

**Fallon County Fair Board
Meeting Notice
July 19, 2016 @ 6 PM**

Meeting started at 6:00 PM.

Attendance: Pat Ehret, Lani DeBuhr, Jerrid Geving, Eddie Coulter, Commissioner Steve Baldwin, Cheryl Niemerg, and Barb Lechler.

Public Comments: Wayne Mangold, Steve Zachmann, Angie Rabbitt, Phyllis DuCharme, Ashley Stanhope, Shelly Dean, Dave and Sonia Wiseman, Jessica Dinardi, Pastor Bruce and Pastor Reba Kolasch, John Geving and Joe Epley.

Public Comment: Angie Rabbitt & Wayne Mangold: Angie stated that her concerns were the invoice of \$250 that was sent after the High School Rodeo. This was not the amount that was stated in the letter on November 5th that she received stating that fees for the food booth would remain the same, 7% of profit or the cap of \$500 for the maximum, for the Montana High School Rodeo Finals, she was not notified of any change. She looks forward to working with the Fair Board and serving food for the community and not just for the profit. Angie would like to recommend that the Fair Board rescind the \$250 fee for the non-profit food vendors from the MHSRF. Lani stated that the Board did not have any idea of what to expect for high school rodeo and that it was a new experience. **Lani made the motion that nothing be charged for the local non-profit vendors for the MHSRF for 2016.** Discussion continued with Angie stating that she was okay with paying the 7% and understands that costs do occur during these events. Pastor Reba stated that the Lutheran's do pay for electricity. Pat added but next year the Lutheran's will not be paying for their electricity. Lani added that a refund can be issued if a \$250 check was sent in. Wayne stated that The Knights of Columbus would pay 7%. Phyllis wonder about a cap and the weather. Lani stated that it was hard to schedule for community to get help. This MHSRF was a learning experience for us all. NO FEE for the non-profit food vendor for the MHSRF for 2016, Jerrid and Eddie agrees with no fee for MHSRF. FCFB would like to have all of them come back. **Jerrid seconds, the motion passes unanimously.**

Phyllis DuCharme: has concerns for Fair for 2016, realize that she received a draft of the minutes July 5, 2016, on page three the board discussed the motion to accept three additional vendors and wondered why with the monies that is made goes back into the community. Phyllis ~ Questioned why? Is the reason for variety of food? Lani at first wanted more varieties of food at the fair when she got on the Fair Board. Now Lani thinks differently but understands that unique foods at the fair are also exciting. The High School Rodeo is a different menu than the fair. There have been some comments from the fair goers to have fair food and more variety. Duplicate menus, the Fair Board was more concerned with duplicating the main menus, everyone has a type of nachos. Jerrid is not concerned about meals being ate elsewhere. Fair goers will still be eating the burgers, KC Specials, Indian Tacos, Roast Beef Dinners and breakfast at the 4-H Booth. Jerrid added the 3 outside vendors are: Prairie Fire who serves Kettle Corn, Mini Donuts and Corn Dogs, the Happy Elephant does Noodles with Chicken and Bleu Sky does a Steak Sandwich and a Steak Taco, none of these items are similar what is being served now. It was stated that Fair is a fun weekend for community and outsiders. Phyllis added that this is a community weekend, and the non-profits give back. Sonia stated that the Lutherans are giving \$500 to Fair and that in turn takes out of everyone's pocket in the community. Youth Center is a large group of kids benefiting and the Lutheran's youth also. Joe stated that the fair will be bigger and better with improvements. The more interest, the more rides, the more people and everyone wins. Trying something different and giving the Fair Board a chance to try something new is a good thing. Pizza was served by the Lutherans at the High School Rodeo, Phyllis stated. But after being here for so long it felt like we were being pushed out. Pat added with the new facility next year mini donuts could be served. Eddie mentioned that Steer Roping will be on Friday and Team Roping on Wednesday evening with Slack most of Thursday, so there are added activities this year. Wayne stated the added days means more volunteer time, but doesn't mean more money is profited. Discussion of making more money or having a fixed charge of money, some could make more, but not all of the food booths. No Fee for 2016 local non-profit food vendors. Pastor Reba inquired if any events that are not horse related, not everyone is into horses. Is Fair Board interested in other event ideas? Scales and Tails Utah will be Thursday evening. Eddie encouraged help with ideas. Right now we have people willing to help with rodeo and workers to setup and take down. The facility is going to be used as much it can. Commissioner Steve Baldwin shared Board's vision of the facility being used and the importance of community involvement. With the expansion of the new booth there will be more events but also has the understanding of difficulty getting volunteers to assist with these events. Steve Zachmann expressed the KC's have tried new items, it draws crowd and the other booths also try it. The Carnival food vendor may serve corndogs, popcorn and cotton candy with a lower price but KC's do not under cut anyone else with their prices. It was added that hopefully this year more people will attend our fair with the added

activities. Pat stated there was a push to try new items for this year, and definitely everyone has a different preference in food choices at the fair; so we will try it this year and go back if need to.

