

Sanders County Fair Commission

February 16, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:00 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge and Chris McGuigan in attendance. Also attending were Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager and Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary. Guests included Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Bobby Mayes and Ken Matthiesen.

No changes were made to the agenda.

The November minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Please refer to the February booklet for specifics.

Tough Enough To Wear Pink was discussed regarding the Friday night PRCA rodeo. Correspondence regarding the event was presented to the Commission. Glen appointed Roberta to head the TETWP committee and she will appoint other members of the committee.

Mike briefed the Commission on HB 150, the bill which makes individuals responsible for their actions if they decide to participate in off-road events such as motocross, rodeo, etc. Applicable sections of Montana Code Annotated were furnished to the Commission as well.

Mike briefed the Commission on the upcoming motocross race dates. There will be two WestMont races in April on the 5th and 26th, the fun race on the 4th of July and a High Country Motocross Association sanctioned race on July 19th.

The proposal to produce a Rough Stock Rodeo event on September 6th was reviewed by the Commission and rejected as too expensive. Other venues will be discussed, to include a Championship Bull Riding event. More information, if available, will be presented at the March 16th meeting.

Mike briefed the Commission on the proposed construction projects for the fairgrounds and reviewed a power point presentation which will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17th. The County Commissioners will then decide how much funding is available for the projects.

Glen opened the meeting to public comment and Ken asked about grandstands for the motocross track. Several factors were discussed: cost, will fans use the stands, will we have a motocross track after this year. No decision was reached.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the claims for February. Chris made a motion to approve the claims for payment, seconded by Bruce and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

March 16, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:05 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending were Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager and Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary. Guests included County Extension Agent Meghan Phillippi, Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Bobby Mayes and Jason Altmiller.

Glen added "pasture lease" to the business portion of the agenda.

The February 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Lynn and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Please refer to the March booklet for specifics.

The Chamber of Commerce has requested the use of the pavilion tables during their annual trade fair to be held in the Plains School gymnasium on March 28th. The Commission discussed lending the tables out, but only after a security deposit of \$100 per table was collected. Then, if the tables were returned without damage, the security deposit would be refunded. The Commission also discussed if it was legal for the Commission to lend out county property (the tables) which are then leased (by the 8th grade class for \$5 per table) to people for use. Several motions were made but not acted upon as the discussion continued. Finally, the Commission decided it would follow its policy manual and not permit county-owned fair property to be moved from the fairgrounds. Mike was instructed to contact the Chamber and let them know the Commission's decision.

Glen informed Roberta that he had appointed her as Chairman of the Tough Enough To Wear Pink committee and she could choose who she wanted to work with her. She immediately told Glen he was on the committee. The Commission then discussed ways of raising funds for combating cancer, deciding if possible, any funds raised by the TETWP event would be donated to the Sanders County Cancer Network. Roberta will contact Carol Brooker and Karen Dwyer to discuss the event and ways to raise money. Roberta then asked about purchasing TETWP tee shirts for sale in the county's various businesses. Mike stated if she would develop a list of sizes and costs, the tee shirts could be ordered and made available for the county's businesses willing to sell the tee shirts.

Roberta suggested the fair sponsor a "fair logo contest" to develop a logo which depicts our fair, for use by the fair on all of the correspondence. The contest will be open to all teenagers in the county. Mike will send a letter to the four high schools soliciting participation and

Meghan will put the contest information in the 4-H newsletter. The logos are due the end of August with the winning design announced at the fair. The winner of the logo contest will receive two ride-for-one-price all-day carnival passes.

Thursday entertainment at the fair was discussed with Mike informing the Commission that Jim Sinclair was still researching available Christian bands. Price is a major concern as most are out of our price range.

The Championship Bull Riding event was discussed with Mike informing the Commission that the CBR had declined our request to host a CBR event on September 6th, stating they had an event the previous day in North Dakota and did not schedule bull riding events close together. Based on the CBR decision, Mike has contacted Hank and Lori Franzen to see if we can host an NFR bull riding qualifying event on the 6th. Mike will provide the Commission any information which comes available at their next meeting.

Glen then stated he had been contacted by an individual who is interested in leasing the adjacent 20 acres for pasture. Jason Altmiller stated he was the one interested in leasing the pasture for some horses. Currently, Charlie Gray has the option for the pasture. Mike suggested Glen and Bruce meet with Charlie to determine what the unwritten agreement between the fair and Charlie was. Then, based on that meeting, revisit Jason's request at the next Fair Commission meeting. Glen then tabled the issue until the April 20th meeting.

