

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION

Meeting minutes from September 20, 2012

The September 20, 2012 meeting called to order by Wes McAlpin at 6:30 pm in the 4H Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds

Roll call of members; Sam Nunnally, Wes McAlpin, Joy Motyka, Butch Woolard, and Mike Mower were in attendance.

Guests included: Pat McGlynn, Tammy Walker, and Kim Morrison.

Agenda approval: Joy moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Sam. All were in favor.

Previous Minutes: Joy moved to approve the minutes from June 21st. Sam seconded the motion. No further discussion. All members were in favor.

Public Comment: Wes asked if any members of the public wished to comment this evening. Kim Morrison, a 4H mom, stated a wristband for exhibitors would be a great change from the multiple passes needed to obtain entry. It would be a big safety aspect to have the Camper Gate closed to vehicle and general pedestrian traffic. Campers have to watch things closely especially as the fair ends in the late evening. No further comment was heard.

Committee reports: Mike Mower suggested a committee work on access control during Fair. Improvements can be made. Wes thanked the Board members for all the support and involvement during Fair. Joy met with Deb Pearson, County Grant writer, and stated our need for support. Suggested targeting a specific task/project that would be applicable. Match the parameters with a grant and a scope that could be achieved. Asked Board members to define our three top priorities by next meeting. A one-page detail for each could be developed during a workshop format. The search/grant process could take as long as 2 years to complete. Further discussion followed about the logistics of submitting the grants.

Manager's Report: a brief review of the August financial statement was provided. There have been changes to the report format. Fair numbers are still settling with items coded to the wrong accounts that need to be sorted. New County codes are being used so historic numbers won't match. Mike asked to simplify the monthly statement for tracking and readability purposes, something in a more conventional P/L format.

Mark shared the concept for Agency on Aging/Extension building being considered at north area of the Fairgrounds. He described the location, building scope, and how it would connect to the Fairgrounds long-term plans. The traffic potential with this location, especially during the fair, was questioned and discussed.

A few early concepts about a new fair logo were shared for discussion. Continue working on the expo or park concept but keep NW Montana Fair as an identifier of the annual event. Keep focus on county elements.

Manager's Report: a brief review of the May financial statement was provided. In the essence of time, Mark referred to the provided documents.

Old Business: Facility Planning – the next public meeting is scheduled for July 19th.

New Business: Lori Frankie, representing 4H shared her life-long background working with animals and children through Fair programs. Her concern focuses on animal health issues and safety. One example of prime concern is e-coli. Types of animal pens and actions contribute to public exposure potential. As one step, the Fair book should include additional requirements for health certifications being completed prior to arrival on-site.

Joy recommended Mark with the Superintendants to address standards for each department. Mike stated a Veterinarian should be on-site for inspections and have the authority to make necessary decisions. Take all steps to minimize the potential problems and impact to other animals and the public.

Do what is possible this year and work in further detail to implement a full animal health program for next year.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm was made by Sam, seconded by Joy, question called with all in favor.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:

W. McAfie
Chair

10/18/12
Date