

**Baker County Fair Board  
Minutes of May 12, 2009  
Board Meeting**

**Members Present:** Chairman Ron Rowan, Vice Chair Dean Defrees, Rob Ellingson, Mark Johnson, Tony Britt, Dan Morris

**Members not present:** Ann Kniesel

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Cory Parsons

**Advisory Board Members Not Present:** Donna Lowry, Janice Cowan

**Guest:** Jake Jacobs, Mark Bennett, and Fred Warner

**Staff:** Colleen Taylor

Chairman Ron Rowan called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

**Public Comment Period:** Jake Jacobs presented the Baker Higher Education Plan. This plan would cover the expansion of BMCC classrooms located at the current Nat'l Guard Armory to expand its footprint to 15,000 square feet. This expansion plan was presented to the Governor of Oregon and has not been approved for funding, however, has created very positive feedback. Lengthy discussion took place on the impact to the current parking and future implications to Fair Grounds as well as the National Guard Armory. The plan has not been presented to General Caldwell as yet. The time frame for going forward with the development of the plan may be five to ten years in the future. Other sites are also being looked at. Fred suggested other properties also because of the lack of room to grow at the current National Guard Site. Goal of the presentation to the Governor was to get it on a priority list for development. Mark Bennett presented to the Fair Board a set of the current land deeds on file for the Baker County Fair Grounds

Cory Parsons reported that the pig ramp works well. Panels need to be moved slightly, however, the ramp was great. We have 37 pigs at this time up from last year slightly. Mark and Julie Winton will have a sow that will be ready to birth during the fair and will bring it in to the grounds.

**Minutes:** Rob moved and Dean seconded to approve the minutes for the April 1st meeting. Board members passed the motion.

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

**Correspondence:** Reappointment of Tony Britt to the Fair Board by the County Commissioners.

**Old Business:**

**Community Center Construction:** Mark shared that the ceilings are being completed. Tile will be completed in the next two weeks. Fred Warner shared that the county had sold two pieces of property and the funds would be transferred to the Baker County Fair

Board for use in completing the office of the Event Center. Estimate amount of the funds is \$74,000. Timing of receipt of funds is unknown. Discussion was also held on the Fair Board proposal to General Caldwell. At this time, we are still in budget, however, the State forecast will be on May 15<sup>th</sup> then the budget will be presented. Baker Electric has presented a bid on the cost for pulling the Data Wire for the offices and meeting rooms. Cost should be \$6800. Mark will look at our plans to determine the next step in completing the offices for the \$74,000 that will be received. Fred also discussed the possibility of moving the State of Oregon Geology office into the current Extension Offices once we moved to the Event Center. This was just one of the possible solutions for retaining the office in Baker County. The Event Center Offices would need to be completed first.

**Grant Funding:** Colleen reported that the USDA Grant was still at the Federal Level and no word had been received. Union Pacific Railroad would be at the Fair Grounds to look at the Event Center and to present their check of \$5,000 on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May. Colleen will look at the Dept of Energy for possible grants to insulate the roof of the Event Center.

**Event Center Equipment:** Colleen reported that we have purchased a new floor scrubber that will arrive on Thursday. The previous machine that had been purchased discontinued working. Crown had guaranteed the machine so has given us a credit of \$900 on a new machine and took an additional discount to bring the price to \$2300. Colleen also reported that the large conference room table originally from Pendleton has been returned to the Fair Grounds by the Friends of the NRA. Colleen has contacted Pendleton Round Up to see if they would like to take possession of it. To date, we have not heard from them.

#### **New Business:**

**2009 Fair: Premium Book** ready to go to paper for printing – size will now be the same as the Equine Magazine. **Fair Buttons** completed and received. **PeeWee Awards and Certificates** completed. **Entertainment** finishing up. – Cherie Kaulser arranging for us. Wednesday thru Friday. **Baker Elks Drum & Bugle** – Saturday during barbeque. **Sponsorship** - \$10,040 in cash and trades received. **Vendors** – 9 Vendors confirmed thus far.

**Activities** - Oregon National Guard Obstacle Course  
Oregon Hunter Safety Trailer  
Kids Town  
PeeWee Rodeo – Baker High School Rodeo – Wednesday  
Demolition Derby – Haines Stampede – Saturday

#### **Spring Conference:** Coos Bay/Myrtle Point

Funding possibly safe – will know more after 5/15/09  
Attended workshops Pyllup Fair – how to prevent spread of Malignant Catarrhal Fever  
Marketing your Event/Fair Grounds  
Dept of Energy Grants Available (green energy)

## Creating a birthing/agriculture center at your fair

**Elkhorn Classic:** Colleen reported that the Elkhorn Classic was progressing. Fundraising has been slow. Committee has requested that the Fair Board not charge for the use of the Show Barn (\$250). The committee also requested that the Fair Board cover the cost of the Hotel room for the judge. After discussion, Mark moved that we waive the Show Barn fee, Rob 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and the board agreed. The Board suggested that Friends of the Fair cover the cost of the Hotel room. Ron and Colleen agreed as members of the Friends of the Fair Board.

**Master Plan:** The master plan draft was presented. Some discussion held on goals (non-capital and capital), some changes suggested to the goal forms also. Colleen to update the draft and email out to board members for them to continue to work on prior to the next meeting.

**5-Acre Field -** Colleen shared that Knife River has rented the northeast corner of the 5-Acre field until November at the rate of \$500 per month. Discussion was held on have the curb cuts completed on the field while the D Street construction was being done. Board agreed that we should complete them while the cost is being covered by the State of Oregon.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM to Executive Session.

Respectively Submitted,

Colleen Taylor