

**Fremont County Fair Board
Minutes
February 13, 2025**

The Fremont County Fair Board met February 13, 2025 at the Fremont Center Boardroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Nikki Horton, Trevor Bekken, Kourtney Hanger, Alex Eckhardt, Jeremy Vukich and Rob Dolcater, Megan Jones was absent. Staff present were, Fair Manager Pat Hart and Laura Harrington, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Trevor Bekken
Nikki Horton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hart gave the board prayer

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alex Eckhardt moved to approve the February 13, 2025 agenda; Rob Dolcater seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. PATRONS

None Present

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes from the January 9, 2025 Fremont County Fair Board Meeting.
 - Financial Review: Approval of current bills and financial report.
 - Alcohol Permits: None
- Nikki Horton moved to approve the consent Agenda, seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you card from Fremont County Fair Royalty

V. EX-OFFICIO BOARD REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen reported that the Finance committee is concerned about Senate File 69 and other bills being presented at the State Legislative session. He reported that if these bills pass worst case scenario will be that the counties budget will be down by \$12,000,000.00. Resulting in up to a 30% cut to department budgets, no capital revolving, open positions not being filled, reduction in overtime, no travel or training expenses. The ambulance and fire services may be affected also.

- **Fremont County Extension** – Tanya Santee presented the board with requests for funding to be presented to Friend of Fair on behalf of the 4-H Council. The items being requested are; a timer eye, timbers and paint for the Horse Show, a dog grooming table and display units for static exhibits and The County fair. Nikki Horton moved to present the requests to the Friends of Fair, seconded by Rob Dolcater; motion passed.
- **Wind River Extension** – none

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Royalty Committee** –Piper Loomis reported that the Royalty has been working on Thank you card for Gold Buckle Ball. The girls will be riding the 2nd & 4th Sunday at the Annex until the weather warms up and they can use the outdoor arena. They helped at the Ballgowns and Badges Event and will be helping at the Barn Bash.
 - **Youth Ambassadors**- Still no Committee. 4-H will advertise in their newsletter.
 - **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Carmen Vasco thanked the board for their help with beef tagging. She reported that 130 head were tagged; 88 4-H and 19 FFA. There were 23 Phase 1 cattle. The next Sale Board meeting will be on Feb 24.
- Junior Show Advisory Committee** – Tanya Santee reported the following recommendations from the Sale Committee; that with there being two different tags in use all animals will need to be wanded when coming into the showing for Showmanship to verify whether the Animal is 4-H or FFA. If an 840 tag is lost the exhibitor will have to make arrangements themselves to get that tag replaced and report it to the Sale Board. There will be a change in the times of Peewee Showmanship; Beef 5:30PM Wednesday, Sheep 5:00PM Thursday followed by Swine at 5:30PM. It was recommended that a map showing the flow of traffic for tack arrival be put out. Porta cools and extra equipment need to be reported on stall sheets. Bred, Fed & Owned animals must be shown in a youth show to participate. Exhibitors may have more than one animal in the BFO shows. The exhibitor and breeders name will be announced during the show. Each family will be allowed on family animal per species. Exhibitor must have an animal entered and tagged before they can replace that animal with the family animal. Family animals are for use with immediate family only. There needs to be more clarification on family animal rules. Market goats may not have horns. Cattle scurs need to be defined (only attached to skin). Chicken and rabbit weights need to be clarified. Overweight divisions are to be removed from all species. A buyer can back out of a sale if the animal has a positive drug test. Good sportsmanship needs to be promoted with parents as well as exhibitors. Changes and adjustments with the horse show will be discussed when a superintendent is appointed. There may also be adjustments to the Dog Show schedule.
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** –Barn Bash will be held on March 8. There are still tickets and tables available. Donations are still needed. Gun donors and larger ticket items are needed. Scholarship applications are due on April 15. Past scholarship winners will be seated at the Scholarship table that will be auctioned off at the event. 2025 officers are; Wendell Vonkrosigk- President, Jeremy Hill- Vice President, Shay Cruickshank- Secretary, Sarah Nelson Treasurer. Directors- Katsie McConnaughey, Tracie Helton and Tanya Santee.

