

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

6:30PM CONVENE

PRESENT: DeeDee Geving, Chairman; Alyse Webber, Eddie Coulter, Jeff Greenlee, Jerrid Geving, Members; Elin Westover, Ex-Officio Member; Lani DeBuhr, Fairgrounds Manager

FALLON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS OFFICE

6:30PM MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Alyse Webber made a motion to call the meeting to order. Jerrid Geving seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion passed unanimously.

6:30PM PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared for Public Comment.

6:40PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Eddie Coulter made a motion to approve the December 19, 2016 Fair Board Agenda. Jeff Greenlee seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion passed unanimously.

6:42PM APPROVAL OF FAIR BOARD MINUTES

Jeff Greenlee made a motion to approve the Fair Board Minutes for meetings held on November 21, 2016 and December 12, 2016. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion passed unanimously.

6:45PM FAIRGROUNDS MANAGER REPORT

Lani DeBuhr presented her Manager's Report for review. The Board Members and Lani discussed the issues she has been having with the grandstands' mechanical room alarm going off when the room gets too cold. Lane Straub with Straub Heating and Cooling suggested possibly installing a tube heater or larger heater in the room to combat the problem. Jerrid said rather than buying a new heater, he would like to look at a less expensive way to solve the problem. The Board agreed and after further discussion asked Lani to talk to Lane or Jeremy Fix with the Fireman's Company about installing a drop down ceiling in the room to keep the heat from rising and escaping through the ceiling.

6:50PM WILD GAME FEED DISCUSSION

This meeting was canceled by Devon Banister and will be rescheduled for a later date.

6:50PM COUNTY AGENT REPORT

Elin Kittlemann said she is gathering information about the Horse Show and will present it at a later time.

6:55PM OLD BUSINESS

WILD GAME FEED GARBAGE- DeeDee Geving said G&G Garbage charged the Fairgrounds \$300 to remove overfill trash from the Wild Game Feed and asked if the Fairgrounds should be responsible for an events' garbage expense. DeeDee feels the Fairgrounds shouldn't have to pay for this expense, especially since event fees are set so low and the Board agreed. Alyse suggested using the event deposit to pay for expenses

like this and the Board agreed. Jerrid will call G&G Garbage to ask if they can reduce the bill. Jeff said if G&G Garbage won't reduce the bill they should consider talking to the Wild Game people to ask if they would pay for it or split the cost.

GENERATOR- The Board discussed the size and location of the generator since there seemed to be confusion on what building the generator would power and where it would be located. The Board would like to get a generator (s) to power the grandstands and exhibit hall since both buildings are considered "safe houses" in the event of a disaster. The generator (s) will be placed on the north end of grandstands since powerlines are there already. Lani will contact Direct Electric and K&S Electric to get quotes.

EVENT INSURANCE- The Board discussed requiring people to purchase event insurance when renting Fairgrounds facilities as recommended by D&J Insurance. The cost would be between \$300-\$600 per event, depending on the type of event and related level of risk. The Board is concerned this will deter people from renting and using the facilities and will schedule an appointment to discuss this further with the Commission. Lani will contact surrounding Counties to see what insurance they require their renters to have also.

BULLS, BRONCS AND BARRELS (BBB)- The Board discussed details of the upcoming BBB event being held on February 25, 2017. The Board decided on the following items:

- Junior Barrels will be allowed and the limit for the evening performance will be 12.
- A buckle will be given to all event Champions, including Junior Barrels. Sponsors will pay for buckles and present them at event.
- Two heaters from LTR will be rented and Jeff will contact LTR.
- Pre-Sale tickets will be available for purchase at Thee Garage and Ace Hardware. Ticket prices: Pre-Sale: \$15; At Gate: \$20 for adults; \$10 for students 7th grade to 12th grade; Free for kids 6th grade and younger.
- Danger Dave will be Rodeo Clown and will visit and give out free tickets to Baker schools again. Jerrid will ask Dave to contact Plevna and Ekalaka schools about giving out free tickets and visiting them also. Free tickets for kids will be given to Wibaux and Marmath, ND.
- All contestants must have a "Contestant" stamp in order to enter. If they do not have a stamp, they will have to pay at the gate for enter. Doors will be monitored to ensure this is followed since a lot of people who weren't contestants got in free last year.
- Sponsorships: \$500 for bucking chute/end gate advertisement (last year's sponsors will have first option for these ads); \$75 for existing business banner to be placed in arena; \$150 if business banner needs to be made to be placed in arena. All Board Members will contact solicit sponsorships.

