

Baker County Fair Board

Minutes of April 6, 2011

Board Meeting

Members Present: Ron Rowan, Dean Defrees, Ann Kniesel, Mark Johnson, Cynthia Norton, Dan Morris

Members Absent: Chris Dunn

Advisory Board Present: Bob Savage, Rob Ellingson, Janice Cowan, Bob Savage, Carl Stiff

Advisory Board Not Present: Kristi Harris

Staff Present: Colleen Taylor

Guests: Fred Warner Jr, Tim Bishop

Chair Ron Rowan called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

Correspondence: none

Public Comment Period: Tim Bishop, Baker County Marketing & Tourism Director, introduced himself and shared with the board his back ground. Time shared his ideas on how the Fair Grounds could be a part of the Marketing & Tourism future of Baker City and Baker County. Some of those suggestions were the use of the grounds for overflow parking, expos, small meeting and conventions. Time suggested to the board the priority of completing wireless internet access, purchasing a screen, a PA system and a LCD projector for the use of renters. A second priority would be the ability to divide the event hall into smaller meeting rooms. While Tim was available, Colleen reviewed the changes suggested to the Fair Grounds marketing plan. During that discussion, Tim also shared that a joint meeting with Greg Smith, Economic Developer for Baker County, would be good.

OLD BUSINESS:

BMCC: Lengthy discussion was completed on the proposed site by BMCC of a 15,000 sq foot building on the corner lot of Campbell and Grove, and the desire of BMCC to have the fair board grant that site to them for the building. After discussion, Ann Kniesel moved that the Fair Board does not have an interest in putting the BMCC building on the Campbell and Grove corner or any other site on fair grounds property. Dan Morris seconded the motion. Discussion continued, and Ann called for the question. The fair board voted to support the motion, and Colleen was instructed to complete a letter to BMCC on the fair board decision.

National Guard: Fred shared that he had met with Dave Stuke and Col. Reese of the National Guard in Salem. General Caldwell was in Washington DC, so nothing was decided. The National Guard has been informed of the Maverick Station being constructed next to the compound and they did have concerns for the security of the compound. Fred will be contacting General Caldwell to invite him to Baker, and if he cannot come to Baker, arrange for a meeting in Salem with him. Mark Johnson would attend a

meeting in Salem with Fred and the General. Other board members may also attend if the meeting is arranged.

Leo Adler Agreement: Fred had mailed an agreement to the Babe Ruth Board with changes requested by the Fair Board at the last board meeting. The Fair Board requested that the field be made available to the Fair Grounds during the week of fair. Babe Ruth was still in discussion with Fred on that request. Fred will continue to work with the Babe Ruth Board to resolve and will then let the Fair Board know.

Grant Request: Ann reported that she has the pre-application almost completed for the Meyer Grant. Discussion was held with Fred on the possibility of going to Economic Development for grant funds to purchase a PA system and LCD projector. Fred felt that it would be better to go to TRTC and then to Economic Development. Colleen discussed the USDA grant. There is \$2444.00 remaining in the grant. Mark asked Colleen to contact LaDonn and see if there was expiration on the funds or if we could wait to the completion of the Acoustic study, then look at the use of the funds.

Acoustic Review: Discussion was held on the cost of completing the Acoustic Review with CSHQA. Mark also recommended that we meet with Jim on his next visit to Baker so that he would have a discussion about our sound issues, prior to beginning the study. Mark moved that we proceed with CSHQA's proposal for the Acoustic review; Dean seconded the motion and the motion passed by board members.

Budget: Colleen requested that the Travel Expense be increased for the 2011/2012 fiscal year to \$3000 to cover the expenses of Angie and Colleen attending the winter OFA Conference and the Spring Conference. The Oregon Fair Commission has mandated that fair must attend winter and Spring Conference in order to receive their State Fair Funding. The board approved the increase. Colleen also shared that the line item for the Rodeo Grounds repairs were increased to the \$30,000 to cover the cost of the repairs needed on the Grandstand. The budget will now go to Fred and the Budget Committee for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Conference: Colleen reported that Spring Conference is in Corvallis this year, April 14 thru April 17. Colleen will be traveling with Janeen from Malheur County. Angie will be in the office while she was gone.

Employee Updates: Colleen has hired Larry Albert to replace Delo's hours. Larry will begin on April 18th, and Delo will go to being on call. Angie will be returning to the office two days a week for April and then three days a week. Will Barr will be returning in June as our summer help.

Minutes: The minutes to the March 6, 2011, meeting was reviewed. Mark moved that minutes be approved, Ann seconded and the board passed.

Financials: Colleen reported that financials are looking good thus far. We have \$16,682.83 in the 351 account to work with for our Acoustic Review. Ann moved that we accepted the financials; Dean seconded and passed by board members.

Other:

Community Garden: Colleen reported that an oversized tiller was available to the community garden is we should want it. Board members requested that Colleen notify Nella of Rural Action that we would like to have the tiller. Colleen reported that she had been looking at sheds for the garden and that Nella was working on grant funds to purchase the shed. There are now seven beds spoken for this year.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 4, 2011, 6 PM for the regular scheduled meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectively submitted,

Colleen Taylor