

Tri County Fair Board Minutes
March 11, 2021
Deer Lodge Community Center 7 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Pasha at 7 pm.

Attendance:

Carolyn Pasha, Eaf Parke, Kacie Perkins, Sam Hobley, Richard Thomas, Amanda Morley, Scott Barger, Ruth Koehler, Katie Burden , Reed Roseliep, Guests: Katie Neubauer, Bridgett Herrick, David Wells, Ben Krakowka, Kaehl Berg

Guests: Katie Neubauer and Bridgett Herrick were attending as representatives of the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber will be putting on the Demolition Derby t again his year. They asked about trying to change how the derby cars come into the fair grounds to help eliminate congestion on Main Street. Board members that remembered why it was done that way told them it was done to eliminate congestion on the backside of the fair grounds on Sunday when the livestock was moving out. It will remain that way and the Chamber will try to come up with another plan. The Chamber has hired Dale Schaefer again to run the demolition derby and they told the fair board they were working on making several major changes to promote safety. These included increased presence of law enforcement, sand/berms behind the logs, placement of a Jersey barrier in the gate area, and implementing restrictions on pit passes. Each car will receive 2, and may purchase a third. No family members and no public will be allowed in the pit area. There will no walk-in admission from the back gate by the BRP area, only from Main Street.

Kaehl Berg with Red Eye Rodeo presented some ideas to go along in conjunction with the rodeo during the fair. He volunteered his assistance to help with a fund raiser to pay for entertainment. "Whistle Nuts and Ole" was one suggestion. Amanda will look into this. It was also mentioned to expand the Muttin Bustin to a larger number of participants. There was also some discussion on a plan to reclaim the racetrack. Kaehl volunteered to help with that too.

MINUTES: Minutes from January 2020 meeting were read. With no changes minutes were approved. Motion by Scott 2nd by Richard . Minutes from the Special meeting January 28, 2021 were read and approved. Motion by Amanda, 2nd by Katie.

CLAIMS: Motion to pay claims by Amanda 2nd by Sam motion approved

FINANCIAL REPORT: There is a balance of \$5396.43 in the Fair operations account

Correspondence was read. There was a letter from the 3 Tri County area extension agents. They are requesting a meeting with the fair board officers in May. They will be invited to the May board meeting.

OLD FAIR BUSINESS:

- Livestock Judges update - Livestock judge is hired. Horse projects are going to move to the Sunday before fair, Horse judge is hired.
- No report on rodeo committee
- Kacie asked Ruth to send her lists of people that have already been contacted as Rodeo Sponsors so she can look for more without duplication.
- Discussion followed about adding other kids events to add to the rodeo, sack races, chicken scramble, calf scramble and boot race were discussed.

- Sponsor letters, chute sign bills and vendor letters have been sent out.

NEW FAIR BUSINESS:

- The schedule for 2021 was reviewed - Livestock schedule will remain the same except horses will show on Sunday before the fair starts. All horse members wishing to be in the herdsmanship may return during fair week and need to notify their leaders of this and reserve their stalls.
- 2021 dedications and theme will remain the same as were supposed to be last year.
- Ruth will contact the ladies about the quilt barn
- We need to have some discussion about our Ranch Rodeo events if we want to participate in sending a team to the finals in Billings.
- Kayce will talk to Dick Perkins about helping with the Pioneer Power tractor pull. She will also talk to someone about the Chili Cookoff.

OLD GROUNDS BUSINESS:

- Ruth will talk to Rotary about painting the grandstands. Fair board will purchase the paint
- Ruth had a bid of \$4500 for Mag Cloride for dust control in the BRP. Discussion was tabled
- Kaehle was told he could buy salt for the BRP

NEW GROUNDS BUSINESS:

- We still need some bids on sand for the big arena, we are waiting on bids for other work.
- Scott presented estimates on buying sheep pens. Galvanized pens would be \$328 per pen and we would need at least 40. There was discussion about whether this was something that would be nice to do as ours can be a little be difficult, or is it absolutely necessary like the hog pens were. We probably have other projects that are more pressing right now and discussion was tabled until another time.

Other

- The Board wants to honor Bob and Karen Toole in some way, Ruth thinks this needs some more discussion beyond a plaque
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm, motion by Amanda, 2nd by Reed Motion passed.
- Ruth will be attending a meeting with the Powell County Commissioners and the County Attorneys from all three counties to start discussions about county participation and liability issues brought on by the lawsuits. Deer Lodge County is interested in limiting their participation to 4H events and Open classes only.

COMMISSIONER: No Commissioner report.

Motion was made by Richard to adjourn, 2nd by Scott. Motion passed, meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Signed/Approved:

Ruth E Koehler, Secretary

Carolyn Pasha, Chairman

**NEXT MEETING: April 8, 2021
7:00 P.M. Community Center**