Glen opened the meeting to public comment. Michele asked about horses and the use of the horse arena. It's available for anyone to use, however, they must stop by Kim's house and complete the "horse arena use" form which Kim will provide them. Mike added that he'd like a decision by the Commission on when the horses had to be removed from the rodeo holding pens so that he and Kim could sterilize the area to prevent any infectious disease contamination. The Commission decided the abused horses must be off the fairgrounds by April 30th. Then Mike and Kim can spray the rodeo holding pens, the main arena, the horse arena, the 4-H midway and the demo staging area with a sterilant provide by Doctor Marrinan.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the claims for March. Roberta made a motion to approve the claims for payment, seconded by Lynn and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

April 20, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:05 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending were Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager and Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary. Guests included Jim Newman representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council, Jan Parmelee representing Sanders County Tobacco Prevention, Phil Crismore representing the Sanders County Park Board, Dan Burrell representing the Sanders County Fair Concessions Group, Jean Morrison representing the Sanders County Arts Council and Jason Altmiller.

Glen added both Fair Concessions and 4-H Livestock Committee to the business portion of the agenda.

The March 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Please refer to the April booklet for specifics.

Jan Parmelee addressed the Commission, requesting they consider making the fair a smoke free fair. During the discussion that followed, the Commission stated the fair has been smoke free for quite some time, with no smoking permitted in any of the buildings, barns or the grandstands. Jan stated she had received complaints from fair patrons who did not like being exposed to smoke while walking around the grounds, to include the food vendors midway. She suggested the Fair Commission establish "smoking" areas, allowing people to smoke only in designated areas like they do at the Huckleberry Festival in Trout Creek. The Commission responded, stating the fair had many more visitors than the festival. Mike stated he was opposed to the government interfering to much in people's lives. He said, being a non-smoker, he had no problem with people smoking outdoors where the smoke dissipates almost immediately. Bruce stated the smoke from the demolition derby was more harmful than any tobacco smoke on the grounds. Chris wanted to know if the "smoking ban" for bars which goes into effect October 1st will apply to our beer garden. No one had an answer to his question. Mike then suggested the fair conduct a survey of this year's patrons to get their views on the matter. The Fair Commission agreed to that and tabled further action on Jan's request until after the survey has been completed.

Phil Crismore, representing the Sanders County Park Board, addressed the Fair Commission, stating the Park Board has two projects applicable to the riverside park and access site located

on the fairgrounds. First, the Park Board would like to make a walking path along the entire length of the flood control dike with benches and signage about the wildlife, birds and fish provided by Montana's Fish, Wildlife and Parks department. The desire is to make the walkway handicap-accessible for those people with disabilities. Ultimately, the Park Board would like the walkway paved the entire distance. The Board is working with the adjacent downstream landowner to receive an easement to extend the walkway further downriver. The second project would be the construction of a shelter-like pavilion near the current picnic tables. The pavilion would be open-air with a roof to protect gatherings of people from the elements while they picnic in the area. When asked what Phil would like from the fair, he stated just their support to proceed. When Mike asked what this would cost the fair, Phil said he'd have an answer to that question later. The Fair Commission agreed with the Park Board's proposals.

Glen and Bruce then discussed the current land lease with Charlie Grey, stating Charlie had two years remaining on his lease with the fair. Glen stated at that time, the Fair Commission would open the pasture area for competitive bidding, following the state's guidelines relative to land leases.

Don Burrell then told the Fair Commission that the local Rebecca group had quit the Concessions Group and had been replaced with the American Legion Post from Thompson Falls. Don then asked about the hot water problems in the milk shake booth, saying a lady offered to donate an on-demand hot water heater for use in the booth. Mike told Don if he got the heater to him, Mike would have Energy Partners install the unit in the booth. Don then asked about the sink in the booth; Mike stated if the sink needed to be replaced, it would need to be a three-bay sink. This work will be accomplished prior to the 2009 fair.

Jim Newman then presented the fair with a \$1000.00 check to help offset the costs of the powder coating of the 4-H show arena panels and gates. The Fair Commission thanked 4-H for their donation.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the proposed 2009/2010 budget, noting the budget is based on receiving two additional mils of tax money. Lynn asked what would need to be cut from the budget if the two mils were not provided and Mike stated the "infrastructure repair and maintenance" line item would be deleted from the budget if the two mils were not provided. The Fair Commission told Mike to arrange time on the County Commissioner's schedule to formally present the fair budget to the County Commissioners.

