



Crook County Fair Board Minutes  
Fair Board Meeting 5:30 pm, Sept. 19, 2022  
1280 S. Main St., Prineville, OR 97754  
Telephone 541-447-6575

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The regular meeting of the Crook County Fair Board was called to order on September 19, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Gail Merritt.

#### **MEMBERS ATTENDING**

- Gail Merritt, Chair
- Stanley Flynn
- Mike McCabe
- Mike Kasberger, Vice Chair
- Linda Smith

#### **STAFF ATTENDING**

- Casey Daly, Manager
- Haley Crow, Office Assistant

#### **GUESTS**

- Jason Snider, Crooked River Roundup Association
- Dennis Hildebrand, New Barn Committee, with Sherrie Storey and Kristi

#### **MINUTES**

Mike K motioned to approve the minutes from July 18, 2022, Stanley seconded the motion. Motion passed; minutes approved.

#### **PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- **Dennis Hildebrand – New Barn Committee:** Met with the engineer about the H barn; she said the barn was going to need new posts. Called Parr, and 20' 8"x8" posts (pressure treated) are \$296 apiece. Need 36 of those, totaling ~ \$11,000. Tin also needs to be replaced. Ridgeline quote: \$566 per lineal foot, ~\$16,500 for new tin. In total, ~\$27,000 for lumber and tin, not counting labor. Dennis has been talking with Kristi and is ready to see how to move forward with the project. Proposed the idea of rebuilding the barn with no posts, but same building size. Talked to Pacific Builders about the construction; they are booked out until March. The cost of building materials has gone down 7%; Dennis thinks the price will continue to drop.

September 23, 2022

**Mike M:** Are we going to reconstruct the building? **Casey:** The engineer recommends taking the current 8'x8' posts, cut them to ground level, pour pad with fasteners on it, pick the whole thing up and move it over [about 24'] and re-bolt it. Replace/rebuild any posts (sounds like maybe all of them).

**Dennis:** It's going to take 20% down at the time of order, 40% at the time of fabrication, balance due on delivery. Basically, we are looking at almost \$400,000.

**Gail:** What does Kristi think on getting a grant? **Kristi:** I think it's possible, but what I think needs to happen is #1: have a formal agreement/ memorandum of understanding between the County and the committee. It's going to be way more than \$400k with all the other stuff that needs to be done, so who's going to pay for that or get it done? It's going to be of benefit to the County, but the committee can't start raising money for a building that isn't for sure yet. It needs to be clear: cost/timeline/committee/County responsibilities. **Casey:** With this amount of money, all three commissioners will have to be involved; start with Commissioner Brummer. Engage Brian Barney and Seth casually, then get on a County Court work session. **Mike K:** We need to get a project plan in place before then.

**Kristi:** How much can Fairgrounds staff do for the project? **Casey:** It is going to take expertise to tear the building down. The help will need to be hired out.

**Kristi:** Can there be a motion in the minutes that shows the Fair Board supports the project? **Casey:** We gave our support in the first meeting, I'm not sure if it came in the form of a motion, I would have to go and look it up.

**Gail:** Would it be helpful to set up a work session with the County, Fair Board, and Jerry Brummer? **Casey:** We would have to have a work session, published, public meeting, and we can have Commissioner Brummer in it if we advertise it. If there are 2 commissioners then they have a quorum, which must be published as a County Court Meeting. We can hold a join meeting: Fair Board shows up at Court if it's advertised that way. If the County isn't on board with the amount of money we are talking about, then it wouldn't be valuable to proceed. **Sherrie:** I think our total project cost estimates were somewhere between 1-1.2 million. **Dennis:** We feel we can go out and get the site prep work donated as a trade "in-kind".

- **Jason Snider – Crooked River Roundup Association:** (left a box of CRR hats) October he will have a summary of the CRR with all the numbers -- everything that applies to the sales % owed to the fair, as well as some other analytics. (Gave \$22,000 check to Haley for the event rental). 590 contestants, \$27,000 in tents, 37,000 people attended the races; 9,000 on Saturday night (oversold the seats available). I don't think it's a unicorn; I think these numbers are a trend that we need to be planning for. In the future we need to think about how we sell tickets, creating more seating and parking. Something to talk about in October. Maybe using people movers, bussing folks in from downtown... The infrastructure is stressed; I'd like to talk about the infield and how to keep it green and keep the dust down. These are bigger conversations that will involve lots of people. We will have to work together, piggy-back projects, to get a product that double-dips and makes monetary sense for everyone. We have a \$1.2 million building on the table, with 8 bathrooms and shower stalls. **Casey:** We got \$277,777 for the building.
- **Private Parties/Events Serving Alcohol:** **Casey:** We have had several incidents in the past year and a half with the private parties that we've hosted (fights, overserving/visibly staggering, police calls, loud music, security leaving & continuing to drink). We had another incident this past Saturday in the Indoor Arena and I got an email and a phone call from the chief of Police; Gail, Linda and I met with the County attorney to try and come up with a policy to put our arms around this issue. It's my recommendation to the Fair Board that we put a halt on parties that are serving alcohol. It's an ongoing issue and I don't see a light at the end of the tunnel with what we're doing now.  
**Stanley:** How are we going to police that? **Casey:** We are talking with Eric about the fairgrounds taking on the role of hiring the security rather than the renter. The renter is then not responsible for what the security does or does not do, it'll be us. Right now, the rule is that we cannot tell the renter who to hire, if they're licensed and bonded. We have two events that are paid for, so we need to honor those.

