



## **Bonner County Fair Board**

Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 8, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

1. **Meeting called to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by President Eddie Gordon
  - a. Board members in attendance were: President - Eddie Gordon, Vice President - Jody Russell, Gail Curless, Ben Wood, Tim Mahan, Laya Bleckwenn, and Tawnya Johnson Fair Manager - Amy Robbins, Facility Foreman - Chris Larson
2. Jody made a motion to move item 4b to after the executive session due to discussion of applications during the executive meeting. Laya seconded the motion. The Motion passed.
  - a. Introduction of new Fair Board Members: Ben Wood, Tawnya Johnson, and Tim Mahan
  - b. Introduction of new Fair manager Amy Robbins
3. **Public Comment:** \*
  - a. Luke Omodt - He apologized to the board for giving short notice on the April 27th special meeting the BOCC had and only notified one board member by leaving a voicemail. He said the grant is moving forward and he had met with Jeff Jensen and the bids will be going out in June to get things moving forward.
  - b. Jessica Frey read a letter from Dana, Darcey's twin sister, addressing the board to move forward with the grant.
  - c. Kristina Anderson welcomed the new Fairboard Manager
  - d. Wayne Martin handed out some questions he would like to see addressed by the BOCC and the Fairboard.
  - e. Mark Linscott addressed the board stating his favor of the RV project, but was wondering about the bond and a few other questions - Luke will follow up with Mark on these questions as they are questions for the BOCC. Also wondering if the Fairboard is bonded. Luke said he was sure this was taken care of for all previous board members, but the 3 new members would need to be passed to be bonded by the BOCC moving forward.
  - f. David Mann voiced his concern about the FB working with library at any level. The Fairboard let him know that we are only sponsoring a summer reading program and it is not a partnership.
4. **Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Approval of Fair Board Minutes**
  - a. April 10, 2023 - Gail made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Laya

seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- b. Workshop May 1, 2023 - Gaile made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Ben seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## 5. Agency Updates

- a. 4H Update - Gena Gibson - gave an update on 4-H. She handed out an update. See attached handout from 4-H office
- b. Rodeo Update - Levi Irish -
  - i. There will be a workday on May 21, 2023 to put in the new roping boxes.
  - ii. Maddie scholarship for being the queen will need to be paid as she is registered to attend the University this fall this will be \$500. Hickman still does not have the surape and the chaps completed for her first event coming up end of may. Still hope to have these by the beginning of June.
  - iii. Actra team roping would like to use the fairgrounds to practice team roping and on Wednesday nights and then have a couple Jackpot roping events starting in June - Dates would be June 14 & 17, July 12 & 15, Aug. 30 & Sept 2 and then the finals late September. Levi and Laya will work with Amy on this moving forward.
- c. Facility Update - Chris -
  - i. The lawns have been getting mowed - this is taking a lot of time and something should be looked at in the near future for a different lawn mower.
  - ii. Spring Clean up is happening
  - iii. The outdoor arena will be a high priority for June
  - iv. Rabbit barn - Ben spoke to this as he met with a contractor. The eves can't be added onto as this would not be a good fix. Possible fixes are to put a hinge door, or gutters on the buildings to help with the rain. The netting will continue to stay up during the fair to keep the sun out.
  - v. Man Lift will be on the fairgrounds the week of May 21st to help with replacing light bulbs, and for electrical work in the beef barn.
  - vi. Northern lights may still put together a quote to bring another line of power to the Ed Brown Bandstand.
- d. Auditor's Office - Chris
  - i. Cash Balances all accounts \$317,453.43
    - 1. Umpqua Bank \$116,078.11
    - 2. Mtn West Fair \$ 16,994.43
    - 3. Mtn West Rodeo \$146,999.96
    - 4. Mtn West Royalty \$ 37,380.93

## **6. New Business**

- a. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Paving Front Road - Scott Wood addressed the fairboard that the entry road is truly an embarrassment to our fairgrounds the shape it is in at this point. Wood's Crushing and Hauling is offering to put in an initial \$25,000 towards this project which at first glance is going to be about a \$70,000 project. He will work up an exact bid, one with repairing the current road and one with widening the road. Once we get the bids back, we will look into other donations towards this project and which way to move forward.
  - i. The board will need to make a plan to show this and then present to the BOCC - Per Scott Bauer. We will need to have a workshop to discuss this and put our plan in place.
- b. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Scholarship Applications - Moved to after Executive Session

## **7. Old Business**

- a. Action Item: Discussion /Decision Library reading program - The rodeo will also be donating to the library reading program a packet of 4 rodeo tickets. Laya made a motion to donate a family pack of 6 tickets and meal vouchers to the library reading program. Ben seconded the motion. The motion Passed.
- b. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Draft Horse Show - Gail made a motion to table this discussion until we hear from the draft horse group. Laya seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **8. Correspondence - None at this time**

## **9. Approval of Bills**

- a. Update on Bills paid - Chris/Nancy - Chris shared our aging summary of bills to pay.
- b. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Fairground Bills - Jody made a motion to pay the bills on the aging summary. Gail seconded the motion. The motion passed. Laya made a motion to pay Beverly for cleaning charges of \$1190. Tawnya seconded the motion. The motion passed. Gail made a motion to pay the Carquest bill of \$66.97. Tawnya seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- c. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Rodeo Bills - Gail made a motion to pay the rodeo bills to Hickman. Jody seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **10. Executive Session:** Fair Board may meet to discuss the following items under Idaho Code 74-206- 1-B Personnel. Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (D) Personnel Records Exempt Discussion Critical Infrastructure Fairboard will meet regarding allegations against fairgrounds personnel

- a. Roll Call vote to enter into executive Session:

- i. Gail Curless - Yes
  - ii. Laya Bleckwenn - yes
  - iii. Ben Wood - Yes
  - iv. Tawnya Johnson - Yes
  - v. Tim Mahan - Yes
  - vi. Eddie Gordon - Yes
  - vii. Jody Russell - Yes
11. Jody made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Tawnya seconded the motion. The motion passed. - All Doors were unlocked and reopened.
12. Action Item: Discussion/Decision date to meet with the commissioners - May 22, 24, or 25 at 5:30 or 6:00 - Tim made a motion to decline the meeting with the commissioners at this time and instead write a letter with a plan. Gail seconded the motion. The motion passed.
13. Action Item: Discussion/Decision Scholarship Applications - Moved to after Executive Session- 3 scholarships will be awarded at \$1500 per scholarship.

**Next meeting, June 12, 2023 at 5:30 PM**