

Fremont County Fair Board**Minutes****November 16, 2023**

The Fremont County Fair Board met November 16, 2023 at the Fremont Center Classroom, in Riverton, Wyoming. Board members present were Scott Walters, Maralyne Middour, Brandon Haun, Nikki Horton, Mistalyn Steffen, Kassie Holdren and Rob Dolcater. Fair Staff present were, Pat Hart Fair Manager and Laura Harrington, Administrative Assistant. Commissioner Larry Allen and County Attorney Nathan Maxon were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Scott Walters.

Scott Walters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board prayer was led by Pat Hart

I. PATRONS

Joan Eisemann asked the board to allow 4-H and FFA groups to run the concession stand under the Grandstands during the Horse Show and Fair 2024. She said she would oversee coordination of groups. Nikki recommended that the RFP could go out per night instead of the whole week.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kassie Holdren moved to approve the agenda; Maralyne Middour seconded; motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kassie Holdren moved to approve the October minutes as presented, Rob Dolcater seconded; motion passed.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

1. None

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

- V.** Discussion was held; Nikki Horton questioned why the fair was receiving disconnect notices on utilities. Pat Hart said that since we wait until after the board meeting to make payments it makes them late. Scott asked Pat if we could change due dates, Pat said no. The board would like to look into budget billing. Scott said the bills need to get paid on time. Nikki Horton asked what Grant watch is. Pat said it is a subscription for a listing of grants that are available. Nikki stated that she believes that grants.gov shows grants that are available for free. Maralyne Middour added the library has a grant program that is available for free. Mistalyn is going to check with the school and see what they use. Kassie Holdren moved to approve the Financial Report for October, seconded by Maralyne Middour; motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

- **Commissioner Liaison** – Commissioner Allen reported that the Commissioners are working on Department Head evaluations and Policy and Procedures for the county.
- **County Extension** – Jen Horton reported that the 4-H achievement night went well and that they are working on the new year enrollments.
- **Royalty Committee** – Pam Rivers reported that the Royalty will participate in the Light up Lander Parade on December 2. Committee members Jade and Piper are helping the girls work on their parade float. Pam made photo gift books for the 2023 Royalty.
- **Youth Ambassadors** – No report
- **Junior Livestock Sale Board** – Carmen Vasco reported a meeting was held on 10/23 they are working on revisions & By-Laws. Hoping to present new board member nominees at the next Fair Board meeting. A discussion in regard to market beef #98420 took place, the exhibitor will not be able to sell in 2024. There were concerns in regard to 4-H Beef 545224. The sale board is reviewing information in regard to that beef and will be discussing it at their next meeting.
- **Junior Show Advisory Committee** no meeting
- **Friends of the Fremont County Fair** – Tanya Santee reported that there was joint meeting with fair board and fair staff members. They are in the preliminary planning on the Barn Bach and deciding where they would like the funds for that to go. Save the date cards have been sent out. Jeremy Hill will get information to Pat on finding a new curtain for the Heritage Hall.
- **Fair Mangers Report**
- Laura Harrington was presented the Friends of 4-H award for 2023.
- Pat attended the RMAF convention. She reported that several Wyoming Fair managers received awards at the convention. Pat was elected as the first vice chair for the region.
- Laser Tag and Putt-Putt have been booked to return for the 2024 Fair. Kyle Groves the magician will also return. She put information on a performing artist Kelly McDonald in the board packets. She would like to rebook Michael Mesmer again this year. She also included information on a train that is available during fair time. She has tentatively had a rock wall pencil the fair in for 2025. Nikki and Kassie both stated that the train could possibly transport people from the parking lot. Pat said prices were approximately \$800 a day. She will get a quote.
- Action Entertainment may not be able to be here for Family Day. They are trying to work things out.
- Knights of Valor may be available and willing to work Fremont County into their routing for \$17,500.00. Pat said she would try to negotiate for a lower price. Kassie expressed concern about it being a money maker. The board would like Pat to try to negotiate down to \$15,000.00. Thursday night and Friday night are still open for entertainment.
- Spring Carnival will be May 29-June 1, 2024 with North Star Entertainment.
- Carnival Midway Attractions will be in Colorado the week that they would typically be here for fair. They are available to be here fair week with fewer rides because they are in Unita County the same week. They are also available the week after State Fair. Pat added there is play that goes on with the carnival. Nikki Horton said if it needs to be during fair then that's what it needs to be. Kassie Holdren expressed concern about them bringing a lesser number of rides. Pat added that there are no other carnivals in our area available during fair week. Parents in attendance said they like carnival off of fair but they understand that the carnival is a good revenue source. Pam Rivers expressed that maybe the board could share the amount of revenue that carnival brings in.
- Pat will be attending IAFE in Salt Lake City November 26-30.
- Staff would like to participate in the Flex spending for county employees. It would cost the board \$3.50 per month per staff member. Rob asked where the money would come from since it is not in the budget. Kassie moved to allowed the employees to participate in the Flex savings account as long as there is a line item available to move funding to pay for it, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Capital Revolving- ARPA-LATC – Pat presented plans for the remodel of the Fremont Center. It will go out to bid soon. Bathrooms in the rear portion will be an added option because there is not proper drainage currently. A door between the Board/work room and the classroom will also be optional.
- Nikki Horton said she reached out to Sehnert Construction to do a very rough barn plan to replace the roof on the barns. She has asked for basics with options. She said galvanized roof would be significantly less expensive than colored.
- Show Committee rule change recommendations -
 - Rule # 6, 4 Lambs instead of 3 per exhibitor- Rob Dolcater moved to accept the change to; 4 Market Lambs per exhibitor, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously.
 - Rule # 8 Family Animal- Jen Horton suggested defining who family is. Will be revisited at next meeting.
 - Rule #19 vet check- verbiage needs to be changed so it doesn't insinuate the Fair Board pays. Time change. Rob Docater moved to accept the time change for animal arrival to 6:30PM- 8:00PM, seconded by Kassie Holdren; motion passed unanimously.
 - Rule #26 Fitting Rule- change to one adult mentor. Rob Dolcater moved to accept the change that exhibitors may be assisted by others enrolled in 4-H and FFA and by one adult mentor. Group fitting by multiple adult mentors at one time will be prohibited, seconded by Kassie Holdren; Scott Walters, Brandon Haun, Rob Dolcater, Kassie Holdren and Nikki Horton voted in favor, Mistalyn Steffen voted Nay, and Maralyne Middour abstained. Motion passed.
 - Rule #27 no unauthorized people in show ring or communicating with judge. Rob Dolcater moved to change the rule to; Individuals other than judges, show staff and exhibitors, will not be allowed in the show ring. Any unauthorized individual that enters the show ring or attempts to speak to, or obtain the attention of the judge, will be removed from the Fairgrounds, seconded by Kassie Holdren; Mistalyn Steffen abstained from voting, motion passed.
 - RFP for engineering on barns tabled until December after Sehnert systems returns their estimate.
 - Grandstand concessions for fair- Maralyne Middour moved to allow 4H/FFA kids to run one side of the grandstand concessions during fair 2024, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously.
 - Pat presented a letter to be reviewed by the board terminating Jessica Murray as Goat superintendent. Mistalyn Steffen read the letter out loud. Mistalyn Steffen moved to send the letter to Jessica Murray, Kassie Holdren seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- **Counting down....254 days until 2024 Fremont County Fair "Whatever Floats your Goat!"**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Alcohol permit requests- Brandon Haun moved to approve alcohol permits for Festival of Trees, seconded by Maralyne Middour; motion passed unanimously.
- Pat brought up the idea of doing an exhibitor party Friday or Saturday night of fair. The hypnotist would be available to do a special performance. Tanya Santee suggested a time be selected that won't conflict with jackpot show or night events. This will be reviewed again at a later date.
- Purchase Zoom for the ability to attend meetings remotely- Pat stated that there is already a TV and stand available. Free Zoom can only be used for 40 minutes at a time. Kassie asked if the Fair