**Stanley:** I motion that we ban alcohol from all private parties from this day forward except for the two people who have parties going now. (Mike K and Linda second the motion).

**Gail:** All in favor? Opposed? Motion carries.

- **Fair Board Meeting Night: Gail:** Do we want to keep Fair Board meetings on Mondays or another night? (Mondays worked for everyone).
- **Water Rights, Mike Kasberger:** The Deschutes Land Trust needs to take water rights off a property, giving the Fair Board the opportunity to secure those water rights and use them to irrigate the Fairgrounds instead of using City water. 20-21 acres would be enough to irrigate the grounds; Jerry Brummer is on board, Casey's on board... Jason from the Deschutes Land Trust didn't show up to the meeting, so I need to talk to him and see if he would donate water rights. If not, I think we should go ahead and buy. The price is ~\$1000/acre, so for \$20k we can irrigate the fairgrounds. **Stanley:** I make a motion we let Mike Kasberger negotiate for us to buy the 20-21 acres of water rights. **Linda:** I second. **Gail:** There has been a motion and a second to have Mike K negotiate the Land Trust for 20-21 acres of water rights. Anymore discussion? In favor? Opposed? The motion carries.
- **Judge Fee Discussion:** Casey: It has been a year since we decided on the \$300/day Judge Fee, so it's time to revisit it. (all Board members agreed the pay rate was fine and will remain unchanged for next year)

## REPORTS

- BOARD MEMBERS:
  - Stanley Flynn: Nothing to report.
  - Mike McCabe: Nothing to report.
  - Mike Kasberger: Nothing to report.
  - Linda Smith: Nothing to report.
  - Gail Merritt: Nothing to report.
- OFFICE ASSISTANT'S REPORT:
  - New Square card processing: Square Terminal and Virtual Terminal. Will eat transaction fees for the first year. Makes it a lot easier to process and track transactions, create reports, and refund damage & cleaning deposits.
  - Fair theme vote – will make final decision post-meeting.
  - Premium book quotes: want to go with MinuteMan Press in Bend, ~\$500 above budget which we think can make happen through sponsorships or other adjustments. Would like to look at a quote for a color cover page.
- FINANCIAL REPORT:
  - August's report: \$2 million in the bank... isolated through project codes. August revenue was at \$151,702, expenses were \$156,875. The \$52,166.66 lottery money also came in during August.
- MANAGER'S REPORT:
  - We are actively looking for a new roller, skidsteer, roller, etc. Looking at used machinery rather than new.
  - Gazebo is mostly finished except for the trim. Cooper will come do the electrical. The cow weathervane is ordered. It's a continuing project.
  - Osprey nest is being removed, and a tripod is being creating.
  - State F&G are doing the hunter check-in at the fairgrounds during hunting season.
  - BTI continues to do truck driver training out back.
  - Harvest party is not happening due to Cascade Spectacular and lack of contact with Maggie Hale.

- Met with George McCart about the cowboy bathrooms and GMP. Is going to ask Marshall Bex to recommend a builder to work on GMP. If modifications are done to the building/cowboy bathrooms, it all must be done to code. George recommends doing cosmetic upgrades and keeping same configuration. We would just need a plumbing permit and for it to pass, in addition to refurbishing.
- Continuing to look for equipment for the fairgrounds, based on priority
- Bex, Ray Merrill coming to look at putting a 20' on the lean-to, relocate the 2 fuel tanks, get fuel-containment pieces

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. July minutes were approved.
2. Motion to ban private parties from serving alcohol (except for the two paid events already on the schedule).
3. Motion to allow Mike K to negotiate with the Land Trust for 20-21 acres of water rights.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Dennis Hildebrand: Next Fair we would really like to see the Beef show ring out of the Indoor Arena. (Stacey: maybe the breezeway outside the Indoor Arena, between the barns, where the Beef scale is?)

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date: October 17, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Casey Daly

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Gail Merritt, Chairman