

Baker County Fair Board

Minutes of Sept 7, 2010

Board Meeting

**Members Present:** Ron Rowan, Dean Defrees, Chris Dunn, Tony Britt, Dan Morris

**Members Absent:** Ann Kniesel, Mark Johnson

**Advisory Board Present:** Bob Savage

**Advisory Board Present:** Rob Ellingson, Corey Parsons, Janice Cowan, Kristi Harris

**Staff Present:** Colleen Taylor, Angie Turner

**Guests:** Bill Harmon and Marv Sumner

Chair Ron Rowan called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

**Public Comment Period:** None

**Bronc and Bull Formalized Agreement:** Marv, Bill and Bob presented the proposed changes requested by the Baker City Bronc and Bull to the rental agreement for the Baker County Fairgrounds. The first propose is to trade with the Fair Board the use of their tents and fencing for the week of fair in return for the annual rental fee of the storage unit and the use of the Fair Board tables and chairs for the beer garden. The dollar amount value would need to be completed if requested. They would like to have three sets of keys checked out to them. Each set would contain a power box key, crow's nest key, and gate key. The names of those holding the keys would be provided to the Fair Board and the Fair Office would be notified in advance of any Fair Ground use. For the Facility Maintenance and repair and clean up they would like to receive a \$10 per hour credit for work completed on the Fair Grounds put back into the agreement. There was discussion on this point as this would affect the annual reporting of volunteer hours to the Oregon Fair Commission. The Storage unit has been placed along the South fence as agreed by the Fair Office, Fair Board, and Ken McPheron. The committee will submit for approval to the Fair Board any major remodel or repair jobs that they feel need to be addressed prior to their event at the April Fair Board meeting each year. They would like the wording of (Due to our negligence) to be added to the end of item #6. The Fair Board also presented a sample of an invoice showing how things would look following the Bronc Event. The end result will be a wash on value of repairs and uses. Other discussion issues were the idea of having an independent contractor advise both boards on repair recommendations for the grand stands, look at the repair or replacement of the boundary fence as a joint project, and the continued upgrade of the electrical panel. The upgrade of the electrical panel would enable a big screen system to be brought in for their show. Colleen will contact Mark Johnson for a recommendation of contractors qualified to evaluate the safety of the grandstand. The Baker City Bronc and Bull suggested a joint fund raiser to help with the electrical upgrade. Colleen will also visit with the County Attorney on adding the wording to item #6 of the rental agreement.

**Minutes:** The minutes to the July 7, meeting was reviewed. Dean motioned to approve, Chris seconded and the Board passed the motion.

**Financials:** Colleen reviewed the June financials with the Board. Colleen noted that the general fund currently had a balance of \$275, and a requested had been sent to Administration to transfer half of our general fund request. Discussion was also held on the possibility of another cut in our State Fair funding. Dean motioned that we approve the financials and Tony seconded, the motion was passed by the board.

**Correspondence:** none

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Grant Process:** Colleen gave Ann's grant report. Ann has submitted a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to Idaho Power and one for \$150,000 to Union Pacific Railroad for continued projects on the Community Event Center. Ann requested permission from the board to apply for a \$5000 grant from Northwest Farm Credit for replacement of the stove and grill in the Cockram Arena. We would also like to add a deep fat fryer to the stove. Friends of the Fair have added a new refrigerator and freezer to the Cockram Arena kitchen this summer. Ann also requested that the old stove be given to Melissa once it has been replaced. The board granted permission for the grant request and request to give the stove to Melissa. Dean also reported that Nella from USDA would like a letter of support from the Board for a grant request. The grant would be used to help with the Community Garden and teaching children the produce to table. The board approved for Dean to compose a letter of support.

**Community Garden:** Colleen reported on the community garden. Some disappoint in the amount of care given by those with gardens. The growing year was a hard one and it seemed that some of the gardeners had lost interest. Nella, Colleen and those involved will be having a meeting in October and a cleanup work day. The ultimate goal is to get an individual to step up and manage the garden.

**2010 Fair:** Colleen and Angie reported on the 2010 Fair. Fair attendance was up with the great weather. Entertainment was good, will be changing some of the entertainment around for next year. The Hunter Safety Booth and the Elkhorn Archers were very busy. Our open class entries were up this year, as were the 4-H exhibits. Comparison financials between the 2009 and 2010 fair were presented. Discussion was held to go to a free fair. The board felt that free would be great and may help with attendance. Adding a carnival was also discussed. Colleen will contact Paradise Amusements on the possibility of adding the carnival. The Dog Show was also discussed and the possibility of moving the Dog Show back to the Monday and Tuesday prior to the Fair Family dinner. The board was disappointed that the move back was requested, however, agreed to the move. The livestock barns were also discussed. The Beef side is in need of more room. The 4-H Beef leaders would like to form a committee to work with the Fair Board on options to improve the flow of the beef barn, possibly moving the goats to the sheep barn, and eliminating the small animal tent. Cory Parsons is working on a possible grant to Leo Adler for a new scale and cement pad.

**West Entrance Construction:** Colleen reported on the West Entrance project. A conception plan for the Bioswaile was presented. Colleen shared that to date we have purchased \$330 of top soil, a tree will be donated by the Baker City Tree Board, plants will be local plants donated, and Classic Landscape is donating some decorative boulders and the use of the backhoe. Drain rock will need to be purchased. The total budget for the project should be under \$1000 at completion. The balance of the 351 at this time is \$17,565.39. Colleen and Ann requested that we complete the outside lighting of the Event Center and the painting of the West Entrance. Once the painting has been completed, then the building signage could be done. The building signage would be covered by the USDA grant and \$500 from OSU. The "D" Street property has sold and the funds will be used to pay the interdepartmental loan of \$25,000 and any balance remaining would be placed in our 351 account for capital improvements. The amount of the sale was lowered from \$40,000; however, we do not know the final amount. Dean moved that we do the West Entrance painting and the building lighting, Chris seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the board. Colleen will email Mark for the start of the building painting phase.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Baker Home Gift Show:** Colleen reported on the third annual Gift Show. The Gift Show will be on October 2 in the Event Center. To date we have 17 vendors and have received a number of calls from other vendors.

**Leo Adler Field Management:** Ron reported that he had visited with Rocky Brown on the management of the Leo Adler Field. Currently the Leo Adler has a very active board and would like to take over the management of the field and its uses. Discussion was held on the availability of the field should the fair need the room. The board felt it was comfortable with turning the management over to the Leo Adler Board if some usage could be retained for the fair if needed. Colleen would contact Fred and Rocky on the board decision and would request an agreement with the Leo Adler Board stating that the Fair Board would have use of the facility if need be for fair.

**The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 5, 2010.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM**

Respectively submitted,

Colleen Taylor