

**Baker County Fair Board  
Minutes of September 9, 2009  
Board Meeting**

**Members Present:** Chair, Ron Rowan, Vice Chairman Dean Defrees, Tony Britt, Mark Johnson, and Ann Kniesel

**Members not present:** Dan Morris and Rob Ellingson

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Donna Lowry, Chris Dunn, Janice Cowan

**Advisory Board Members Not Present:** Cory Parsons

**Guest:** Dee James and Taylor Murphy

**Staff:** Colleen Taylor

V Chair Dean Defrees called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM.

**Public Comment Period:** Dee James and Taylor Murphy of the Top Dog 4-H Club presented a proposal to the Fair Board to place two trees on the NW and SW corners of the grass area outside of the Show Barn. They will be seeking funding from Tree City of America, Arbor, and local nurseries. They will also be visiting with Arbor for suggestions of the best type of tree to plant. They would like low maintenance and quick growing. After discussion, consensus was reached for them to proceed and come back to the board with the type of tree they will be purchasing.

**Minutes:** Mark moved and Dean seconded to approve the minutes for July. Board members passed the motion.

**Financials:** Financials were reviewed. Ann moved to approve and Tony seconded, motion passed by members. Mark suggested that future financials have page numbers for ease in reviewing.

**Correspondence:** The Fair Board received a "Thank you" from the members of the Poco-Wing 4-H Club.

**Old Business:**

**Office Construction:** Mark reported that construction has started this week. The skylights were completed last week. Part of the office cabinets have been delivered. A beginning schedule of activity thru October 18<sup>th</sup> was distributed to members. Anticipated moving date is mid November. Future projects were also discussed, with the north entrance and the west entrance to be the next priorities.

**Grant Funding:** Future grants were discussed. Ann will be completing one for Leo Adler and then looking at the Jeldwen Foundation. She has left messages with Julie Paxton on Jeldwen however has not heard from her. (Correction to minutes that Jeldwen does not have grant funds available this year) The focus of these grant requests will be the entrances. Colleen was requested to inquire to USDA Grant on the process of submitting billings and the estimated time for reimbursement.

**2009 Fair Report:** Colleen reported on the 2009 Fair. A detailed budget was presented and different ways to possibly save in the future were discussed. Overall the fair was a success with a few grounds changes suggested. The moving of the Small Animal Tent was discussed. One suggestion was to remove part of the green rodeo grounds fence and placing the tent within that area by the Horse Shelters. Another suggestion was to alter the Horse Shelter during the fair to accommodate the small animals and then add a small canopy for the showmanship part of the small animal. The suggestion of moving the Tent to the corner as you come into the fairgrounds by the Event Center was also made. Also shared was the condition of the area east of the Show Barn and the amount of water that accumulated during the fair. The area needs to be grated with new gravel or sometime of drainage created. Hospitality room was discussed; Chris Dunn suggested that we contact Kurt Miller of Baker Truck Corral for assistance with the hospitality room. The Peewee rodeo was discussed and the need for more supervision for the event. A suggestion was shared to move the Peewee showmanship to another evening to free up Friday evening. Waffle ( spelling correction to Wiffle) Ball tournament was suggested for a fair activity also. Board requested to have Delo look at the fan in the Women's restroom of the Show Barn to be sure that it is working correctly.

**Show Barn Sign:** Dean brought samples of fonts and colors for the Show Barn Sign. Mark moved and Ann seconded that we use the dark brown color with a font of Standard Block or Roman Classic, with letters 12" by 9". The board members passed the motion. The estimated cost should be \$400.

**New Business:**

**2009 Gift Show:** Colleen reported on the Gift Show to take place on October 3. This is the second annual show, we currently have 16 vendors. Colleen will be calling vendors on Monday to try to fill the Event Center. Advertising is being completed by Baker City Herald.

**Other:**

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2009, 6 PM, in the small meeting room of the Fair/Extension Bldg.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectively Submitted,

Colleen Taylor