Phyllis had concerns with having outside vendors in future for the fair and the MHSRF. Lani stated the HS Rodeo is a separate event from the fair. It is approached differently; the fair is viewed differently and voted differently. These two events are very dissimilar events. All HS Rodeo Finals have outside food vendors that attend. Ashley Stanhope mentioned the Kettle Corn and having it on the grounds; he also feels that it will not make that much of a difference from the locals.

John stated that they will have to have their A game on, the Lutherans will sell food. A few additional items will add variety to the fair. Yes, man hours are a problem, but make the shifts work the best way possible.

Joe does not have the man power at the Youth Center booth; they do not have any breaks all weekend. He does not have time to add new items or expand menu. Why stretch it and have the quality of your food drop. Joe is grateful for getting the chance to be in Fallon County and have the budget that the Youth Center receives. Joe knows of other Youth Centers in the state that do not receive the generous budget that he gets to work with.

John knows that husbands and wives volunteer in our community, with the money benefiting the community. The outside food vendors will put in a full day's work and work every day, it is money in their pockets.

Lani can see both sides and understands that fund raising is hard. The fair intended for community, not just for nonprofit organizations to be money maker. Baker is one of the only fairs that have no outside vendors. Glendive has a lot of mobile food vendors. In small towns it is hard to raise money for nonprofit in hopes to make the needs of the community. This County does give back to its community. This is a board who cares about this community, and this was a hard choice to make. So next year we can look at the numbers and still meet the importance of variety to meet the other's needs to our community.

Darin entered the meeting.

Shelly Dean stated that she loves the Lutheran Stand and will stand in line to wait for her burger. The fair is about community visitation. The 4-H booth does have a variety of meals; she likes what she gets at the fair now. Shelly enjoys going through exhibit halls and then hitting the Lutheran Stand and she has not heard of anyone ever getting sick, even with the Lutheran stand serving potato salad. Shelly will continue to support the local stands. Jerrid will continue to eat at all of the food booths also, but is looking forward to a variety.

Pastor Reba stated that the Lutherans are going thru grief right now with the stand coming down and all of the changes. There is a long history here with the Lutheran Stand, it is emotional and another change with a very long history with the fair.

Cheryl stated that the additional vendors coming are family and friends. They all have ties in one way or another, they are family.

Feedback comes from community; a variety of people are so thankful for the new food items.

Lani is behind the Board, she did not vote for the additional food vendors but will stand behind the Board. Don't ridicule us, let us just try it for this year. The intention was not to hurt the local food vendors; it just wanted a variety. The Board is busting their butts and are very dedicated to this local fair.

Pastor Bruce recognizes in giving back to the communities, it is a worthwhile cause, not to be greedy but for the sake of the community. It is a big concern with number of volunteers in the area.

Lani stated that this is a Board of 5 members and somehow this information about the additional food booths got out by 9 am the next morning, which was not the intention. Phyllis heard it and then called Pat. Pastor Bruce heard the rumor and then came in to ask Barb.

Pastor Bruce stated that he does not know if the Lutheran's will be here for MHSRF next year. The hours are difficult to work and VBS that same week, so there is a lot of pressure. Ministry is on the top of his list, not the money.

Pat stated that she was sorry to how you heard the news, but 2016 Fair will remain with the 3 outside vendors. We can all talk after the fair and then revisit the choice for 2017.

Jim Mosbrucker called Ashley stating to Mike Kalbach and the guys to help during the fair. Jerrid will give them a call to find out the details.

Approval of the Agenda: Lani made the motion to approve the agenda as written. Eddie seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Approval of the Minutes: Jerrid made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Lani seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Correspondence: A very nice card and thank you with \$100 for Baker Relief was received from a Director of the Montana High School Rodeo Finals, the money was taken to the Chamber to be deposited. Lisa Lappe returned her

check and it went to the relief also. The donation bucket that was started by the Directors of MHSRF went to the relief fund for Baker.

We are still waiting on outstanding sponsorships from the High School Finals. A list of expenses has been compiled, just a few invoices are still not in yet.

Stage Rental~ Sharla stated~ When we rented the stage from Miles City, we did a deposit of \$500 that was returned to us if there were no damages and a rental fee of \$700. Is that close to what you and your board are considering? We would like to have it by August 4 and use it through Sunday, August 7.

Discussion was that the stage can be rented but can't sell it, only at the county auction. Sharla could purchase the stage at the County Action this fall.

