

Monday, January 12, 2026

PRESENT: Justin Koenigsfeld Chairperson, Wendy Wagner, Gary Irgens, Jennefer Wheeler Fairgrounds Manager, Dale Butori

ABSENT: Derrick DeHaan Vice Chairperson

GUESTS: David Kirschten

6:31PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Justin Koenigsfeld called the meeting to order.

6:31PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Wendy Wagner motioned to approve January 12, 2026, Fair Board Agenda. Dale Butori seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

6:32 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Wendy Wagner motioned to approve December 8, 2025, minutes with changes. Dale Butori seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

6:35PM MANAGERS REPORT

Jennefer gave them a list of the events present and past that have happened at the Fairgrounds since the previous meeting. Lisa Passmore brought in a bid for cleaning again at the Fair 2026.

Wendy Wagner motioned to approve Lisa Passmore Bid for cleaning at Fair Thursday through Wednesday after Fair. Dale Butori seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Curt with the sound said that he will be down after a few projects he has to finish up on schools and churches. He's going to disconnect the small speakers in the back and add a delay. There will always be a small echo due to the size of the area but it should help. Jennefer is not going to attend Circuit Finals due to some changes in her personal schedule but they have the Hospitality Room paid for and we are supporting it.

6:40 PM EXTENSION REPORT

Dave Kirschten Extension Agent gave a run down of what they have been doing. He had just come from the Joint Livestock meeting and they will be discussing the Barn addition at the 4H council meeting on Monday, January 19th. Then he will get a date set for everyone to meet and discuss the ideas presented. If the barn is to get larger he did say that he would suggest a 2nd Superintendent. Dave let the Board know that January 23rd, is his last day as the Extension Agent. They were sad to see him go. He is going to take a break and who knows what he will be doing. He thanked them for their support.

Dave left the meeting at 6:45PM

6:45 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared for public comment.

6:45 PM OLD BUSINESS

Fusion acts-Jennefer presented them with the bid for the acts for Fusion. They do not do glass blowing or knife forging. If everyone is okay with their bid, then Jennefer will get the contract sent over and it rolling. They agreed if they have all 4 of the acts, Corn Maze, Magic Bean, Wild West Show and Pedal Tractors. Other ideas for future are Old Time Photos. Wendy explained they had looked for one for a while but hadn't had luck.

Wendy Wagner motioned to approve Fusion Entertainment for the 2026 Fair. Gary Irgens seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Night Show-The are both confirmed we are waiting on the contracts. Gary Irgens asked what the "buyout" consisted of. We explained that it the hospitality, food, etc. we don't have to take care of the Agent does.

4th Of July-Ideas of some cover bands we could get. Jennefer will reach out to Ikons of Rock and see if they can get her information. Otherwise, we will ask Ward if he has any other ideas.

Rodeo Clown-Jennefer will ask Greg Simas for some ideas.

Knife Forging- Jennefer did find a guy here in Eastern Montana. But with his email and everything the Board didn't feel he was interested and we would skip this idea this year.

8:15 PM NEW BUSINESS

PRCA/WPRA purse, applications, etc.-Jennefer needs to get these started and filled out to get approved. She explained that Billings purse would be and that we are all going to be competing in a one-off year with Hermiston, OR and they have a huge purse. The Board decided to have \$15,000 across the board for all events. Dales asked why we don't have the Wild Horse Race or Indian Relay Races anymore. Liability insurance was what was explained. We will make sure to put in the WPRA that Barrel Racing is the 1st event in slack this year. We will not be tarping the arena beforehand as it is too ruined. Jennefer will contact Chuck Graham to see if he will run tractor for Breakaway/Barrels. Jennefer asked C5 for their contract also.

Dale Butori motioned to approve the Purse of \$15,000/event for 2026 Fair. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Jhett Murphy-He contacted Jennefer about steers for bulldogging. Jennefer will see what contacts she can find for the roping and breakaway.

Wendy Wagner motioned to approve Jhett Murphy for 2026 Fair. Dale Butori seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Montex/Cowboy Channel-Jennefer has talked to them about being part of it.

Ikonic Glass-Jennefer presented the bid from them. The board was good with it.

Dale Butori motioned to approve Ikonic Glass for 2026 Fair. Gary Irgens seconded the motion. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Chairman Koenigsfeld asked if there was any other business we needed to discuss.

8:17PM Adjourn

Chairman Justin Koenigsfeld asked for a motion to adjourn.

Wendy Wagner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dale Butori seconded the motion. The motion carried. The motion carried. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Next Meeting:

Regular meeting February 9, 2026, 6:30 pm at the Fair Office

ADJOURN:
s/ Justin Koenigsfeld, Chairman

ATTEST:
s/Jennefer Wheeler, Fairgrounds Manager