Glen then asked Mike about the proposal to host the fair's major sponsors at a "thank you" dinner. After discussion, it was decided the Fair Commission would host the dinner in early June. More details will be available at the Fair Commission's May meeting.

Jean Morrison stated she had contacted the Rocky Mountain Rhythm Kings about performing Thursday evening of the fair along with a Christian Band. The Rhythm Kings are a Dixie-land

Jazz band and they said it would cost the fair \$1,200.00 for their portion of the performance. Jean also stated another group, the Silk Stockings, would be available to augment the Rhythm Kings if the fair could not contract a Christian Band for that night.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the April claims. The April claims were approved for payment on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

May 18, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:05 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending was Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager. Guests included County Extension Agent John Halpop, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council and Bobby Mayes.

Mike added the Town of Plains Fire Department to the agenda.

The April 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Roberta, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Please refer to the May booklet for specifics.

Information on HB 150, the Montana Recreation Responsibility Act, was provided to the Fair Commission. The law states if you participate in a recreational activity which is hazardous, you, as the participant, are responsible for any injuries, etc., which you may suffer. The sponsor of the activity is not liable unless negligence can be proven.

Mike requested the Fair Commission approve a plan for the purchase of a riding lawn mower which will be raffled off to raise funds for the Cancer Network of Sanders County. The mower will be purchased from the local Gambles store and since it comes in the colors red and black, the Printery will donate and install pink vinyl to cover the red. Additionally, Cancer Network of Sanders County will be stenciled on the pink vinyl on both sides of the mower. Then, if someone wins the mower and doesn't like the color pink, the Printery will remove the vinyl – all of this donated by the Printery. Mike stated 2500 raffle tickets will be printed and they will be sold for \$5.00 apiece or five for \$20.00. The drawing will be held during the Tough Enough To Wear Pink Friday night PRCA rodeo; you need not be present to win. Roberta made a motion to approve the plan, seconded by Chris and passed.

The local "Tea Party" group requested that they be allowed to meet on the fairgrounds prior to the 4th of July fireworks display. They would like to read the Declaration of Independence and other founding documents to the people assembled to watch the fireworks display. The unanimous decision of the Fair Commission was to deny the group their request. Mike was instructed to inform the "Tea Party" group of the Fair Commission's decision.

A contract has been signed between the fair and Tim Bach Resources for Tim's Christian band to perform Thursday night of the fair. The concert will be three hours in duration and tickets for

the event are set at \$10.00 per person. Attendees may choose from sitting in the reserved grandstands or standing in the arena directly in front of the stage.

The financial results of the April 26th motocross were presented to the Fair Commission. The fair made \$190 from campers - 19 campers at \$10 apiece. And the fair's share of the admission gate was \$1,269.00 for a total income of \$1,459.00.

A copy of the flood plain survey, with GPS elevations, was presented to the Fair Commission. The fair lies about ½ foot below the 100 year floodplain level.

Glen discussed the center grandstands, saying that when the County Commissioners visited the fairgrounds on Tuesday, May 5th, it was suggested those restrooms be closed and not used during the fair because of their despicable shape. Instead, portable toilets could be set up in the area for use. Glen did not want to use porta-potties for two reasons: first, the smell, and second, on Saturday and Sunday of the fair, there is no way to access the toilets to sanitize them. Therefore, the Fair Commission decided to keep the center grandstand toilets open for this year's fair and adjust the construction schedule such that it may be possible to replace those restrooms with new ones prior to the 2010 fair.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on a request from the Plains City Volunteer Fire Department. They would like to conduct a 50/50 raffled during the demolition derby at this year's fair. The Fair Commission agreed to the raffle.

The Fair Commission toured the main pump house to view the new ultra-violet water purification system installed by Phil Cook.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the May claims. The May claims were approved for payment on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

June 15, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:05 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending was Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager and Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary. Guests included County Commissioner Carol Brooker, County Extension Agents John Halpop and Meghan Phillippi and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee.

Mike added Rehbein Ford rodeo bid and the Sanders County Arts Council to the agenda.