Darin made motion to sell one of the smaller stages. Jerrid seconds the motion with commission approval.

Extension Report & Discussion: Elin was not able to attend this meeting.

Fairgrounds Maintenance & Repairs: Damages from the hail were assessed Monday morning. The windows were boarded up on Sunday after the storm in the Office (1), the Barn (4), Rodeo Office (1) and Crow's Nest (2)~ thank you to Lani, Thad & his crew & Eddie and Jeff Greenlee.

Todd Griffith stated that he could get the windows and doors at the barn replaced before the fair. Windows in exhibit hall, crow's nest and rodeo office will

Old Business: Advertising ~ Newell Broadcasting, Devon brought an invoice from Aug 2015. Cutting back on local radio was discussed. It was stated that some people have a hard time getting coverage in Fallon County. Devon explained the FM has a 100-mile radius, but the AM radio channel is a bigger listening group. It was discussed to start ads late in July and then hit it hard in August. Devon gives break when customers spend over \$5000. The week of fair, KFLN runs several ads at no charge. It was stated to start the ads on July 27th and the next 24 days air 260 ads with having 2~60 second ads and 8 ~30 second ads. The 60 second ads are used for the night show to explain who the concert is, and information on where to get tickets Devon stated. Darin inquired to give 5 free tickets but Devon added that there is not a value to Newell Broadcasting; the customers get time but not dollars off the statement. Lani suggested in pulling out June and July ads and have to same as last year for the month of August. Also it was stated to give two tickets away at a time, not one. Devon suggested because of there being so many new events this year to give a variety of tickets away for the fair. The Meet and Greet will be on the grounds, 18 tickets are sold and can give 2 away, to be given on Friday of Fair. Give free CDs away was another idea discussed. Devon will call on dollars on what was spent in the month of August and then proceed with creating the ads.

The Dickinson Press ~ \$365 Plus for the Advertiser is \$180.75 Totaling \$545.75 The Board chose to decline.

KGLE AM 590 ~ reaches Baker, Circle, Miles City, Sidney, Terry, Glendive, Bowman, Dickinson & Williston. \$450 with \$150 credited. The Board chose to decline.

Fair 2016 ~

Concert Insurance ~ PayneWest Insurance sent a range of quotes for various amount of rain. This is what has been paid in the past 2014~\$1900, 2015 ~ \$2800 and 2016 has increased also.

Insurance Store quoted \$4465, PayneWest was \$3439, and the Board discussed to increase the coverage to \$110,000 and find out if either have a deductible.

Scooters ~ Rental is \$75 per scooter and 6 were ordered. Jerrid will go get them and pick up the mutton bustin' chute the same day and then these items will have to be returned after fair.

Light plants ~ Darin will call LRT to order 12 lights for the week of fair. Thank you to LTR for allowing Baker Relief to use the lights plants, if needed to clean up the tornado area.

Help needed yet for the week of fair: Barn Superintendents, Barn Helpers, Superintendents for Arts& Crafts, clerks & helpers for Thursday judging. Darin stated that one Barn Helper during the day should be adequate.

Eddie received two quotes for stalls behind chutes, Graham Welding Service ~ 16 stalls \$9130 and Rieger Fencing 16 stalls \$12875. **Eddie made motion accept, with Commission's approval Chuck Graham's quote to make the 15 stalls behind chutes for \$9130. Jerrid seconds it and the motion passed.**

Food vouchers for EMTs ~ the Board agreed to give out food vouchers for the EMTs on staff for during the fair week.

Shed Floor: The quote from Griffith new base material was taken to the Commission. Commissioner Baldwin shared the idea spraying the ground with a calcium chloride /salt water~ which would take moisture from the air and keep in the ground. Bobby Weidmer also took a look at the ground and recommends water for now and after the fair when the shop is empty to add calcium chloride or salt water to base.

Allow use of Sound System in Grandstands: This will be discussed after the fair.

Utility Vehicles: Jerrid reported Tim with Riverside Marina this year a utility vehicle would be \$9200. **Jerrid made the motion to accept with the Commission approval to purchase the ranger 570 for the fairgrounds. Darin seconds the motion and the motion passes unanimously.**

New Business: Camping Spots: Christina Gaub asked about the electrical outlets on the hill if they will be available to use during the fair, as she is a 4-H parent. The Board discussed the electrical spots Rental \$10 per night first come first serve. **Eddie made motion to charge \$10 per night on first come first serve basis. Lani seconds motions and the motion passes unanimously.**

Next meeting will be August 9th and possibility of an additional meeting to visit about the insurance quotes received for the concert.

Darin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lani seconds the meeting and the motion passes at 8:21 pm due to a storm moving in.

Pat Ehret, Chairperson

Barb Lechler, Manager