

DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION

October 6, 2010

Baker County Fair Board/Grounds

Facility Improvements: The Baker County Fair Board and County Extension Offices are now located in the Community Event Center. We were able to move into the building Mid November of 2009. We have the West Entrance paved and sidewalks completed. With our partnership with the Master Gardeners we are in the process of completing our "bioswale". This area will be a catch basin for the water runoff of East Street. The Baker City Tree Board will be providing us with a tree. Classic Landscape has been a great help with donated time, landscape rocks, and equipment. In the spring we will be planting some native plants to soften the entrance appeal. The painting of the West Entrance will be completed by Scrivner Painting in the next month. Once the painting is completed, we will be adding our outside lighting to the entire event center and signage above the west entrance identifying the Baker County Fair Board and Baker County Extension Offices. We have installed signage this past spring to help visitors locate the fair grounds. Signage has been placed on the Show Barn naming it the Cockram Arena. We have installed plywood around the inside of the Cockram arena. The entrance, bathrooms, kitchen, and new plywood walls have all been painted this year. Thanks to the money raised from our pie auction, The Friends of the Fair have replaced the old refrigerator and chest freezer in the Cockram Arena kitchen. They are now applying for grants to replace the 60 year old gas stove and griddle. The Beef Livestock Barn had additional power outlets added to accommodate our growing 4-H/FFA Beef Program.

Budget/Office: This year is showing a savings in our utilities with the move to the new offices. Our rental income is up with the increased use of the facilities. We are currently working with Aspen Digital to develop a web page to help market our facilities more, this is being done with the help of a grant from the Transit Room Tax Committee. Some of the groups using the fair facilities are listed below:

Baker County Chamber Dinner	FFA Kindergarten Farm Day
AAUW Annual Dinner	Blue Mountain Dog Club
Elkhorn Archers Winter Practices	Birthday Celebrations
Riding Clinic	Baker County Sheriff Holding Corrals
Baptisms	Memorials
Gun Shows	Idaho Power Public Meetings
City of Baker Fire Dept	Shriners Kid's Day
FFA Tractor Pull	Master Gardeners
Friends of NRA	Baker Elks Bull & Bronc
Wedding Receptions	Landscaping Workshops
Pygmy Goat Show	Wacky Ribbon Show
Graduation Parties	Baker County Sheriff Trainings

Family Reunions
Tool Sales
EO Celtic Society/Highland Games
Festival of Trees
4-H Meetings

Demolition Derby
PEO Rummage Sale
Field to Fork
Agility Dog Shows

Fair Board Events: Fair was a great success this year. Weather was great. This year the Elkhorn Archers and the Trail Tenders joined the Baker County Hunter Education and Shriner's in providing activities for the kids. The attendance, sponsorship, & 4-H Auction dollars all increased. The 4-H Auction dollars were also up this year. The overall auction brought in \$ 167,108.80. The fair board is looking at adding the carnival to the 2011 fair. The Baker Home Arts and Gift Show took place this past weekend. We had 25 vendors offering a good variety. We will be looking at ways to advertise the event more next year to see if we can increase the attendance. The Baker Community Garden did get started this year also. We have eleven raised beds constructed with fencing and water established. We currently have eight beds that were planted. The fee for the beds was \$25 and \$20 depending on the size. The goal this next year is to find an individual to oversee the garden as administrator. The Fair Board did eliminate the Elkhorn Classic Event that had taken place in May. This was due to lack of participation and sponsorship. Some future events that are being discussed by the Fair Board are a "recycle day" and "community yard sale".

Oregon Fair Association: In January I attended the Oregon Fair Association conference in Salem. Janeen Kissley from Malheur County Fair and I traveled to Salem together. The conference will again be held in Salem in 2011.

Fair Board 5-Year Plan: The Fair Board has been working on formalizing agreements with some of the usage of the fair grounds that in the past have not been placed in written form. We are in the process currently of completing one with the Baker Bronc and Bull and Red Cross. We will also be updating our agreement with the Babe Ruth Board on the Leo Adler Field.

Insurance: The Fair Board met with Clarke and Clarke Insurance this spring and has set up a "Tulip" Insurance policy to provide insurance to events that take place on the fair grounds and do not have insurance to protect themselves or the County. To date we have had four events use this insurance.