

**Fremont County Fair Board  
Minutes  
June 12, 2025**

The Fremont County Fair Board met June 12, 2025 at the Fremont Center Boardroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Nikki Horton, Trevor Bekken, Kourtney Hanger, Alex Eckhardt, Megan Jones, Jeremy Vukich and Rob Dolcater. 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

Trevor Bekken led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hart gave the board prayer

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Rob Dolcater moved to approve the April 10, 2025 agenda; Alex Eckhardt seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**II. PATRONS**

Summer employee Abby Santee addressed the board telling them that she is working on social media posts about the groups and committees that help put on the fair. She will be interviewing show committee members, sale board members, Extension, 4-H, FFA the fair board and other groups and individuals who help with Fair. She made a post last week of her interview with the Royalty committee. Abby proceeded to ask some questions of the Fair Board and she will be posting them to social media on Friday.

**III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes from the May 8, 2025 Fremont County Fair Board Meeting.
- Financial Review: Approval of current bills and financial report.
- Alcohol Permits: none

Rob Dolcater moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**V. EX-OFFICIO BOARD REPORTS**

- Commissioner Liaison – Commissioner Allen was not present

- **Fremont County Extension** – Tanya Santee stated that Extension and 4-H have been busy, Threads of Confidence took place this week. There were 20 participants and 10 leaders, Senior 4-H members Dani Santee and Emma Hill also assisted. All participants completed at least one project. IN addition to sewing they practiced modeling and with monies that were provided from a grant they were taken shopping to purchase supplies and ready to wear items. Most of the participants were 8-12 years in age. The launch and learn even had 10 participants and they will be entering and launching their rockets at fair. Kids will also be doing projects at camp that they can then enter in fair. Livestock Judging practices have been taking place. There will be a practice horse show this weekend. Tanya asked what the expectations are for managing the Static exhibit hall since 4-H and open class will be in the same building this year. She reported that the bounce houses that the 4-H council has purchased have all arrived. She said they appreciated Rick getting the new displays unloaded and stored. She also Reported that a craft day was held. 10 kids and 3 leaders participated in that. She reported that several projects will be ready to enter in fair. “We are changing the world ten kids at a time.” She reported that Chance has been busy doing AI.
- **Wind River Extension** – Interviews will be taking place soon.

## VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Royalty Committee** –Piper Loomis thanked Friend of Fair for allowing the royalty girls to help at the Jackpot shows. They have been practicing riding and preparing for parades. Thy are working with RFD and RPD tonight to get the horse used to parade noises. They will be helping with the Thermopolis Rodeo next week. Trevor Bekken said the royalty’s assistance at the Jackpot shows was appreciated. Friends of Fair put on a great jackpot.
- **Youth Ambassadors**- There will be no ambassadors this year.
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Megan Jones reported that the Sale Board appreciated the Fair Boards help with small animal tagging. 31 Goats, 91 lambs and 179 hogs were tagged for a total 301 animals. Rob asked about how many lambs each kid had. Tanya stated that several kids had 2-3 animals. There are a few animals that need to be retagged.  
**Junior Show Advisory Committee** – Will meet in June 25 at 6PM.
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** -Tanya Santee reported that there were a lot of entries last week. She thanked Kourtney Hanger for all of her help. She said the show ran longer but went smoothly with shows not overlapping. They are working on ideas to improve parking of the trailers. They will sell electric spots for those showing out of their trailers. Rob Dolcater stated that our facility is not set up for showing out of trailers. The reason a lot of people like to show out of their trailers is fungus and disease. She reported that \$1025 was collected in campground and electricity fees. Tanya said that there were several kids who helped with the Jackpot shows. She added that there were 37 households of Fremont County kids who participated in the Jackpot show in addition to the out-of-town entrants. They are now gearing up for the jackpots at fair. Nikki Horton would like to see Facebook posts about the barn improvements. Tanya is in contact with the engineers about the possibility of adding air conditioning in the show pavilion.

## VII. FAIR MANAGERS REPORT

- Spring Fair- went well, approximately \$20,000.00 from carnival, \$20,000.00 from Figure 8 and \$4300.00 from the Beer Garden in gross sales. Approximately 1200 tickets were sold for the figure 8

racers. Pat expressed concern about people driving inside the gates to park on Saturday. Tanya stated that Friends of Fair would be willing to pay for signs to direct people.

