



FAIR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2016

The meeting was held at the Madison County Fairgrounds, Twin Bridges, Montana, on September 15, 2016, and came to order at 7:02 p.m. Those present were: Dana Escott, Randy Lowder, Nick Novich, Chad Armstrong, Tom Leo, Bill Holden, Bob Lancaster, Billy Whitehurst, and Colton Hellwinkel. Dana Escott took minutes.

Minutes: Chad moved to approve the July 14, 2016 and August 29, 2016, minutes with no corrections. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Budget: Cash is \$35,236.

Bills: The list of bills for August and September, 2016, was presented to the Fair Board. Tom moved to recommend to the commissioners to pay August and September bills. Chad seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to commissioners.

Public Input on Agenda and/or Non Agenda Items: None.

Communications: Dana presented a draft recommendation letter from Barbie Durham for the Board to review and accept. Discussion was that the letter needed some clarification and editing. The board chose to take no stand on sending the letter. A couple of letters from the county attorney and Jay Hahnkamp were reviewed. Clay Schulz donated \$1,000 to use on whatever project the Fair board deemed necessary in the memory of Walter Frederick Jenkins. The Board discussed several project options such as benches, memorial wall, etc. A letter from Susan Held, Horseshoe Tournament Superintendent was reviewed. The horseshoe tournament has been going on in Twin Bridges for approximately 60 years and it continues to grow every year.

REPORTS:

4-H: None.

FFA: None.

Livestock Committee: None.

Fair Board Report: Nick advised that the fair was excellent and there were lots of people in attendance. Tom reported the attendance was good and there was lots of entertainment for everyone to look at. Chad asked if the fair board shares judges with 4H and if some of the open class judges could judge 4H as well. Some discussion was that the 4H shows were going the same time as rodeo. Tom advised that the Fair Board does not set the 4H shows. Would it be possible to start the Fair Wednesday if the hog show goes to Wednesday? There are panels stacked against the historic sheep barn which need to be moved. Those historic structures are not structured to stack things against them. Twin Bridges FFA volunteered to move the panels.

The wooden hog pens which are outside of the little sheep breeding barn need to be moved off the grass and out of the way. Billy will let hog committee know.

Fair Manager Report: Dana presented the auditor's report from fair for the Board to review. The Board felt it would be a benefit for the fair office to have a cash register and safe. Some 4H parents talked to Dana about the mess that was left after the fair and felt some clubs should come back after fair and help with the garbage clean up.

DISCUSSION and/or ACTION ITEMS

1. **Twin Bridges FFA Water Line:** Colton presented that there is a change in running the water line from the well house. It would be better to go from culvert by loading chute in arena to the FFA garden which would be about 200 feet shorter. The line would be four feet deep with a tracer wire and there would be a shut off in the middle of the line. There would be the same culvert set up as what the Fair Board has. Chad moved to recommend to the commissioners to allow the Twin Bridges FFA to change the routing of water line and add to water line culvert by loading chute to FFA Garden. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to the commissioners.
2. **Future Plans of Fairgrounds:** No Action.
3. **4H/FFA Stall Fee/Sales Commission:** Billy advised there are space issues for the animals. Discussion was to ad a stall charge per head for animals coming to the fair. Other discussion was also to ask Jefferson County for funds for Jefferson county children to attend the fair since Jefferson County pays for some of their kids to attend the Lewis & Clark Fair as well. Chad advised that if the Board charges a stall fee, that fee should be collected when 4H and FFA pays their entries for the new year. No Action.

Colton Hellwinkel left meeting at 8:20 pm.

4. **Fairgrounds Mill Levy (Options):** No Action.
5. **Mower Bids:** Two bids for a commercial mower were presented to the Fair Board. One from Front Line Ag and one from Churchhill Equipment. The Board discussed the options for both mowers and the consensus was that Churchhill was going give more on trade for the old mowers. Both companies are great to work with. Bill moved to recommend to the commissioners that they purchase the Grasshopper 729BT zero front mount mower, 29 hp Briggs Stratton gas engine for \$10,500 for the fairgrounds (see attached quote). Chad seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carries. Dana will send a recommendation to the commissioners.
6. **Fairgrounds Rental Fees:** The recommendation to raise the fees was on the commissioner's July agenda and they took no action. Chad moved to recommend to the commissioners the necessity to raise the rental fees on the facility which are listed below and to take effective immediately. Further discussion was to leave the camping the same for fair to make it more user friendly for the locals. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to the commissioners.
 - a. Arena: \$300/day; \$200/day for two day event/\$200/day for a series of three or more in the summer; Arena Lights: \$300; Tractor: \$50/day.
 - b. Pavilion: \$200/day June 1-August 31; \$250/day Sept. 1-May 31
 - c. Jeffers: \$100/day June 1-August 31; \$150/day Sept. 1-May 31
 - d. Grounds/Picnic Area: \$250/day

e. Camping without power: \$15/day; Camping with power: \$25/day

7. Building Update

a. **Planning Grant: No action.**

8. **High School Rodeo:** A Profit/Loss statement was presented to the Fair Board for review.

9. **Bylaws:** No Action

10. Fair

a. **Draft Profit/Loss:** A Profit/Loss statement was presented to the Fair board for review.

b. **Miscellaneous:** Chad asked about the horse barn being moved to the arena to make additional parking for fair. Wheel chair access to the vault toilets by yellow building needs to be addressed. The scooters at fair are still a problem. The Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs Conference is November 9-12, 2016 and the cost is \$250 plus motel. Tom mentioned the conference is very educational and he would make a motion to recommend to the commissioners that Dana attends this conference. Chad seconded motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. The fair board discussed renting left over pasture out. Billy discussed the possible ecological service of having Hamilton Ranch come in with 300 cows and mowing it down for a couple of days would be a benefit for the grass in the future. Further discussion was to offer Hamilton Ranch \$10 to clean up the pasture. Chad moved to recommend to offer Jamie from Hamilton Ranch if it was possible for them to bring a large amount of cattle in for a couple of days. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Bill moved to recommend to the commissioners that they hire Double Vision Magic for 2017 fair. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation.

c. **2017 Theme:** Several themes were presented to Fair Board. Nick moved to recommend to the commissioners to accept "Living Our Western Heritage" for the 2017 theme. Chad seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to the commissioners.

d. **2017 Dates:** Tom moved to recommend to the commissioners that the 2017 fair dates be August 9-13, 2017. Chad seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to commissioners.

Unfinished Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm. Next meeting, October 20, 2016, at 7:00 pm. Minutes typed and prepared by Dana Escott.


Approved: Fair Board Chairperson Date 10/20/2016
And/or Vice Chairperson