



FAIR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 19, 2018

The meeting was held at the Madison County Fairgrounds, Twin Bridges, Montana, on April 19, 2018, and came to order at 6:07 pm. Those present were: Dana Escott (Fairgrounds Manager), Chad Armstrong (Board Chairman), Bill Holden (Vice-Chairman), Tom Leo (Fair Board), Heather Puckett (Fair Board), Bob Lancaster (Maintenance), Stan Olsen (4H Council President), Randy Lowder, Jani Flinn (Grant Administrator), Cheyenne Olsen, Van Puckett, Bonnie O'Neill (Human Resources) Teri Larsen, Commissioners Jim Hart, Ron Nye, Dan Allhands. Dana Escott took minutes.

Minutes: Tom moved to approve the February 15, 2018 minutes with no corrections. Bill seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Tom moved to approve the February 26, Joint Commission/Fair Board Meeting Minutes. Heather seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Heather moved to approve the April 5, 2018, Joint Commission/Fair Board Meeting Minutes. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Budget: Cash is \$85,231.20. The monies taken out of the capital improvement fund were for the engineers writing proposals for water line and/or master plan and the used lawnmower purchased from Churchhill Equipment. Heather asked about Professional Services which is the Fair entertainment fund.

Bills: The list of bills for March and April, 2018, were presented to the Fair Board. Tom moved to pay the March/April bills. Heather seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Input on Agenda and/or Non Agenda Items: Commissioner Allhands advised the IT is researching putting security cameras on the fairgrounds. He also passed out Board Leadership Training Class paperwork for the fair board to attend on June 7, 2018, at the Administrative Building in Virginia City from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Van advised that he has spoken to the FFA advisors from Sheridan and Twin Bridges and they would like to organize a recycling program fundraiser for the fair to help with the trash clean up. Dana will get in touch with the advisors.

Communications: None

REPORTS:

4-H: Stan advised that the Small Animal Project Committee will be doing concessions at the Bon Accord Buck Out event and June 9th the committee will be hosting a Spring Fair from 12 pm to 4 pm at the rabbit barn. Large animal projects are invited too. There will be a Cloverbud Rodeo after the 4H rabbit show at fair as well.

FFA: None.

Livestock Committee: None.

Fair Board Report: None.

Fair Manager Report: The Kiwanis Club called and advised that they have approximately \$11,000 to contribute towards the Aubrey Brooksle Playground and are applying for other grants as well. Dana discussed putting mag chloride on the road through the fairgrounds to help with dust control during events and fair. The cost estimate is approximately \$1,500-\$2,000 and we could schedule it when the road crew is having their roads done. The consensus of the board is to have it done. Dana advised the Board that the old zero turn mower which the FFA is working on needs a new engine and the FFA does not have the means to machine the valves and the mower is 15 years old. It is not worth putting the money into it. Further discussion is that the Board is still down a commercial mower like before with only one commercial mower and that the fairgrounds still needs another commercial mower but will try to get through the summer with the tractor mowers and the one new used commercial mower

