

Fair Board Meeting May 10th 2023

Members Present: Mike Sullivan, Dean Defrees, Ron Rowan, Cliff Schoeningh (zoom), Michelle Kaseberg, Terri Siddoway (zoom)

Fair board Employees: Angela Robb, Ashleigh Kautz

Guests: Brian Tweit, Nathaniel Garrick, Charles Jones

Chairman Rowan called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Review & Approval of Minutes: Dean Motion Michelle 2nd

Review and Approval of Financials: Nothing to report on

Michelle: asking about the \$61,000.00 for the admin fee to the county, Ron and Dean spoke to Commissioner Shane Alderson and will follow up on it.

Premium Book Updates: Ashleigh: Locked in a price for premium book printing with Aspen Digital for \$3.60 per copy. We are currently sitting at \$3,050.00 in sponsorship dollars which include D&B Supply, Baker City Chevrolet, AgWest Credit, Grey's West, Coles Tribute Center, Richland Feed and Seed, Baker Rotary Club, Baker Lions Club, Nick Conklin State Farm and Sid Johnson Co.

KidZone: Ashleigh: Would like to purchase the "fun stuff" for the kidzone giant yard games, bounce house etc. Michelle motioned to approve \$1000.00 for the purchase of toys/ yard games for the kidzone for Fair, Mike 2nd.

Downtown Banner: The buildings do not have the structure to be able to hang a banner all the way across Main Street. Brian did note that you can purchase slots in the flag hangers on the light poles downtown.

Intern: No intern at this point, still looking. Spoke about reaching out to High School (Nicole Sullivan) directly about any graduating students. Kylie may be available but has an additional job so would not be available full time.

Updates: Terri: Quotes all completed but no comparable fans, Big Ass Fans does have a letter stating there are no comparable fans on the market. \$7900.00 for the fan without installation. Ashleigh will look for additional quotes for local installation. Motion to purchase the fan with the review of quote. Motion made by Dean, Michelle 2nd.

Cliff: Bleachers. There are three bleacher quotes that have been completed but we will not be moving forward at this time.

Project Manager: Ron/ Dean: Drafted contract: the commissioners had some very large changes in the contract. Set up a meeting with commissioners, Kim, Ron and Dean to ensure there was no conflict of interest at all if Mark Johnson was hired for the position. Will follow up at next meeting with any changes and hopefully a start date for the position.

Baker County Name: Commissioner Alderson is going to be talking to the Board from Halfway Fair about the name change to their website and applying for grants as Baker County Fair.

OTEC: The program is still running, Ashleigh will get with Dustin about getting the measurements to apply for the grant for replacement.

Pole for Networking: Ron and Dean asked if Ashleigh would get some quotes for “beefing” up the crow’s nest to make sure it is more secure for the networking equipment to be held in for Challenge of Champions.

Public Comment: Charles: would like to have a public firework show at no cost to the public on our Leo Adler Field. These are consumer 1.4g fireworks which does not take a pirotech license. He has spoken to the Fire Department and BCPD about everything leading up to the fireworks including signing off on storage. Having the clearance roped off to ensure that they are clear of the fire zone (140ft fall out area) etc. Would like to know what we would need from him for insurance wise to be able to perform the show for free with no charge to public. He would just like to do something fun for the community.

Ron: Would like to consult with insurance company for any further direction and Kevin Bell to see if there is an additional underwriter.

Mike: Has multiple concerns about how small the field is for the show and for safety of those watching. Would this require a city permit if done after 10pm.

Brian: Economic Development to answer any additional questions about “new facility”

Michelle: Concerned about who will be paying for the new facility when the county doesn’t want to, also will the 4-H still be able to use the facilities? Umatilla County had a similar situation and now they are paying over \$100,000.00 to rent the facility just for 6 weeks out of the year. Main concern is that we are going to jump in on the project and then we will have no fairgrounds if the county cant afford the new facility. It is more important to be sure that this is not going to effect the program what so ever. There is nothing is showing that the new facility is sustainable if the county decides to stop funding the buildings.

Mike: Very concerned about loss with proposal showing a loss of \$150,000.00 with grants of \$80,000.00 and solar generation of 20,000.00. We are showing 3 years of loss on the proposal and would like to know where that cost is going to be absorbed. The community?

Brian: The solar is not necessary which will bring the cost to less than the proposal shows, also only adding 1 FTE to run the facility which will change the number drastically in comparison to the first proposal. There shouldn’t be any loss of revenue if we do an estimated 4 events a year, therefor there would be nothing for the community to absorb. But if there is a debt the county will absorb that debt which in turn would be the community.

Angela: OSU has made no agreement to move to the new facility.

Brian: Spoke more about the plans and what they would like to do at the facility to make things easier for 4-H programs i.e showings etc. Spoke about having RV spots to provide during fair time. Baker Soccer United is also adding additional parking spaces and locker rooms with their new addition to the fields they currently use. The hope is building workforce housing when the current fairgrounds is sold which can ensure that our population doesn’t continue to drop.

Next Meeting June 13th 2023 at 6:00pm