



Crook County Fair Board Minutes
Fair Board Meeting: 5:30 pm, January 12th, 2026
1280 S. Main St., Prineville, OR 97754
Telephone 541-447-6575

The regular meeting of the Crook County Fair Board was called to order on January 12th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Gail Merritt.

ROLL CALL/BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Gail Merritt, Chair
- Larry Blanton
- Linda Cross
- Casey Kaiser
- Jennifer Cummins

STAFF ATTENDING

Casey Daly, Manager

Parker Gales, Administrative Assistant Sr.

GUESTS: Susan Hermreck, Angela Ostrander, Mike Kasberger

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Blanton motions to approve the minutes from January 12th, 2025, regular Fair Board meeting, Cummins seconds the motion, the motion carries.

Board Member	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Larry Blanton	X		
Jennifer Cummins	X		
Linda Cross			X

• **Public Comment: none**

- **Election for New Chair:** Election of Chair for the Fair Board. After brief clarification, Gail Merritt was mentioned to be re-elected as Chair.
 - Kaiser motions to elect Gail Merritt as Chair for the Fair Board, Blanton seconds the motion, the motion carries.

Board Member	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Larry Blanton	X		

Jennifer Cummins	X		
Linda Cross	X		

- **Election for Vice Chair:** Kaiser nominated Mike Kasberger as Vice chair contingent on that the County Court reappoints Kasberger as a Fair Board member.
 - Kaiser motions to elect Mike Kasberger as Vice Chair for the Fair Board, contingent that Kasberger is reappointed by the County Court, Cross seconds the motion, the motion carries.

Board Member	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Larry Blanton	X		
Jennifer Cummins	X		
Linda Cross	X		

- **CRR Contract:** Daly spoke about how the CRR is addressing the insurance with Commissioner Hermreck, then will proceed with contract. The Fair Board will go over the final contract and then proceed with signing it.
- **Fair Board Candidates:** Two positions are open for the Fair Board and interviews were held, January 2nd, 2026. Deb Shaw and Linda Cross were the two new applicants, each interviewed separately, by Gail Merritt, Linda Cross, and Jen Cummins. Mike Kasberger was not required to do an interview as he currently holds a position as a Fair Board Member. The interview committee discussed each of the candidates in detail. As found by all three who interviewed the candidate Deb Shaw would be a great member, but due to a conflict found, the candidate was not chosen. Linda Smith was suggested by the group of the interview committee as the new member of the Fair Board.
 - Cummins motions to re-elect Mike Kasberger as Fair Board member, Cross seconds the motion, the motion carries.

Board Member	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Larry Blanton	X		
Jennifer Cummins	X		
Linda Cross	X		

- Blanton motions to elect Linda Smith as the new Fair Board Candidate, Kaiser seconds the motion, the motion carries.

Board Member	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Larry Blanton	X		
Jennifer Cummins	X		
Linda Cross	X		

REPORTS:

- **Board Member Reports:**
 - **Jennifer Cummins:** none
 - **Casey Kaiser:** none
 - **Linda Cross:** none
 - **Mike Kasberger:** none
 - **Gail Merritt:** none
- **Larry Blanton:** Blanton talks about the finished project of the grandstands. Boards were replaced and stairs as well to make the grandstands safe when walking on them. Blanton also mentioned that paperwork is happening to get the Indoor Arena Bathroom remodel started. Blanton looked at the Indoor Arena and how the installation needs to be redone, and what might happen to fix it.
- **Administrative Assistant Report (Parker Gales):** Gales showed a rough draft of the Premium Book cover for the 2026 Blue Ribbon Days.
- **Financial Report (Daly):** In the board members' binding section.
- **Manager's Report (Daly):** Daly went over that he is working with an attorney to get an emergency repair order for the remodel of the Indoor Arena Bathroom. Daly talked about the first Horse event that will happen, that will be tracked and registered through the state vet. Daly went over the dirt that had been moved and started to level out an area in which hope to build a new building on when the time comes.
- Kaiser motions to adjourn the meeting, Cummins seconds; the motion carries.

Board Member	"Yes" Vote	"No" Vote	Abstains
Casey Kaiser	X		
Gail Merritt	X		
Jennifer Cummins	X		
Larry Blanton	X		
Linda Cross	X		

ACTION ITEM(S):

- a. The Board voted to approve January 12th, 2026, Fair Board Meeting minutes.
- b. The Board voted to approve the Re-election of Gail Merritt as Chair and Mike Kasberger as Vice Chair
- c. The Board voted to approve Linda Smith as the new Fair Board Member and re-elect Mike Kasberger as a member.
- d. The Board voted to approve adjourn the meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.

Next regular meeting: Monday, February 9th at 5:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Parker Gales
02/09/26

February 9, 2026