The May 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Roberta, seconded by Bruce and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Mike was instructed to write the PBR and ask them to explain the additional charges levied against the fair regarding last year's PBR Bull Riding Event. Please refer to the June booklet for more specifics on all the correspondence.

Mike informed the Fair Commission the PRCA has approved our bull riding event for PRCA sponsorship and that the fair would be required to add \$6,000 added money to the purse.

Rehbein Ford would like to sponsor the rodeo events during the fair and is preparing a proposal for the Fair Commission's review. Dodge Rodeo has first chance at refusal whereby they may meet or beat the Ford bid and retain rodeo sponsorship. Dodge has forty days upon receiving the Rehbein Ford bid to meet or beat the bid.

Sanders County Arts Council requested permission to conduct two 50/50 raffles during the fair, both occurring during the PRCA rodeo performance.

The requests for portable toilet support during the fair have been sent to three area businesses.

The Fair Commission has received one nomination for this year's community service award. The Thompson Falls Grange has nominated Dixie Carmen for the award. It is rumored Jack and Louise Lulack will be nominated as well.

The Plains Lions Club will have their annual steak fry picnic on July 20th, the date of the Fair Commission's July meeting. The members of the Fair Commission, County Commissioner Carol Brooker, Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton, and Groundskeeper Kim McNeil and his wife Margaret are to be the Lions Club guests at the steak fry.

The update of the Fair Concessions Group food and beverage contract was provided to the Fair Commission. Additionally, Mike informed the Fair Commission that Krista Standeford has volunteered to provide training to the beer garden servers. Mike stated he informed Krista that the VFW, as a member of the Sanders County Fair Concessions Group, was in charge of the beer booth and the fair only controlled the selling of beer and wine cooler tickets. Krista stated she would be contacting the VFW about the server training.

During public comment, the Fair Commission was advised the interior of the pig and sheep barn will be painted the end of this month.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the June claims. Bruce made a motion to approve the claims for payment, seconded by Roberta and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

July 20, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:05 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending were Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager, Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary and Pat Bursell, Fair Cashier. Guests included County Commissioner Carol Brooker, County Extension Agent Meghan Phillippi, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council, Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Larry Rivinius representing the Fair Concessions Group and Gina Noikot.

Glen added policy on ticket compensations to the agenda.

The June 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Roberta, seconded by Lynn and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. Please refer to the July booklet for more specifics on all the correspondence.

Under business, Mike discussed the Fair Commission considering expanding the PRCA Rodeo Committee which is comprised of only Fair Commission members to other people. He suggested the Commission include such people as Dick Vinson and Larry Christianson as members of the rodeo committee. Bruce suggested Dick Crain, Ed VonHeeder, Bruce Knight and Wes Mapston. Mike suggested they should consider other names as well such as Marvin Rehbein Sr. and Dennis Washington. Those types of people have connections and can tap into sponsorships and other monies to offset the rodeo costs. Glen asked the Commission to think about the idea for a month and they'll discuss the concept at the August meeting.

Mike briefed the Commission on the additional charges levied against the fair by the PBR. In a unanimous decision, the Fair Commission denied the additional \$200 claim from the PBR. Glen signed a letter to the PBR stating the Fair Commission's decision.

Mike told the Commission that Homestead Helicopters would like to come to the fair and offer rides to fair patrons. Mike stated they would route their aircraft so they did not overfly the town of Plains. That way, the Fair Commission would not receive complaints from town residents complaining of the noise. In the ensuing discussion, the Fair Commission decided not to compete with our neighbor who has been offering helicopter rides for the last few years.

The Fair Commission then addressed the 2009 Sanders County Fair Community Service Award recipient. On a motion by Roberta, seconded by Chris, the Commission selected Dr.

Jack Lulack and his wife Louise of Plains as the 2009 recipients and Neal and Dixie Carmen of Thompson Falls as the 2010 recipients.

Mike briefed the Commission on the financial results of the motocross races held on June 28th, July 4th and July 19th.

Mike briefed the Commission on the various water system classifications as defined by the DEQ.

Glen discussed the establishment of a policy concerning "free" (comp) tickets for Fair Commission members. He asked the members to think about a possible policy with a decision made at the August Fair Commission meeting.

