

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION

Meeting minutes from February 28, 2013

The February 28, 2013 meeting called to order by Wes McAlpin at 6:30 pm in the 4H Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds

Roll call of members; Mike Moffitt, Butch Woolard, Sam Nunnally, Wes McAlpin, Joy Moytka, were present.

Guests included: Tammy Walker – County Extension Agent, Tom Murphy – Flathead Industries.

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

Previous Minutes: Sam moved to approve the minutes from January 17th. Mike seconded the motion. No further discussion. All members were in favor.

Public Comment: Tammy wanted to say hello and check in. 4H Office will conduct the final declaration of market livestock tag #'s. Tom provided an update on the Flathead Industries work crews. Is being provided community service individuals by County Courts. These folks are being assessed for skills and used accordingly. Tammy reminded the board about rule changes to rules governing over/under weight animals not being regularly cared for prior to the required leave time. Discussion followed on the over/under weight process.

Manager's Report: A review of items happening at the Fairgrounds was done. Proposed Carnival contract changes are being finalized. Horseracing is still being considered and ongoing with a timeline for a decision being about the first of March. A large number of events and activities were shared with 5 different functions held this past Saturday. A Thank You certificate from Kalispell Schools for our participation with Graduation Matters was shared. Sam asked about a specific deadline for the Horserace decision. There is an upcoming State meeting on March 2nd. We should know more following that.

Financial report: A review of revenues and expenditures was provided. Mark shared the 'earned revenue' process and how it's accounted for. Targets were shared and we are on track to meet expectations.

Proposal received for consideration of selling food, beer, and wine during the fair was distributed.

We have been asked to consider a routed date for Jo Dee Messina in May. This is a business opportunity we can consider. A budget was developed and input sought. Mike thought it was a great opportunity with areas available to further diminish the risk. Butch asked about a percentage split proposal. Other options exist that can be explored. Discussion followed and all were in agreement to pursue the event.

A Court date has been set for late this year regarding the performance bond on Expo Building floor. The contractor hasn't responded to the Court yet.

Committee reports: Sam reported on the committee work with our pathogen plan. Signage, hand washing, and sanitization are key focus areas.

Old Business: Facility planning with Leadership Flathead has been delayed due to Mark's schedule. A further report will be provided at a later time.

A carnival update was provided. Final adjustments to the contract are being made. Hesitancy has been heard from the contractors about opening Tuesday night due to staffing.

New Business:

The FY 14 budget is in work and Mark is ready to proceed. Mike volunteered to review the budget details along with Joy at an upcoming time/date. Assumptions made are similar to last year; keeping it operationally balanced, adjust for minimal staffing changes, and continue building revenues where we can. A final presentation will be provided at the March meeting.

Other: Sam addressed the John's Angels Catering and recommended a RFP to determine any other community interest. Discussion continued about operational aspects and items that should be addressed. Sam felt respect should be provided to the non-profit vendors regarding food sales. It should not be a competing situation. Operations are a key and should be weighted heavier than revenues. The item will be placed on the March agenda for public comment and a decision to proceed forward or not. Sam attended a program at IAFE and was impressed by the FairFax (Virginia) procedures. He shared a copy with the Board. Mike has experience attending the FairFax event and said the food was a big focus and key to their success. Wine competitions and seminars have been successful in other areas. Any event, to become successful, must have good structure and involve the community.

No further business was discussed. A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm was made by Sam, seconded by Butch; question was called with all in favor.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:

W Mcapo
Chair

3/21/13
Date