2017 FAIR-

Briana Renea's Contract Review: The total contract price for Briana Renea (Free Stage Performer) is \$8035. Alyse said this is well over the amount she was verbally quoted at the RMAF Conference and the travel expenses are extremely higher than expected. DeeDee said this is probably due to Briana not having anything else booked in this area so all travel expenses fall to us. The Board agreed and after further discussion made a decision to decline the offer.

Jeff Greenlee made the motion to decline Briana Renea's contract offer. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Funtime Carnival Contract Addendum Items- Jeff will ask Scott Roper, Funtime Carnival owner, to stay open until 11:30pm rather than midnight on Friday and Saturday of Fair due to kids needing to be home by curfew. The Board discussed assessing a penalty for rides that are not operating due to labor shortage.

Jeff Greenlee made the motion to add language in the contract that states “a penalty may be assessed if rides are not operating due to labor shortage”. Alsy Webber seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Free Stage Acts- The Board discussed the Free Stage Acts that are booked. DeeDee suggested hiring a Johnny Cash singer/impersonator from Spear Fish, SD now that they will not be hiring Briana Renea. The Board agreed and asked DeeDee to contact the singer.

Rodeo Stock Contractor Contract Discussion- Eddie said he reviewed Mosbrucker’s contract with Darcy Wassman, County Attorney, last week. Eddie said the contract should have been renegotiated when Mosbrucker no longer had to provide the timed event cattle or rodeo announcer but it wasn’t. Jerrid said the reason it wasn’t was because Mosbrucker was pressuring them to sign another two year contract if it was renegotiated, which they didn’t want to do. Jerrid said when the purse was increased two years ago Mosbrucker said they wouldn’t do the rodeo if they had to continue to provide the timed cattle and rodeo announcer so the County provided them instead. Eddie said he is concerned they aren’t getting the cowboys they want with the stock Mosbrucker has and would like to look at other rodeo stock contractors in the future. Jerrid said he doesn’t want to do anything to hurt the rodeo this year and suggested waiting before doing anything since there is only one more year left on Mosbrucker’s contract. The Board agreed. Eddie said Mosbrucker’s contract shows the importance of paying close attention to the language in the contract and to limit them to one or three years with a clause that will allow either party to bow out with a 6 months’ notice and the Board agreed.

Fair Themes- The Board discussed various Fair Themes but couldn’t decide on one the majority of them liked. Jeff suggested opening it up to the public and letting them come up with a theme. The Board agreed and Lani will post the Fair Theme Contest on Facebook.

Bingo- The Lion’s Club asked if they could offer Bingo at the 2017 Fair. The Board said yes and discussed where to have it. No decision was made on where to place them, the Board said they will find space as the time gets closer.

Alyse Webber made the motion to allow the Lion’s Club to offer Bingo at the 2017 Fair. Jeff Greenlee seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Food Vendors- The Board discussed allowing outside food vendors at the 2017 Fair. Jeff said he had many people say how happy they were with the variety of food at the Fair last year and all Board members agreed. Jeff said several people asked if more typical fair food could be offered like a variety of different fried foods.

Jeff made the motion to allow outside food vendors at the 2017 Fair with the ones who were here last year having first choice. Jeff suggested allowing up to five food vendors with discussion. Eddie seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Food Vendor Fees- Alyse asked why the local food vendors weren't charged for their booths last year. Lani and Jerrid said it was a decision the Board made in response to the negative feedback they were receiving from the local food vendors. Lani said because the effect of allowing outside food vendors was unknown they were trying to work with and accommodate the local food vendors as best they could. Jerrid said the outcome for the local food vendors turned out to be good with some of them having their best sales ever. Alyse said the County will be paying for all food booth utilities this year and because the amount they are charged is minimal they shouldn't waive it this year and the Board agreed.

Alyse Webber made the motion to reinstate the local food vendor fee of \$500 or 7% of sales, whichever is less for the 2017 Fair. Jeff Greenlee seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Food Vouchers- The Board and Elin Kittelmann discussed the low sales the 4-H Food Booth has during Fair and the disadvantage they have due to not being in the courtyard area. Lani said this was apparent with the food vouchers that were redeemed last year because very few were redeemed at the 4-H Booth. The Board said they can't do much to change the location but recommended the food vouchers be split among all local food vendors.