During public comment, Meghan told the Commission the 4-H kitchen committee would be painting the shelves under the serving windows as well as the shelves in the storage room to satisfy a county sanitarian request. She also asked about "plastic tube" protection for the fluorescent lights in the kitchen and the possibility of replacing the "coke" cooler with a commercial-grade refrigerator, one with glass doors which slide. Mike will work with 4-H to find a commercial-grade refrigerator; Glen stated the fair and 4-H will split the cost if its reasonable.

Mike informed the group that Missoula Fire would, again this year, steam clean the hoods and vents for the two hamburger booths. Also, COSTCO has indicated they would like to furnish the food stuffs for various fair vendors. Mike suggested both the 4-H and Concessions Group contact COSTCO to compare prices, etc.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the July claims. The cash carry-over from fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2010 is somewhere between \$8,200.00 and \$14,200.00. Lynn made a motion to approve the claims for payment, seconded by Chris and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

August 17, 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glen Magera at 7:07 p.m. with Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge and Chris McGuigan in attendance. Also attending were Mike Hashisaki, Fair Manager and Ruth Hamilton, Fair Secretary. Guests included Pat Ingraham, State Representative, House District 13, County Extension Agent Meghan Phillippi, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council and Jim Newman and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee.

Chris requested the beer garden being open during the Christian Concert on Thursday night be added to the agenda.

The July 2009 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike briefed the Commission on the correspondence. There was an additional letter recommending Sharon Larkin of Noxon be considered for the Community Service Award. The Fair Commission decided to award Sharon Larkin the honor for the 2011 fair. Mike also briefed the Commission on the floor plans for the new long concessions stand which will replace the current structure on the north side of the food vendor's midway. Because of the construction under taken by the fair regarding concessions booths used by the Fair Concessions Group (i.e., the beer booth, the two new long concessions stands and the replacement of the long concessions stand which holds the milk shake booth scheduled for next year), to include the furnishing of all major equipments, being paid for in total by the fair, Mike suggested the Fair Commission address charging the Fair Concessions Group a reasonable fee for the use of those structures and equipments. His rationale was based on the fact the independent food vendors provide their structures and equipments, all at no cost to the fair. Yet they are charged the same percentage as the Fair Concessions Group. When asked what he thought would be a fair assessment, Mike stated he thought raising the percentage from 20% to 25% yearly for the Fair Concessions Group was appropriate. The Fair Commission took the idea under advisement and will make a decision at a later date after more discussion and investigation. Please refer to the August booklet for more specifics on all the correspondence.

The Fair Commission tabled until the October Fair Commission meeting the discussion/decision on the free ticket policy for Fair Commission members and the expansion of the PRCA Rodeo Committee.

No members of the Fair Concessions Group was present but the Commission addressed their money control policies during the fair. Mike stated he was told each cash box would have a picture of Carol Turk, the Treasurer of the Group, as well as a picture of her helper in each cash box. Each booth will be instructed not to turn over the cash boxes except to Carol or her helper by checking the photos first. Bruce stated he didn't think that was adequate and that the Concessions Group needed to implement a "two man" policy when collecting money from the various booths. Glen stated this issue would be discussed at greater length during the fair critique in September and at later meetings.

Mike discussed the fair parade, stating the contract with the Chamber to produce the parade expired this year. Mike said he felt the parade benefited the businesses in downtown Plains and that the Chamber should be running the parade and paying all the expenses and that the fair should not be subsidizing the effort. Mike stated he did not plan on renewing the parade production contract with the Chamber and that if the Chamber/businesses in downtown Plains wanted to continue the tradition of a parade during the fair, it would be their responsibility. The Fair Commission took no action on Mike's decision.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the revised Fair Expense Budget, stating the bottom line of the budget increased because the county had added a termination pay line item as well as an insurance line item to the budget.

The fair parking overflow parking land lease for this year's fair was provided to the Commission for their review.

The Fair Commission then discussed the Tough Enough To Wear Pink Friday night PRCA rodeo. Glen stated Roberta had collected an additional \$100 to award to the winners of the various events, but she still needed to collect a \$100 for three of the events. Bruce stated he and Polly would donate \$100 for the calf roping event, so only two events needed the additional cash prize for any cowboy who wins the event, if he's wearing pink.

During public comment, Meghan stated John Halpop is home and recovering and will be at the fair, but isn't strong enough to spend much time at the event. She also stated the wood chips would be delivered to the fairgrounds by the refuse department on the 27th. Glen stated he would be on the grounds during fair readiness day, Saturday, August 29th.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the fair's financial status as well as the August claims. Chris made a motion to pay the claims, seconded by Bruce and passed.

