

**Baker County Fair Board
Minutes of June 3, 2009
Board Meeting**

Members Present: Vice Chairman Dean Defrees, Rob Ellingson, Mark Johnson, and Dan Morris

Members not present: Ann Kniesel, Tony Britt, and Ron Rowan

Advisory Board Members Present: Cory Parsons, Janice Cowan, and Chris Dunn

Advisory Board Members Not Present: Donna Lowry

Guest: Carl Stiff

Staff: Colleen Taylor

Vice Chairman Dean Defrees called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

Public Comment Period:

Cory Parsons reported that the Department of Agriculture has two ATV's for our ranches to use in spraying of grasshoppers. Currently those ATV's are stored in LaGrande. We would like to move them to Baker and store in the Beef Barn at the Fair Grounds. After discussion, board consensus was to provide the storage area. Colleen to contact Ken McPheron to request that he remove his wagon to make room for the ATV's.

Minutes: Rob moved and Dan seconded to approve the minutes for May after the correction of the spelling of Puyallup. Board members passed the motion.

Financials: Financials were reviewed. Rob moved to approve and Mark seconded, motion passed by members.

Correspondence: Reappointment of Janice Cowan to the Fair Board Advisory Board and the appointment of Chris Dunn to the Advisory Board by the County Commissioners. Colleen also read a letter from Scott & Kim Holt thanking the Fair Board for the success of the Elkhorn Classic Steer Show.

Old Business:

Grant Funding: Colleen reported that the USDA Grant was still at the Federal Level and no word had been received. Colleen to contact LaDonn of the USDA office in LaGrande to see status. A request for grant application was made to NW Farm Credit and accepted. Amount requested was \$3,000. Ann was also looking at reapplying to UPRR and Jeldwen.

2009 Fair Progress Report: Colleen reported that everything was on schedule for the fair. A new list of sponsors was provided for review. Post cards were mailed out today to those businesses that had not sponsored. Some print advertisements have begun. Premium Book is on the web page and at the Baker City Herald for printing. Should be available the week of June 22.

Miscellaneous: Rob requested that Colleen find out when the mural would be completed. Would like to install it prior to having the inmate crew come in and install remaining plywood in Show Barn. Dean requested that Colleen locate the information of the signage for the Show Barn "Cochran Arena" to move forward with that project. Discussion was held on the Elks Bronc and Bull Projects. Rob to visit with Marv Sumner on what the projects are for this year. Discussion held on composing a letter to the Elks to encourage clearer communications on their projects. The board would like to have a copy of the Leo Adler Field/Babe Ruth agreement for further review. Colleen to email out. Board requested that Colleen visit with Tony to see if he would visit with Knife River about grading the Leo Adler parking lot.

New Business:

2009 Elkhorn Classic: Colleen reported that the Classic was a success. We had twice as many entries. Payouts were being computed and a final financial report would be made at the next meeting.

Staff Report: Colleen reported that Bob Hendricksen is still employed at this time. He has been offered a position at the coast for a seasonal construction; however, a start date has not been given. Replacement of Bob will not take place until a date is given.

Community Event Center - Board members had a tour of the Community Event Center and Show Barn Beef Barn. Members were guided through the work that has been completed this spring. The tile has been laid in all hallways and the meeting room. Cabinets have been installed in the meeting room also. The meeting room has been painted and the ceiling is partially completed. Board Members were asked where they would like to have skylights placed in the Event Hall. Consensus was reached to place the skylights on each end bay and then in the three middle bays. Upon returning to the meeting room, discussion held on the next steps to complete. After discussion, Mark moved that we start Phase 4 immediately, with Rob seconding the motion. The motion passed. On July 1st, the 351 Capital Improvement account will have \$73,000 from the County Commissioners (property sale), \$5000 from UPRR, and the carryover balance of \$5,000 for a total of \$83,000. available. Colleen to email to board as soon as "Letter of Conditions" received for the USDA Grant for \$27862.00.

Master Plan: 5-year Business Plan was reviewed. Mark provided a list of the priority items for the Community Event Center to be incorporated. The board then discussed each area of grounds for projects to be added to plan. The projects for the Arena and Community Event Center have been prioritized. Colleen to email the plan out to the board after additions has been made.

The next public board meeting is scheduled for July 8, 2009, 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectively Submitted,

Colleen Taylor