VII. FAIR MANAGERS REPORT

- Pat Hart thanked those that helped with Beef Tagging
- Pat reported that the Annex Open House was a success with approximately 100 people who attended. Promotions will be run to try to increase membership.

- Night Event- schedule- 7/25 Hog N Mud (\$12 & \$8), 7/26 Figure 8 Races (\$15 & \$8), 7/27 Family Day (Free), 7/28-29 PRCA Rodeo (\$15 & \$8), 7/30 Night of Valour(\$12 & \$8), 7/31 Redneck Relay (\$12 & \$8), 8/1 BlackHawk Concert(\$25 & \$12), 8/2 Figure 8 Races(\$15 & \$8). Rob Dolcater moved to accepted the schedule and prices as presented, seconded by Kourtney Hanger; motion passed. Pat has not heard if the \$10,000.00 requested from the TAD grants has been approved. A billboard promoting the concert will be put up going into Lander.
- Free entertainment- Bear Hallow wood carvers, mini golf, country music performers and magicians will be the free entertainment.
- Fair Schedule- Pat is still working on the schedule with possible changes to do show. She has reached out to Kori Slingerland, Haylee Lavoie and Jessie Whitlock as possible superintendents for the Horse Show.
- Carnival- July 9-12. A contract has been signed agreeing to accept 20% of presales with a guarantee of \$1700. The contract has gone to the county attorney for review.
- State Fair has been informed that Figure 8 races will take place at the fairgrounds on August 16
- Family Animals- It has been reported that other counties do not let family animals go to State Fair. Pat reported that State Fair does not have an issue with it. Pat stated that the issue will be discussed at the Spring Fair Managers Meeting.
- Pat reported that the new phone system is up and running. Saffire is working on updating the website, photos are needed if anyone has any. Eventpro update has been installed, Laura is working on getting the Annex into the system.
- Spring Fair- Carnival June 4-8, Figure 8 race June 7, Jackpot shows June 6- 8.
- Showworks Training April 9-11 Fair Staff will work together with the Sale Board to share time and registration slots for the training. 4 will be registered and the expense will be split between the Fair Board and Sale Board.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Update Fremont Center Project- still waiting on panels for men's restroom
- Fremont Center roof project- two bid were received and are in Board packets. One is an overlay bid and the other is roof replacement. The bids are very different and hard to compare. Larry Allen will have the counties Maintenance supervisor come and offer an opinion.
- Barns- Alex Eckardt will get corrected barn map to Tanya Santee for the RFP for engineering services that was presented at the board work session. Tanya is making corrections to that RFP. It was suggested that the RFP be posted on Public Purchase. A tentative walk-through date will be set for approximately March 1st with a tentative March 15 deadline for bids.
- Fair Annex update- Pat is working on a report to present to MOVE and the County Commissioners.
- Auto Flushers in Grandstand bathrooms- It was reported that normal flusher handles cannot be used due to the plumbing being behind the wall.
- By-Laws update-Jeremy Vukich moved to accept the updated By-Laws as presented, seconded by Kourtney Hanger; motion passed.
- Recommendation on City of Riverton's request for land transfer- Larry Allen reported that a possible trade could take place for the west triangle of property with the City of Riverton. He said the county should retain ownership of the east end of the property with an easement granted.
- **Counting down....112 days until Race Ewe to the Fair 2025 Fremont County Fair**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Rob Dolcater would like to see something written up with parameters for bids on the grandstand roof to avoid such variations in bids.

IX. Executive Session

none

Nikki Horton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:34PM

Next Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 13, at 6:00 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.

Trevor Bekken, Fair Board President

Alex Eckhardt, Fair Board Secretary