

**Fremont County Fair Board
Minutes
January 11, 2024**

The Fremont County Fair Board met January 11, 2024 at the Fremont Center Classroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Scott Walters, Nikki Horton, Rob Dolcater, Trevor Bekken, Alexandria Eckhardt and Megan Sims. Fair 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 Scott Walters
Scott Walters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Laura Harrington gave the board prayer

I. PATRONS

Jeremy Schooner proposed to the board that he would like to put on two nights of Figure 8 racing at the 2024 Fair. He would like to do four-cylinder races on Friday and six-cylinder races on Saturday. He feels that with proper advertising and package pricing it would be very successful. He is very dedicated to put on a good home town show. Jeremy is willing to do a race at Spring Fair as well. He is working on getting a good transponder system for rent as purchasing a new one would cost \$13,000.00. Jeremy would like to get the information out as soon as possible so drivers can start looking for cars. Trevor Bekken moved to have two nights of Figure 8 racing at the 2024 Fremont County Fair, Rob Dolcater seconded; motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Rob Dolcater moved to approve the agenda; Trevor Bekken seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rob Dolcater moved to approve the December 14, 2023 minutes as presented, Megan Sims seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

1. NONE

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT Alex Eckhardt asked why the fair is paying \$1200.00 a year for a Saffiere website and asked what the fair gets for that \$1200.00. Pat said it was just to have the website. Pat added that the fair event tickets also go through Saffire at an additional charge. Laura Harrington stated that she is not fond of the Saffire ticketing.

Nikki Horton moved to approve the Financial Report for December 2023 Alex Eckhardt seconded; motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen was not present. Scott Walter reported that Kassie Holdren resigned her position on the Fair Board. The County Commissioners offered the position to Tracie Martin, she has not responded to the offer.
- **County Extension** – Jen Horton reported that there will be a 4-H carnival on March 2, 2024 and Farm and Ranch Days will be February 7-8. The new Wind River Extension agent will be Johnathan Despain, his starting date will be February 1, 2024. Jen request that the rules on the Family animal be sent to her ASAP so she can get the information out to 4-H families prior to Beef tagging on February 3.
Wind River Extension – No report
- **Royalty Committee** – Pam Rivers introduced Shaylee Farrell as the new president of the Royalty Committee. Pam will be stepping aside as the Royalty Coordinator and Jade Woods will be stepping into that position. Pam will serve as the Secretary on the committee. Shaylee reported that the 4 Royalty members will begin riding practice soon at 5 Rivers Arena and move to the Fairgrounds arena when the weather improves.
- **Youth Ambassadors**- Applications are out. Holly Putnum is interested in chairing the program. Volunteers are still needed for the committee.
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Beef tagging will take place on February 3, 2024. The Sale Board is asking for the Fair Board to be there to assist. Carmen Vasco asked Fair Board members to arrive between 9:00AM-9:15AM. The Sale Board is still looking for new members. Their next meeting will be January 22, 2024.
- **Junior Show Advisory Committee** – No report
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** – Busy preparing for the Barn Bash scheduled for March 9, 2024. They have offered a discount to corporate table purchasers from last year's event. They will be having the Ambassadors, 4-H Junior Leaders, 4-H Horse Judging Team and the Royalty assist that evening. Donors are still being sought for assistance in purchasing live auction items. They are seeking high energy people to serve the two head tables. Tanya reported that they felt the work session with the Fair Board went well. At their next meeting on January 15, 2024, they will be discussing smaller projects that they can assist with on the fairgrounds. Pat Hart reported that auto flushers for the Grandstand Bathrooms would be approximately \$13,000.00. She also reported that after a discussion with Rick Wilmes, he informed her that he had cut a piece of shade cloth to fit the sheep wash rack last year and that he and his summer employees could paint the structure. Laura Harrington consulted with Cameron Fehring of the local Communal Pancake Theater group on his thought on the suggestion from Friends of Fair to paint the back wall of the stage area in the Heritage Hall, he thought it was a great idea.
- **Fair Mangers Report** –
- Pat Hart reported that Action Entertainment will not be returning for Family Day. Adventure zone another bounce house provider is available and would be a 5-day attraction for \$7000.00. Action Entertainment came at a cost of \$4750.00 for one day. Sponsors will be sought to cover the cost. Pat reported that the Hypnotist and magician who were at fair last year will both be back as well as laser tag, putt putt and a train. She reported that currently the cost for fair entertainment including Adventure Zone is at \$58,900.00. The cost for entertainment for the 2023 fair was \$63,050.00. It was asked if that included the second night of Figure 8, Pat stated that it does not. There is currently no music booked for the 2024 fair. Pat said a band was recommended to her that would come for four days at a cost of \$4600.00. Nikki Horton asked what the Free Stage schedule was, adding that she remembers in the past when the dance studios performed and suggested possibly hosting jam sessions with local entertainers.
Nikki Horton moved to book Adventure Zone for 5 days for the 2024 Fremont County Fair. Alex Eckhardt seconded; motion passed unanimously.

