

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION
Meeting minutes from March 13, 2014

The March 13, 2014 meeting was called to order by Sam Nunnally at 6:30 pm in the 4H Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds

Roll call of members: Sam Nunnally, Gary Krueger, Michael Moffitt and Butch Woolard were present. Wes McAlpin notified the office he would be out of town and unable to attend.

Guest present: Sharon Askelson, Mike Pence, and Ron Thibert were in attendance.

Agenda approval: Michael Moffett to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Butch. All were in favor.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The February 13th board meeting minutes were reviewed. Gary moved to approve the minutes as presented. Michael seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Public Comment: Ron Thibert feels the Fair continues to take but not giving anything in return regards to horse racing. Everybody wants horse racing but it needs to have help in giving it a start. Without this start, or help, he doubts it will ever get its share. Will see how Great Falls does this year. It had a good meet with help from the Fair and Commissioners of Cascade County. Kids and people need a place to ride and should use the fairgrounds.

Michael asked a few general questions. Has horse racing ever been a break even situation? How did Great Falls do this past year? What does liability insurance for horse racing cost? General discussion amongst the members followed with no clear answers to the questions. A proposal and solid budget would be needed for any consideration. The Fair and County needs to have an honest, solid, proposal to ensure an unfair burden isn't placed on the tax payers. Ron committed to providing that.

Hearing no other public comment, Sam closed the comment period.

Manager's Report: Mark shared the proposal and due date of March 25th for the Grandstand Renovation project. Infrastructure planning is moving along with phasing and first review completed. Fair budget process is just about completed. The Operation budget is due March 28th. Amendments with performance measures and goals were shared. New indicators relating to CIP investment and Health/Safety indicators addressed are new. Update on Fair related projects and work was shared. A busy event schedule was discussed with general discussion. An event schedule with activity days and attendance for the current 7-day period was shared.

The monthly financial report was discussed with revenues and expenses reviewed.

A letter of correspondence from Dale and Terri Darsow relating the Veterans program and beer sales was read. The Fair reply was also presented.

A draft new Fair logo was presented with comments taken. Changes will be made and discussion to continue.

A FY 2015 budget workshop will be held in the Fair Office on March 20th at 5:30 pm.

Committee reports: No reports were heard.

Old Business: The Grandstand Renovation project is waiting for bid opening on March 26th. There were no additional questions on that project.

The infrastructure work continues with a review of the initial draft design by Butch, Tim Harmon, Mark and Carver Engineering. Mark shared the initial map and changes to storm system, water, sewer lines as proposed. The phase 1 area has been defined and was described. Phase 2 was introduced along with the project elements it contains. Sam asked about communication changes or upgrades. A fiber loop surrounding the grounds was detailed. The work shown is all in design process at this time with details still being defined. Initial cost estimates for phase 1 and 2 were shared. It was also noted there is not funding secured beyond phase 1.

Sam asked for any other Old Business. None heard.

New Business: Sam asked if a by-law review was in order. It's been three years since the last review. A brief discussion followed with concurrence that it was time to do such. The by-laws will be resent and discussion to take place at the next available meeting time.

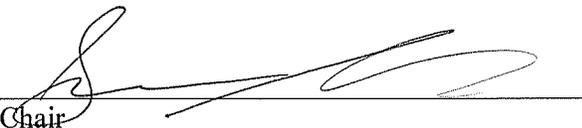
Sam wanted to clarify and set an understanding of the fair reviewing a horse racing proposal. It must have clarity and detail to what specifically is needed and who is going to be responsible for what aspects so a good decision can be made. All agreed.

No further new business was brought forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:


Chair

4-10-14
Date