

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION

Meeting minutes from April 14, 2011

The April 14, 2011 meeting called to order by Chair Clark at 6:30 pm in the 4-H Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds

Roll call of members in attendance was Butch Woolard, Wes McAlpin, Joy Struble, Mike Mower, and Butch CM Clark.

Agenda Approval: Chair Woolard asked if there were any changes or additions for the agenda. CM Clark moved to approve, Joy seconded. All in favor.

Previous Minutes: Chair Woolard asked if everybody had an opportunity to review the minutes from the March meeting. CM Clark moved to approve the minutes from the January meeting as submitted. Wes seconded the motion. No discussion. Question called, all in favor.

Guests: Ted Dykstra Jr, Missy Senner, and Justin Heupel from School District #5.

Public Comment: Chair Woolard asked if any members of the public wished to comment this evening. Ted Dykstra asked if the past meeting minutes could be posted on the web-site. No other public wished to speak. The public comment period was closed.

Manager's report: Mark shared the recent activities and financial information. The revenues and expenditures are meeting expectations. A recent budget amendment should place expenditures on target for FY 11. All grandstand event ticket sales are scheduled to go on-sale May 5th. An overview of the new on-line entry process for Fair competitions was provided. The FY 2012 budget report to the Commissioners will be held April 25th. Fair Commission members were invited to attend.

Committee reports: Joy and CM Clark had no activity to report. Wes spoke of the current budget issue with Kalispell School District and its possible affects on the agricultural programs. He introduced Justin Heupel, Ag Instructor to share the details of the current program. Justin stated the current program includes ag education, supervision of the students in school and FFA activities, and education in many areas beyond ag. The budget issue is focused on the "extended days" contract which is currently set at 20 days beyond the school year. There are 300 students in the program this year and 368 signed up for next school year. The commission members felt it important to write the School District and explain how important agriculture and youth are to the Fair activities.

Old Business: CM Clark moved to approve the draft by-laws and forward them to the County Commissioners. Joy seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. Motion passed with all in favor.

New Business: Missy Senner reiterated her position opposing alcohol sales during the fair as she had shared in depth at the March meeting. She asked each of the Fair Commission members what their opinions were. Joy shared that there could be compromise in serving alcoholic beverages with considerations for control and responsibility. Wes and CM shared similar sentiments. Missy's main concern is after beverages are consumed and the actions of those people outside of the sales area. It was stated that non-fair events sell alcoholic beverages without problems. Missy doesn't have concerns of

those. Her issue is that the Fair is a County sponsored event and focuses on children. Joy commented that discussions on pricing and sale times would be important for control aspects. Mike shared his experiences at the Denver and Houston Livestock events where all varieties of alcoholic beverages are sold.

Ideas to gather further public input were discussed including possible survey through local media sources.

No other new business was brought forward.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm by Joy, seconded by CM Clark, question called with all in favor.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:

Chair

Date