DISCUSSION and/or ACTION ITEMS

1. **Nick Novich-Fair Board Resignation:** Tom advised that over the years Nick has been involved with helping the fairgrounds with great improvements and he would like to see the Board continue with the Lewis and Clark history for Nick. Tom moved to accept Nick's resignation. Heather seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana has a plaque for Nick to be given to him at fair.
2. **Fair Board Recommendation:** The Fair Board reviewed the applications. The position to fill was for the Sheridan area and there was only one applicant from the Sheridan area. Tom moved to accept Jake Barnosky's application for the Sheridan Fair Board Representative and recommend to the commissioners to put Jake on the Fair Board. Heather seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to Commissioners.
3. **Secretary Recommendation:** Bonnie presented a memo recommending hiring Heather Morris at \$16.98 starting wage for the permanent part time secretarial position at the fairgrounds. Heather moved to hire Heather Morris with a starting wage of \$16.98 and to recommend to the commissioners she be hired. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to the commissioners.
4. **New Toilets in Cinderblock Bathrooms:** The Board discussed fixing cinderblock bathrooms with high flow toilets to see if they would work through events. If that doesn't work, then moving forward with phases to fix plumbing underneath. The 4H bathrooms were also discussed and will be looked into. Heather moved to get bids from plumbers on the cinderblock bathrooms of putting in three high flow toilets; if that doesn't work, bid the cost of replacing plumbing underneath toilets and possibly putting in sweeping "T's"; and, then getting bids on plain toilet remodel and/or showers for 4H bathrooms. Dana advised she wanted to be present when meeting with the plumbers. Van offered to contact plumbers. Chad seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
5. **Sr. Pro Rodeo:** The Sr. Pro Rodeo will be June 18 and 19, 2018, starting at 5:00 pm each day.
6. **Wrangler Roping:** No Action.
7. **Water Line (under river):** Construction is estimated to start on the water line under the river on approximately June 1st. Chad advised that the Fire Chief is pleased about the fire hydrant going in on the fairgrounds for fire protection. Tom asked where the water line would continue if it is expanded. Commissioner Nye advised it would loop through the arena area to Children's Center.
 - a. **Water Meter-Riverside Park:** Debra Bradley arrived at 7:00 pm. The Board discussed why is there a meter on the fairgrounds for Riverside Park when the county is paying the base rate for

the water and sewer already and Riverside shouldn't be paying an additional base rate? Since the fair board and Riverside work together for events, the Board would like to see the meter taken off and the fair board pay for Riverside's water. Further discussion was that Dana and Debra would get together and write a letter requesting the city take the meter off of Riverside's line and the county will pay the water and sewer. Chad moved to write a letter to the city to ask them to remove the meter and bill the fair board for the water/sewer. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Debra left meeting at 7:30 pm.

8. Great West Engineering Master Plan:

- a. **Fairgrounds Master Plan:** Heather moved to approve the Master Plan as corrected from the Joint Meeting of April 5th and to recommend to the commissioners to approve it and send it on to Great West Engineering. Tom seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dana will send recommendation to commissioners.
- b. **New Multi-use Building (move forward):** The Board discussed pursuing an investigation to build a new multi-use building. Chad advised he has received a couple of calls from the public who are adamantly against building a new building due to the fact we cannot maintain what we have so how can we afford to build a new building? Discussion was that because of the flood way, there are limits to where the building can be built and if the building is built out by demo derby track (west of the rodeo arena) where engineers say, then it would affect the historic building atmosphere of the fair and change the flow of traffic for the fair. What would you do with the rodeos, rodeo traffic, public going to rodeo, etc? Heather advised that the Board should take the ideas to the public and ask how they want to meet the needs of the growth at the fairgrounds. Surveys on county websites, Facebook, public meetings (around the county), newspapers, radio, surveys, etc. and try to get people educated on what the needs are. There is opportunity to build pole structures where the hog barn is as long as the water can flow through. Chad advised that he is strongly against building a new building because the old buildings will not be used.
- c. **Apply for Tourism Grant:** Heather moved to apply for a tourism grant and to recommend to the commissioners to apply for the grant. Tom seconded the motion. Heather, Tom, and Bill voted aye. Chad voted no. The motion carried on a 3 to 4 vote. Jani left meeting at 8:00 pm.

9. Fair:

- a. **The 2019 Fair Dates (August 7-11, August 14-18, and August 21-25):** Check on when school starts, NRA schedules, and other fair schedules.
- b. **Miscellaneous:** Stan advised there needs to be some remodeling done in the chicken barn and the committee is going to purchase stackable cages which will belong to the Fair Board. The Board discussed putting on the 4H/FFA scrambles this year. Chad will donate a heifer calf and Sherry Nyhart will donate a ewe lamb. The Board changed the Fair Board meeting time to 7:00 pm for summer meetings. Randy left meeting at 8:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm. Next meeting, May 17, 2018, at 7:00 pm. Minutes typed and prepared by Dana Escott.

Approved: Fair Board Chairperson Date
And/or Vice Chairperson