

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION

Meeting minutes from March 21, 2013

The March 21, 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 Motyka, were present.

Guests included: Tammy Walker – County Extension Agent, Tom Murphy – Flathead Industries, Missy Senner, Dan and Kathy Mason. Kristen and John Ledyard of John's Angels Catering were also present.

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

Previous Minutes: Joy moved to approve the minutes from February 28th. Sam seconded the motion. No further discussion. All members were in favor.

Public Comment: Missy Senner addressed the Board in opposition to consideration of beer and wine sales. She is also concerned about the inappropriate driving of Posse members. They are going to fast in the alley behind the stands. Dan Mason stated that he felt the beer and wine sales would be an income producer and a good thing for the fair if controlled properly. Kathy Mason said she like the direction the fair is going and doing an excellent job. Missy added that she would love to see the grass areas paved to reduce dust and mud. No other comment was received.

Wes moved new business forward in the agenda.

New Business:

Mark provided a quick overview of the proposal received last month from John's Angels Catering to serve beer and wine during the Fair. Kristen shared an overview of her experience in the food and catering business and why she decided to present a proposal. Several theme options would fit. She wants to help the fair by giving something positive back.

Wes asked about local wine growers. Kristen has developed a relationship with a local producer. Joy has viewed John's catering at events and they do a fantastic job in preparation, presentation, and handling their business. Her confidence level in them is very high.

Dan Mason would like to be considered for food sales next to the area garden area. Joy replied that coordination with adjacent vendors must be done to keep the balance of interests and sales intact. Missy stated that the Fair is about kids and a beer/wine area distracts from that. Discussion about the social aspects and responsibilities followed. Mark recommended that the Commission proceed forward with setting guidelines in place.

Joy moved to proceed in establishing a contract process that would establish an acceptable detailed control plan and gauge the experience of qualified operators for beer and wine sales. Sam seconded the motion for discussion. Discussion: Sam wants specific details in the proposals such as ID checks and use of local products. The vote was called by Wes, all in favor.

Mark gave an overview of the final submittals for the FY 2014 Budget, Programs and Goals. Work by the committee members was very helpful in preparing these. Discussion about specific goals helped to clarify them with only minor changes. Performance measure changes were explained. Operating revenue and expense spreadsheets were reviewed. Miscellaneous revenues include collection of bond proceeds for Expo building floor repair. Total revenues reflect an overall 1.2% increase. Expenses include a projected 2.2% COLA for staff but remain balanced with revenues. Insurance costs include paying our vehicle policy costs for the first time. Balance of changes is a re-distribution of costs to specific accounts. All members were in agreement to support the budget as presented and adjusted.

Manager's Report:

Commissioner's report – Fairgrounds event activity is staying at a brisk pace. Potential new event in May from Blue Star Shows in the Trade Center would be a great addition to our schedule. The proposed concert on May 22nd is in a negotiation phase with more payment being requested. Carnivals still have not been able to coordinate their travel schedules to finalize the agreement. Additional items were discussed and reviewed.

Financial report: A review of revenues and expenditures was provided. Some revenues being reported will be "earned" in FY 2014 and must be moved late in this FY. Current cash balance is at 22%.

Committee reports:

No report on grants or fundraising from Joy. Timelines are not realistic to achieve a funded grant in the short term.

Old Business:

Facility planning – SCORE representatives to meet tomorrow on details and pro-forma for larger CIP projects. Progress and a further report will be provided when details become available.

Carnival update was provided earlier. No further discussion on this item.

No further business was discussed. A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm was made by Joy, seconded by Sam; question was called with all in favor.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:


Chair


Date