The Fair Commission then toured the grounds.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

**Sanders County Fair Commission
September 21, 2009 Minutes**

Fair Critique

Fair Commission Chairman Glen Magera called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion. Fair Commission Directors Chris McGuigan, Bruce Icenogge and Lynn Lanzoni were in attendance. Also attending were Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki, Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton and Fair Cashier Pat Bursell. Guests included Karen Dwyer and Meghan Phillippi representing 4-H, Jim Newman and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Ron Robinson and Clyde Terrell representing the Plains Lions Club, Larry Rivinius and Don Burrell representing the Fair Concessions Group, Randy Wood representing the Hot Springs Fire Department, Mike Bedick and Joshua Saunders representing Sanders County Search and Rescue, Undersheriff Rube Wrightsman, Dennis Bursell, Bobby Mayes and Rick Sanders.

There were no changes to the agenda.

The minutes of the August Fair Commission meeting were approved on a motion made by Lynn, seconded by Bruce and passed.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Please refer to the September 21st booklet for more information.

Mike and Pat then presented the Cashier's report to the Fair Commission. Pat included in her report a "lessons learned" paper which provides recommendations for changes in operations for the Cashier's office. New procedures will be implemented to handle the influx of parking fees. All parking passes will be numbered next year so the Cashier will know how many vehicles were parked on a given day and how much money should have been collected. Pat also told the Fair Commission that customers were pleasant, polite and easy to work with. Mike and Pat will work together to implement the recommended changes in Pat's "lessons learned" paper.

Glen then opened the meeting for input regarding the fair critique, stating the purpose of the critique was to make improvements for following fairs by correcting apparent discrepancies which occurred during this year's fair. He stated the meeting will be conducted civilly.

The Plains Lions Club stated they felt the demolition derby worked well, were apologetic for the damage done to one of the new bucking chutes and told the Fair Commission the club was acquiring "jersey" barriers, which, when used with the logs, should prevent any demo car from hitting the bucking chutes or timed event chute. Chris brought up the wreckers being parked near the main entrance with people standing on the wreckers to observe the demo. The Lions Club will look into the matter and correct any problems.

Larry discussed the problems encountered by the Concessions Group. He stated server's and ID checkers in the beer booth were drinking while working, but that was an internal Concessions Group problem and they would correct it before next year's fair. He mentioned the fire flare-ups in hamburger booth #1 but stated they occurred because the people cooking the burgers failed to

keep water in the drip trays. He stated that was an “education” process for the Concessions Group. He noted the collection of money from the booths went well with their new procedures and the upgrade to the concession’s storage area facilitated better monetary security. Larry also mentioned he was on the grounds early one morning and no one from Search & Rescue challenged him for being in the booths at that early time. Search & Rescue responded that they recognized him so no action was necessary. Don then asked why so many of the independent vendors were selling the same things the Concessions Group was. Mike responded the Fair Commission’s policy was no competition in main entree items. But when it comes to lemonade, water, coffee, Mike does not stop any vendor from selling those products but he does restrict Independent Food Vendors from selling the main Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola products. Mike then told the Concessions Group and the Search & Rescue that at next year’s fair, and for future fairs, their ATVs must have turf tires so that the lawns are not torn up by knobby tires. Ron Robinson asked if there was enough time between the heats of the demo derby to facilitate food purchasing from the Concessions Group and was told yes, all the food vendors are prepared for the demo crowds. Lynn asked if the Concessions Group had gone out for bids on their food supplies since COSTCO had made inquiries into providing food products. Larry said they had, that COSTCO could not deliver like Food Services of America or SYSCO, and that the Concessions Group went with the SYSCO since it could deliver the products and was the low bidder. Larry was asked when the food vendors quit selling and he stated the food booths stayed open until midnight and closed when the carnival closed.

