

Fair Board Meeting  
November 7, 2001

Attendance: Chuck Buchanan, Allen Hack, Robert Borgen, Rob Ellingson, Nellie Forrester, John Leonard, Ron Rowan, Dean Defrees, Jerry Herbes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The minutes of the last meeting were unavailable.

Community Connection has asked for an extension on the deadline for moving the bus barn. They have applied for a grant to cover expenses. Curt gave them a verbal extension on this deadline.

We have two informal estimates on moving the Community Center. Once we decide what we want to do, those contractors will give us formal bids. One of the estimates includes slab cleanup and etc. we do have some leeway, as the armory start date appears to have been delayed until at least May 1, 2002, and possibly longer.

Brent Gyllenberg has estimated (informally) \$6,000 to take down the beef arena end of the Community Center building, \$2000 to haul it, and an additional \$4200 to take down the beef barn. He feels that the beef barn could be moved.

Mike Becker has estimated \$325,000 for a 150' x 150' building, plus the cost of the doors, and \$525,000 for a 150' x 300' building. Wiring and etcetera would be extra.

Dean brought copies of the telephone survey of the county voters that was taken November 1 & 2 about using a bond levy to raise funds for a new fairgrounds. An expert has looked at the results, and he feels that a \$1 million bond levy is doable, where anything bigger is definitely out.

The public, per the survey, feels that the way to go is a combination of a large building and several smaller buildings, rather than one very large building. The feeling also is that the fairgrounds needs to stay where it's at.

Discussion ensued concerning the possibility of putting the Community Center out for bid to have someone tear it down completely, with salvage of the lumber, etc. as payment. Our first step seems to be to get an architect involved, and get some specific facts, figures, drawings, and plans. The consensus of opinion seems to be to approach the armory architect, so the fairgrounds can be integrated with the armory project. Dean moved, Robb seconded, that we hire Doug Macy to do the planning work. Passed unanimously. Robb will contact Macy about this.

We appear to be well over budget in a lot of categories due to expenditures made at fair time. We don't appear to be able to afford to hire a new manager right at the moment.

Curt signed a letter of approval to purchase the house across the street. We have received a letter from Elkhorn Title about the house. We will be donating the house to the Fire Department.

The sewer is, supposedly, fixed at the other end of the building.

Nellie moved, Robb seconded, that we pay our OFA dues. Passed unanimously.

Nellie moved, Allen seconded, that we pay the bills. Passed unanimously.

High bid to remove the concession stand is \$339. High bid to remove the restroom building is \$450. Dean moved, Robb seconded, that we accept the bids. Passed unanimously. Robb will take this to Mark Bennett to be taken care of.

OFA convention is January 4,5, & 6, 2002. Area has to do door prizes. Hotel reservations have to be in by December 13, 2001, so people have to decide if they're going or not.

Curt feels that we need to get another person in the office to answer the phone for a couple of hours a day. We would only be able to pay minimum wage to start with. Dean suggested that we talk to Ginger Savage about this, with the possibility of working up to fair manager. Dean will talk to Ginger about this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 5, 2001, at 7PM.

Submitted by  
Chuck Buchanan, Secretary  
Baker County Fair Board