

Fair Board Meeting
October 3, 2001

Attendees: Rob Ellingson, Dean Fefrees, Paul Grove, Curt Jacobs, John Leonard, Nellie Forrester, Howard Britton, Mark Bennett, Janice Cowan, Tom Rudolph, Jay Carr, Debby Schoeningh, Chuck Buchanan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Dean moved, Rob seconded, that we accept the minutes of the September meeting as handed out. Passed unanimously. The minutes of the special August meeting were approved also.

Howard Britton brought up the house and lot across the street. The commissioners have agreed to pay for half of the amount, if we will pay the other half. Our share would be \$30,750. Rob wondered whether or not we should spend our money on what would be, essentially, parking for the new armory. Howard replied that it was his understanding that the Fair Board initiated the inquiry into the purchase. Dean feels that we need the property. Dean moved that we approve the purchase conditional on the fact that we won't have enough money until January when our lottery funds come in. Nellie seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Mark Bennett said that the county is going to have a surplus property sale. He said we could put the electric heating/cooling units we have stored in the beef arena in the auction, and whatever money they bring would go to the Fair Board. It was suggested that the prisoners could get them out and put them in the sale area.

The small livestock barns have had the sides taken off and the stuff taken out of the inside. There is a safety issue with getting up on the roof to take the roofing off. There are a couple of possibilities available: Tom Rudolph has offered to come in and take down the rafters. He would like to have them, but doesn't want the roofing. He would take the roofing off, and could take down the posts. He would haul off the posts also. He feels that he could be done in 3 weeks. Mellie move that we let Tom Rudolph take the parts he wants. John seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The high school might like to have a bonfire with the remaining wood, but this would leave a bunch of nails around. It was finally decided that Mark will Cass van der Weil's crew haul the remaining junk to wherever the county hauls their burnables.

The cook shack and scale building will go up for bid. The revenue would come back to the Fair Board. Jay feels that the cook shack should be pretty valuable, and suggested that the money be set aside to build a new concession stand.

We have to figure out something to do with the beef barn. Our main options would be: tear it down; road department would take it, and we would get another building later; move it ourselves.

Dean suggested that we get Ken Helgerson to make us an offer on the value of the building; we would also get an idea of what a new building would cost. Curt will look into the cost of a new building.

Jim van Duyn has with drawn his appeal of our conditional use permit. We need to decide what we're going to do with the Community Center. We are going to tear down the east end of the building for sure; the options for the west end are to either tear it down or move it. Rob suggested that we might be better off to use the funds we have for moving the building to build a new building. Another suggestion would be to sell it in place with the condition that it be taken down and removed. After we get a bid on moving the west end, we will decide for sure what we want to do.

The bus barn is still up in the air. Community Connections has a house on their property that they are going to tear down, then move the bus barn there. But they haven't started the process yet. Curt will discuss it with them.

There will be no RV parking in the buildings this year. And we will rent the Community Center on a day to day basis. Later.... Mark will check for sure on when armory construction is supposed to start. If June, we could actually go ahead and to the RV storage. The concensus of opinion seems to be that we need to raise the rental on everything.

Curt has asked Mike Becker to come up with a bid for a 150'x150' building, complete, with lights, etc.

It was suggested that a poll of county voters be funded to find out if a bond levy is a viable option. A bond levy would allow us to move the fair grounds to a larger area. If the poll says no, then the fairgrounds would stay where it is. Nellie moved that the Fair Board pursue the possibliity of a poll on the fairgrounds' future. Dean seconded, passed unanimously.

Nellie wants to go to Salem to a dinner for the legislators which is being held as a Thank You for passing fair funding.

There are some ladies who would like to use the arena for pleasure riding. Nellie moved that we let them come during office hours, and charge \$5 per person per day. Paul would have to let them in and collect the money. Passed unanimously.

FFA will be using the arena this weekend for their fund raising team roping and sorting. The money raised will be used to pay for people to go to National Convention.

Dean moved, Chuck seconded, that we pay the bills; passed unanimously.

Nellie gave us an itemized statement of where she spent the money at the Halfway Fair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 7, 2001 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted by
Chuck Buchanan, secretary