

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MADISON COUNTY FAIR BOARD  
January 16, 2020, Joint Meeting Minutes**

On Thursday, January 16, 2020, a joint meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners and the Madison County Fair Board came to order at 5:38 p.m. the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, Ron Nye, and Jim Hart, present; and Fair Board members L.J. Pancost, Tom Leo, Bill Holden, and Chad Armstrong, Chairman, present. Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, was present to take minutes.

Dana Escott, Fair Manager, along with those on the attached list were also in attendance at the meeting. McKayla Hudson, 4-H Extension Agent, participated in the meeting by telephone.

After introductions, Bill Holden moved to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2019, Fair Board meeting. Tom Leo seconded the motion. Fair Board members present voted aye and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** No public comment was presented at the meeting.

**Security Cameras:** Tom and Janna Norby, Fox Alarm, met with the Boards to discuss a proposal for security cameras at the Fairgrounds. Tom reviewed the proposal, noting that the cameras would be located at the main entrance of the fairgrounds and positioned to cover as much area as possible. He added that the system could be expanded as needed and discussed how they work, resolution quality, and ability to access on site or remotely. There was discussion about other possible locations for cameras, extending fiber optics to accommodate more cameras, and requesting financial assistance from local residents for additional cameras. Following much discussion, Tom Leo moved to purchase the proposed camera system from Fox Alarm and Technology, Inc. contingent on the legality of the system. L.J. Pancost seconded the motion. Fair Board members present voted aye and the motion carried. Jim Hart moved to accept the Fair Board's recommendation to purchase and install three cameras at the Fairgrounds for the amount of \$4,580.75, contingent upon approval by the County Attorney. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye and the motion carried.

**Grandstands – Steps and Railings:** Ron Nye stated that someone fell on the grandstands and is not going to sue but would like to see something done about the safety issues. Dana presented a drawing by Bob Lancaster, Fair Maintenance, showing a proposed railing for the grandstands. Bob Bates, Safety Coordinator, distributed a grandstands safety proposal showing existing grandstand characteristics and a proposal that includes OSHA compliant components. Following much discussion, L.J. Pancost moved to allow \$1,000 to upgrade the stairway on the grandstands to OSHA standards. Bill Holden seconded the motion. Fair Board members present voted aye and the motion carried.

**Fairgrounds Riverbank Protection:** Ron Nye stated that grant money can be used for riverbank protection and that R.E. Miller is going to do the rip-rap work. It was clarified that the location of the rip-rap would be behind the rabbit barn.

**Fairgrounds Improvement Project-Hog Barn/Sales Ring:** There was discussion about tearing out the existing hog barn and possibly the sales ring and putting in a new structure. Pictures of the proposed project were reviewed and discussed. There were questions about encroaching on the fire lane, applying for permits, and flood plain issues. It was noted that the floodway was basically considered a no-build area but that if the structures didn't impede water flow or panels could be removed to allow water movement, it shouldn't be a problem. It was added that the Fair Board hopes to add concrete at some point and eventually use the buildings for other purposes. There was discussion about constructing a larger building away from the current structures. It was noted that moving animals away from the main Fair area would take a lot away from the Fair since 90% of the Fair is 4-H market animals. Another topic that was brought up was the possibility of constructing showers and bathrooms, which is a definite need in Madison County, and applying for a tourism grant for them. Further discussion included doing this for now and keeping a bigger building in mind, doing a capital campaign to help

with funding, completing the project in stages, completing a capital improvements plan to have goals to work towards, grants that might help with the project, and cooperation from Jefferson County.

**Pickup Purchase:** Dana discussed the need to purchase an additional pick-up for the Fairgrounds noting that \$10,000 was put in the budget for the purchase. She asked what to do if they found one for more than the budgeted amount. Bill Holden clarified that they have seen a couple with under 100,000 miles in the \$12,000 to \$13,000 range and they just want to make sure it's okay to look at something like that. Jim Hart asked them to keep the Board in the loop.

**Miscellaneous Discussion Items:** There were no additional discussion items.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Dan W. Allhands, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

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Chad Armstrong, Chairman  
Madison County Fair Board

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the  
Board of Commissioners

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Mumme, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County