sandy Watkins with High Plains Power addressed the board about being the business sponsor of the Fremont Center, renaming it the Laurie Gardner Memorial Center sponsored by High Plains Power. Bret Gardner is on the High Plains board. They are interested in a multiyear deal. Nikki Horton asked if they would be interested in sponsoring another space. Sandy reported that they would like to stick with the Fremont Center because it has high visibility. Pat Hart is on the County Commissioners agenda for November 19 to verify that there is not a conflict renaming a county building. Sandy stated that they are interested in at least a five-year agreement and would like the Fair Board to go over operational numbers and then meet to discuss a price.
- A neighbor to the Gasser Rd property stepped in during the middle of the meeting wanting to discuss irrigation issues and flooding. She was told to stop by the office and visit with Pat Hart.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes from the October 10 ,2024 Fremont County Fair Board Meeting.
- Financial Review: Approval of current bills and financial report.
- Alcohol Permits: Festival of Trees-Cedar Bar, BW Ranch Supply-Bunks

Nikki Horton questioned the city water bill. It was explained that the Gasser Rd property is not on the summary statement that the city sends. There was a water leak in the Vet office property that Rick Wilmes fixed. Rick Wilmes checks on the property on a regular basis. After discussion Nikki Horton moved to approve all items on the consent agenda, seconded by Trevor Bekken; motion was approved unanimously.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None

V. EX-OFFICIO BOARD REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen was not present.
- **County Extension** –No agent was present. 4-H Appreciation Night will be November 11, 2024 at 6pm in the Heritage Hall.
- **Wind River Extension** – not present

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Royalty Committee** –Pam reported that the Royalty for 2025 will be Princess Corbin Marshall, Junior Queen Cadence Daniels and Queen Adalita Wagner. Coronation will be January 18, 2025. They will be doing their pictures on Monday. Pam reported that this is a very impressive group of young ladies. Pam presented Jim Dewey as a new committee member. His daughter was a past queen and he is passionate about the program. As a male he will not be alone with the girls. Nikki Horton moved to approve Jim Dewey as a Royalty Committee member, seconded by Megan Sims; motion was approved unanimously. More members are needed for this committee.
- **Youth Ambassadors**- no report.
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Carmen Vasco reported that the board had a lengthy discussion about tagging. Pat will send information to the County Attorney to get his opinion on the use of 840 (producer) tags and the 900 tags that the fair has been using. The question arose on who is responsible to replace a tag if an 840 tag falls out. A final draft of the Rules for 2025 was given to the board and will be sent to the County Attorney for approval. The board is seeking to fill three spots that will be vacated at the end of the year.
Junior Show Advisory Committee – Had a meeting. They would like to ensure that first and second place winners in each division are brought back for Grand Drive. Swine would like to change day for Pee Wee Swine show. The committee would like to have family animals again. The committee also recommends that there be a no horn rule on goats to follow the rules of State Fair. Wendell Vonkrosigk will meet with producers to discuss the Bred and Fed program. Bred & Fed stall cards will have producer named on them.
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** – Friends of Fair has not had a meeting since Fair. Tanya Santee will be stepping down as president and Wendell Vonkrosigk will fill in for the remainder of the year until they hold officer elections in January. Next meeting is September 16 at 7pm

VII. FAIR MANAGERS REPORT

- Jim Anderson came to present on options for the Fair Board to invest the monies that are currently being held in a savings account. He explained that the principle needs to stay intact. He explained that there are investment pools that counties participate in. Wyostar 1 and Wyoclass are very liquid, money can be pulled at any time. Current 30day yield is 4.87% Wyoclass,4.58% Wyostar1 and Wyostar2 4.79%. Jim does not recommend Wyostar2. Kourtney asked about fees and charges? Jim said there are not monthly fees. Money managers fees are factored into the yield. Kourtney asked if there is a minimum to invest? Jim will check on it.
- Pat met with Jerney Schooner to discuss Figure 8 races. He is planning on doing one for Spring Fair on June7, 2025. He would like to hold two Figure 8 races again during Fair and is asking for one to be the first Saturday and the other to be on the last Saturday. Pat will check to see if the Hog N

Mudd contractor is willing to change the days for the event. He is also interested in holding a 4th race in cooperation with the Fair Board. He suggested the first Saturday in September. The general consensus was that Labor Day weekend would not be a good weekend. The board will consider the possibility of a fourth race.

- Pat reported that she is working on revamping sponsorship, awards, donation form, combining all on one donor form. The board expressed concern about the donor benefits more specific and easier to understand than the current layout.
- Pat will be attending RMAF November 13-15 and IAFE December 1-4

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Capital Revolving ARPA, LATC funds- Pat will meet with the County Commissioners to request approval of funding for the updates to Eventpro and the Saffire website.
- Fremont Center Project- There are issues with the water pressure in the Fremont Center. There is too much pressure. City Plumbing will submit a bid to fix the problem. There are still a few issues that need to be fixed on the project. Trevor Bekken asked why a bid needs to be put in when it should have been done right in the first place. Colleen Nelson recommends that it be put in as a change order. Scott Walters brought up naming the rooms in the Fremont Center.
- Fremont Center Roof- Pat reported that we are still waiting on some bids for the replacement. Some patch has been placed to try to get through the winter. Laura Harrington stated that water is still coming in in the back room.
- Barns- Nikki Horton and Alex Eckhardt have been working on getting predesign/prebid information together to present to engineering companies to get cost estimates to take to the community to show what money is being raised for. Nikki explained the engineering process for the project.
- Fair Annex update- Security cameras have been installed. Wedge Fike will be looking into key card locks for the facility. Pat Hart met with the committee. They are still discussing fees and pricing. They are still negotiating sponsorships. The board expressed that sponsorship banners should be done on a yearly basis at \$500 and the Fair will order and pay for the banner. Pat stated that there will be discounts offered on first year memberships. The committee would like to use an area on the grounds for an obstacle/trail course. Pat would like grass planted to be used for other things such as soccer and dog classes. Nikki Horton asked if the indoor arena could be used for shooting sports. Trevor will mention it to the shooting sports group. The position for grounds keeper is still open. Trevor Bekken and Scott Walters sat in on the interviews with Pat. The person they thought would be best in the position declined the offer. Kourtney Hanger suggested checking with the Job Corp. to see if something could be worked out with them. The possibility of two part time employees was discussed. A new add will be posted for two weeks advertising the job.
- Auto flush toilets for grandstands -tabled
- Nikki Horton checked on countertops for the crowd's nest. She reported that Sutherlands has several counter top pieces for reasonable prices. Pat Hart said she would go to Sutherland's to check them out.
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- **Counting down....261 days until 2025 Fremont County Fair**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Tree Analysis- A report from Flamingtree Solutions was included in the board packet. It was their recommendation to keep an eye on the trees of concern.
- Show Committee Rule Changes- Nikki Horton moved to change the Rule on goat horns to no horns to better align with the State Fair, second by Megan Sims; motion passed unanimously. Pat Hart added that the Horse Show rules are being looked at to also match State Fair rules.
- Bylaws update- The Board will review the Bylaws and discuss them at a later date.

- School clubs and sports will be charged \$25 for 2 ½ hours of practice time at the Annex Facility. The board also determined that 4-H sponsored events and practices are to be booked by the extension office.

IX. Executive Session

Nikki Horton called for Executive session for personnel, seconded by Trevor Bekken; motion passed.

Entered Executive Session at 7:39PM out of Executive Session at 7:56PM

Nikki Horton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kourtney Hanger; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:58PM

Next Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 12, 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