- Night Events- All night event tickets are on sale. There have been 244 concert tickets sold, 4 mega passes and 2 rodeo tickets sold to date. Marketing for fair will start soon. Online entries are open. County 10 published an article about fair entries.
- Figure 8 entries- Laura Harrington reported that figure 8 driver entries opened Wednesday morning with the 4-cylinder race filling up in less than an hour. She stated that our phone system is not set up to handle the volume of calls that came in that morning. There are a couple of spots open for the six-cylinder race. She said she and the Schooners will be discussing ways to handle the registration now that they are running a circuit of races around the state to help ensure that the circuit drivers can get entered. Laura also stated that there is a waitlist of approximately 27 cars for the 4-cylinder race. Laura explained that Jerney Schooner is an amazing promoter and our races fill up quickly where other races around the state are not filling up as quickly. Nikki Horton asked about online entry. Laura said for next year that would be a great option. Pat suggested that the August 16 race be invitation only. Laura said the race has already been advertised to drivers. Hog N Mud entries open on Monday. Divisions have been changed, co ed teams will be in all divisions. There can be a total of 40-42 teams.
- Summer staff is needed- Rick currently has two employees and Abby Santee is working in the office for the month of June and will be helping with Livestock shows during fair. This will be Rochelle's last year doing the Showworks entries. It would be great if someone could come train under her this year. Ticket takers and sellers are also needed. Pat will be making social media posts. Kourtney Hanger asked how many ticket takers are needed. Pat stated that she would like an adult supervisor and approximately six ticket takers. Nikki suggested the Catholic College.
- Sponsorship and award donors needed.
- Vet office- Pat has not heard from the potential renters that looked at the location.
- Budget Session- Pat reported that it went well. Pat stated that she had received an email stating that if department heads had not heard from the county, then to consider their budget accepted as presented. She stated she had not heard anything.
- Annex Summer special- Pat reported that the summer special is going well. Some 4-H kids are taking advantage of the opportunity as well as some other people. There has been an article published by County 10 and there will be one published by the Riverton Ranger as well.
- IAFE Economic Impact Study- Still waiting to hear on that.
- August Board meeting- Pat suggest that the August board meeting be changed to August 7<sup>th</sup>. Kourtney Hanger pointed out that the August meeting is already set for that day.
- Reminder- July Carnival- July 9-12; Horse Show July 17-19; July 25 Hog n Mud, Fair July 26-August 1 Fremont County Fair.
- \*Kourtney Hanger asked about the countertop in the Crows nest. Pat stated it had not been done yet but is in process.  
Hog n Mud setup will be Friday morning. Nikki will also need help setting up Beer Garden that day. Nikki has a post hold digger that can be used. Rob asked about Hydrovac to clean up. Nikki has a lead or Legend was suggested. Steffens will be contacted about gates. Set up will be at 8am. Tack arrivals will need to enter from Broadway. Board members will be allowed to bring their tack in earlier.

## VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Update Fremont Center Project- panel will be installed in men's room tomorrow.
- Fremont Center roof project- Rocky Mountain Applicators will get on the roof after fair in August.

- Barn Update- Renderings of the proposed updates to the barn are in the office. Tanya reported that she has someone willing to make a substantial donation. Kourtney Hanger reported that donation boxes are on their way. Pat asked about cluing in the Commission on the project. Kourtney stated that was included in questions they submitted to the commission and they had not received a response yet.
- Fair Annex- Work is being done on expanding the parking lot. The county has been moving materials to fill in the parking lot. Billy Meeks suggested holding off on hiring contract drivers due to construction. Rob stated it is starting to look like a parking lot. Larry Allen has pipe that can be used in the canal and the lot will be graded for water flow. The original plan for the wash rack is being revisited. Bids from B & M and City plumbing are in the board packets. There may not be a need for county funds for the project with the grant money that was received and the funds being donated by Friend of Fair. Kourtney Hanger moved to accept the wash rack bid from B & M Construction for the amount of \$9850.00, seconded by Megan Jones after some discussion the motion passed with Nikki Horton abstaining from the vote.

The list of concerns that needed to be addressed in order for the Horse Show to take place at the Annex is being worked on, the mirrors have been taken down, parking lot is in progress, wash rack will be in progress. Handicap parking will be available as well as handicap bathrooms. Panels will be moved up to the facility and bleachers will be brought in. Rob Dolcater moved to hold the horse show at the Annex Facility seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion passed unanimously.

Joan Eisemann who was in the audience expressed her disappointment in the decision. Trevor thanked her for her passion and concern. Joan again expressed her concern for safety at the Annex, the board reassured her that safety is always the boards concern as well. Joan stated she will not be participating in the Horse Show.

- City Request for property- Pat stated that the final decision should be made by commissioners. The board would like to just give the city right of way on the Southeast corner.

**Counting down...44 days until Race Ewe to the Fair 2025 Fremont County Fair**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- Emergency Plan- Milan Vinich has prepared a plan for the main grounds and Annex. Nikki Horton moved to approve the Emergency Plan seconded by Jeremy Vukich; motion passed. Megan Jones moved to approve MOU with Janice and Dirk Bush seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed.
- Special Project- Nikki would like stands made for Best of the Barn Banners and Senior FFA and 4-H members. This will be discussed at the work session. She would like banners in the arena for Best of Barn and Best of Barn boards in each Barn in the future.
- Countertop needs to be installed in the crow's nest before fair.
- Red Neck Relay-Nikki and Jermey Schooner will do a dry run for that event. She would like to know what the budget is. Calcutta? Will be discussed at work session. What will the payouts be?
- Horse Show- Alex suggested that a follow up be done with Cori Slingerland on what things are done at the Annex. Pat stated black stalls need to be moved up to Annex. Pat will see if the Honor Farm will help with putting up black stalls and tearing down old buildings.
- Nikki suggested that vendor packs be prepared. Pat said they will be done.
- Rob would like parking spots painted at the Annex so parking can be directed. Trevor said the sheep clinic can be a good indicator of how parking will go. Will round pen be removed prior to Horse Show? Pat would like a portable round pen. Cost would be approx. \$5000.00. Tanya suggested talking to the Rec board about redesignating where the funds are used. Pat will check

on it. Rob Dolcater expressed concern about going to the Rec Board to change designation of funds. Can ARPA funds be used?

## **IX. Executive Session**

Pat Hart asked for Executive Session for personnel. Nikki Horton moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Alex Eckhardt; motion passed. Into Executive Session at 7:54PM, Out of Executive Session at 8:46PM

Show Committee Meeting June 25, Sale Board Meeting June 23

Rob Dolcater would like to rent a manlift to have on hand for fair to put up shade. He will look into renting a self-driving lift. Trevor suggested talking to Kirk Hawker about providing something. Possibly donating or in-kind sponsorship.

Alan Sinner will put up banners for fair.

When can Fair Board bring in campers?

Megan Sims moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:46PM seconded by Rob Dolcater; motion passed.

## **Next Meeting**

The next Board Meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 10, at 6:00 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.

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Trevor Bekken, Fair Board President

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Alex Eckhardt, Fair Board Secretary