Jerrid Geving made the motion to divide the food vouchers up among the local food vendors equally in order for all of them to benefit from the voucher system. Jeff Greenlee seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

9:00PM NEW BUSINESS

OPEN CLASS DOG AGILITY- Tammy Witcher, Member of the Public, asked if Dog Agility could be included in Open Class for the 2017 Fair. Elin said Dog Obedience is currently offered in Open Class but Dog Agility has not been due to the liability if a dog were to get hurt while performing. Elin said the Ekalaka Fair offers it and they use spotters on the course. DeeDee said if someone is interested in doing something like this at the Fair we should encourage it and the Board agreed.

Jeff made the motion to add Dog Agility to Open Class for the 2017 Fair. Eddie seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

RODEO ANNOUNCERS- Jerrid said he learned at the PRCA Convention that many rodeos are now having two Rodeo Announcers and saying it helps with giving sponsors the time and recognition they deserve when sponsoring events. Eddie agreed and said there were two announcers at the Montana High School Finals Rodeo and the announcing went way better than the Fair's PRCA Rodeo. The additional cost would be \$700/day plus motel rooms for a total of \$1600. Jerrid suggested having two announcers for slack also since the slack is so large and it requires a lot of mike time. Eddie agreed, saying one announcer could read the reader board and the other could focus on who is coming up next, making things more streamlined. Alyse suggested asking Mosbrucker to provide the additional announcer since providing one is currently in their contract. The Board agreed and Jerrid will contact Mosbrucker and the current announcer, Randy Taylor, to discuss this.

EVENT CENTER- The County's Capital Improvement Plan includes funding in Fiscal Year 2018-19 to build an event center that would replace the two older exhibit buildings. The Board discussed: determining the dimensions of the new building, whether it should be one story or two story, possibly attaching it to existing exhibit hall and the importance of it being built to accommodate multiple activities and events.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT/SAFFIRE QUOTE REVIEW- Lani presented a quote from Saphirre to develop and maintain a website for the Fairgrounds per the Board's request. Lani and the Board reviewed the services detailed in the quote. The initial one-time setup cost, including building website, designing website/Fair Logo and website management classes is \$7,000. Ongoing fees, including licensing fee, hosting fee and 24 hour support is \$200/month. Lani said the County paid \$3000+ just for the Montana High School Finals Rodeo website development and that site was very limited in its purpose and duration of use so it appears Saphirre is not out of line with their fees. Eddie said he would like to wait until they know more about event insurance before making a decision since the use of the website would depend on the amount of people who use the grounds.

BLEACHERS- Eddie presented a quote for bleachers from Sturdisteel. The bleachers seat 168 people and would sit left of the roping boxes in the outdoor arena. The cost is \$18,160 and Eddie will look at other companies and get other prices.

FAIR MANAGER VACATION- Lani asked permission to take a week's vacation in January due to her grandbaby being born sometime that month and the Board gave approval.

PRCA CIRCUIT FINALS IN GREAT FALLS- The PRCA Circuit Finals is being held in Great Falls, MT January 12-15, 2017. This is an opportunity to represent the PRCA Rodeo that will be held at the 2017 Fair and meet with PRCA officials. There will also be a meeting with the Montana High School Rodeo Association (MHSRA) Board of Directors for this year's HS Rodeo Finals. Jerrid, Eddie and Jeff will go and carpool there. Alyse and Lani may go but are unsure at this time.

NE DISTRICT SPRING MEETING- The proposed date and location for the NE District Spring Meeting is April 1st, 2017 in Sidney. All Board members said this date should work, Lani will notify Jamie Larson, NE District, At Large Director.

EXHIBIT HALL PICTURE DISPLAY- Lani said she would like to hang large pictures in the exhibit hall hallway of people enjoying the Fair. She would have them be poster size and place them in poster frames that could be changed out each year. Lani said wedding parties/reunions could also use them to display large pictures of couples and family if they wanted to. The Board said this was good idea and gave permission.

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 16th at 6:30pm

10:00PM ADJOURN

Eddie Coulter made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jerrid Geving seconded the motion. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:
s/DeeDee Geving, Chairman

ATTEST:
s/Lani J. DeBuhr, Fairgrounds Manager