- All nights of entertainment during fair week are now covered with the addition of the second night of Figure 8 racing.
- The carnival will be here July 17-July 20 2024 during Horse Show week as it has been for the past few years.
- Small Animal tagging will be June 4 in Riverton and June 6 in Lander, both taggings will take place from 5:00PM – 6:00PM.
- Stock Doc and Morgan Kennedy have agreed to do Sunday Vet inspections at check in. Each vet will be paid \$100.00 for their services. Nikki Horton suggested they also be given night show tickets.
- Showworks (Fair entry program) training will be taking place April 3-5 in Cody. Pat has registered for 5. Three from the office and two from the Sale Board. An upgrade to program needs to be purchased prior to 2/27/2024 for discounted price of \$1999.00. The Sale Board has agreed to split the cost of this since Showworks is now used for the sale also.
- The Board is required to participate in the Wyoming Department of Audit training. It needs to be completed by July 1, 2024. Pat is unsure when it will be but she will keep the board informed.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Capital Revolving LATC funds. The Fremont Center remodel project will go out to bid. Sealed bids will be opened on February 1st at 2:00PM. Laura is working with Fair Harbor as a possible new booking system. Alex my have some ideas on that as well.
- RFP for Barns- Nikki Horton and Megan Sims will both reach out to Sehnert Systems to see how the estimate for the barn roof is coming.
- RFP for East side grandstand concession will open February 12 and close April 1st.
- Review of Work Session on January 9, 2024- Fair Board met with Friends of Fair. Laura put notes from the meeting in the board packets.
- Exhibitor party- keep brain storming.
- The sale board uses google meets for their meetings, Nikki Horton suggested we use the same to keep things consistent.
- **Counting down....198 days until 2024 Fremont County Fair “Whatever Floats your Goat!”**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Alcohol permit requests – Nikki Horton moved to approve the alcohol permit for RMEF pending the selection of caterer, seconded by Rob Dolcater; motion passed unanimously.
- Board training with Julie Freese will take place at 5:00PM on February 8th prior to the Fair Board meeting.
- Liaison Appointments: Rob Dolcater-Junior Livestock Sale Board, Trevor Bekken- Show Committee, Nikki Horton- Friends of Fair, Megan Sims- Royalty and Alex Eckhardt- Ambassadors.
- Election of Officers: Nikki Horton moved that **Scott Walters** remain in the position of Fair Board **President**, seconded by Megan Sims; motion passed unanimously. Rob Dolcater nominated **Nikki Horton** for the position of **Vice President** no other nominations were qualified, seconded by Megan Sims; motion passed unanimously. Rob Dolcater nominated **Megan Sims** for the position of **Secretary** no other nominations were made, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously. Nikki Horton nominated **Trevor Bekken** for the position of **Treasurer** no other nominations were made, Alex Eckhardt seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. Executive Session

Executive Session was called for by Rob Dolcater at 7:06PM for personnel, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously.

Megan Sims moved to reconvene the regular session at 8:04PM, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously.

Pat told the board that Carmen Vasco has requested shade anywhere that there can be shade for the beef barn. Will be requested from Friends of Fair.

Nikki Horton requested that the board vote on the procedures and policies to that so she can get them sent over to Nathan Maxon so he can review them. Trevor moved to send the rewritten procedures and polices to Nathan Maxon for review, seconded by Megan Sims; motion passed unanimously.

Nikki Horton requested that the building rental prices be put on the agenda for next month. Discussion was held on procedures of building rentals. There was some discussion on security cameras as well.

Rob Dolcater brought up changing tack arrival day to Sunday morning instead of Saturday alleviating the issues of conflict with the parade and tack arrival. It was suggested to keep animal drop off Sunday evening and moving tack drop off to first thing Sunday morning. This idea will be discussed with the show committee.

Linda Griffin will be asked to be superintendent of all goats.

Nikki Horton would like signs posted on the barns with the superintendent's names. All agreed this was a great idea.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21PM

Next Meeting

The **February meeting** will be held on **Thursday, February 8, at 6:00 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.

Scott Walters, Fair Board President

Megan Sims, Fair Board Secretary