could piggy back on the counties zoom. Larry said zoom meetings have to be kept indefinitely for review. Once these meetings are recorded, they become part of public record. Nikki Horton said TEAMS and Google Meet offer a free option and meetings could just be a live broadcast and only record on the audio recorder. Other ideas were discussed and Pat said she would do research to see what the best option would be.

- Steer 98420: Attorney Nathan Maxon questioned Carmen Vasco and Pat Hart in regard to the packet presented to the board on Steer #98420. This steer (black and white) was not the steer delivered to the processor; a significantly smaller steer (black) was delivered. The processor reached out to the buyer stating that the steer was much smaller than a normal 4-H steer, it was after this contact that it was discovered the wrong steer was taken for process. Pat stated the exhibitor's father had reached out to the buyer stating that they wanted to take steer #98420 to State Fair and feed it afterwards if the steer did not make weight, he told the buyer he may need to substitute the steer. The buyer asked to be informed if this was to take place and had not heard from the seller again. The exhibitor's family wished to address the board. The exhibitors father opened by saying that communication has been lacking in this whole situation. He explained their take on what occurred and his frustration that they had not been contacted prior to the sheriff and brand inspector showing up at their home. The father expressed that he was responsible for the mistake that was made not his son. He expressed his frustrations and further discussion occurred. The exhibitor spoke to the fair board stating that he goes to multiple shows and of all the shows he goes to County Fair is his favorite. He added that he would love to still be able to show at County Fair next year. He had nine animals at fair in 2023 of all of his animals only one was a market animal.
- Following the second Executive Session Nikki Horton asked the exhibitor if he were allowed to show would he represent himself and communicate with the Fair Board and do everything he can to follow the rules. The exhibitor responded yes. Mistalyn Steffen moved to allow the exhibitor who showed steer #98420 at the 2023 Fremont County Fair to show at the 2024 Fremont County Fair, seconded by Brandon Haun; Brandon Haun, Nikki Horton, Mistalyn Steffen and Scott Walters voted yes. Rob Dolcater, Kassie Holdren and Maralyne Middour voted no. Motion passed.

VII. Executive Session

Maralyne Middour moved to go into Executive Session for potential litigation with the Fair Board, Larry Allen, County Attorney Nathan Maxon, Pat Hart, Laura Harrington and Carmen Vasco present, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed. Executive Session began at 7:52PM

Regular meeting reconvened at 8:40PM

Brandon Haun moved to go back into executive session with the same individuals in attendance, Kassie Holdren seconded; motion passed. Executive Session began at 9:27PM.

Regular meeting reconvened at 9:37PM

Mistalyn Steffen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:47PM, seconded by Nikki Horton; motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

The **December Fair Board Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m.**, in Riverton, in the Classroom, Fremont Center, at the fairgrounds.

Scott Walters, Fair Board President

Kassie Holdren, Fair Board Secretary