Mike Bedick of Search & Rescue commented on the “wrist bands” used for the demolition derby, stating they didn’t have the manpower available to help the Shriners with that task. Mike Hashisaki stated he only asked for assistance this year because we’d never done it before and he wanted to make sure it worked as smoothly as possible. Glen commented that the Shriners really like the wrist bands and will have the personnel available in future years to handle their distribution. Mike Bedick stated there was a problem with the west bleachers entrance because people were not used to the entrance being there and people were trying to get to the bucking chute seating using that entrance. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki said he was aware of the problem, stating we needed to re-train people on how to get to the bucking chute seats. Mike went on to say he had been told people sitting in the bucking chute seats were upset there wasn’t a bathroom nearby for their use, noting the closest bathroom is the carnival bathroom facility which is 100 yards from the seating area and not a great distance to walk. Mike also noted complaints that it was too far to go to the beer booth for liquor and responded by saying he noted on Monday after the fair was over that it appeared all 760 cases of beer sold by the beer booth must have been consumed by the people sitting in the bucking chutes seats if empty beer cans were any indication. So the choice is to leave the bucking chutes as drinking, or make them non-drinking. Mike prefers leaving them a drinking section and letting the people walk to the beer booth to get their refreshments. They have to walk to the food booths if they want food and the distance is the same. Mike Bedick then brought up the subject of dogs on the midway, saying the problem doesn’t seem to go away and people walk right by the four foot by four foot signs saying No Dogs and don’t read them. The fair’s advertising will reiterate no dogs. Mike also said Search & Rescue were getting a lot of people coming in asking for them to make public address announcements for them. He sent those people to the fair office for help. Finally, he addressed items being thrown into the arena during events. Undersheriff Wrightsman said the policy has been to just escort the offender off the fairgrounds. But this year, during the derby,

the announcer continually announced that throwing items into the arena would not be allowed and that curtailed most of that type of action. Except, right at the end of the derby a person threw a beer can into the arena. Rube said they arrested him and charged him with disorderly conduct. Mike suggested the Fair Commission amend their policy to include a statement that if a person throws an object into the arena, or otherwise disrupts an event, that person be charged with disorderly conduct and hauled off to jail. The Fair Commission will consider amending their policy at a future meeting.

Randy Wood said the First Aid station ran as it has in previous fairs, bee stings, bruises, that kind of stuff. It was recommended the fair purchase a wheel chair to have on site as well as a “golf cart” type vehicle to transport people with disabilities.

4-H felt the fair went quite well but asked that the fair take the Extension Office phone number off the fair’s website since they were getting calls asking to purchase tickets, etc. The livestock portion of the fair went quite well and the sale was well attended though income was down somewhat. 4-H asked if more power could be provided in the 4-H midway and said one of the power pedestals is leaning over instead of standing upright. Mike then reviewed the agreement between the fair and 4-H concerning the use of the pavilion for their dining hall stating 4-H was responsible for the entire building, to include the bathrooms. Mike stated the fair’s cleaning crew would keep the bathrooms stocked with supplies and would be available if anything plugged up, but the cleanliness of the pavilion bathrooms was the responsibility of 4-H. Meghan said she was not aware of that but that in future years, the cleaning of the bathrooms will be part of 4-H’s routine.

Undersheriff Wrightsman said the fair was very good, very few problems and stated that it helped for the announcer to continually remind the crowd that no items were to be thrown into the arena. Rube said the stop light worked well with the only complaints coming from locals. Mike stated he and Gene would approach the County Commissioners to ask that the intersection be made a three way stop vice it’s current three way yield configuration. Mike also stated that Commissioner Carol Brooker didn’t like the diagonal parking along River Road because extended cab pick-ups extend into the driving lane. Mike and Carol thought the best approach would be to make both sides of River Road parallel parking, leave the handicap loading and unloading zone where it is and move the handicap parking near the pavilion. On the side of River Road which currently has diagonal parking, use six feet of the inner portion of the parking area as a public walkway with vehicles parallel parking on the outer edge of the walkway. This will keep people from walking in the driving lanes of River Road. Concrete delineators may have to be installed to mark the walk-ways boundary from the parallel parking area.

Glen then opened the meeting to public comment. It was noted the Fair Commission members were very visible at this year’s fair. That the water pressure problems need to be addressed before next year’s fair; perhaps drilling a deeper well near the current main well will ensure adequate water supplies for the fair. The Ranch Competition Horse Show was well received and people are thinking about a western Montana circuit with the finals to be held during the Sanders County fair. Randy Garrison did a very good job announcing the demolition derby.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the fair venue for 2010, stating the bull riding would

be Thursday night, PRCA rodeos on Friday and Saturday night and the demolition derby on Sunday afternoon. Additionally, Mike was going to see if the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribe would be willing to send over their drum corps and dancers to provide an “educational” setting on Saturday afternoon.

Finally, the Fair Commission was briefed on the construction projects for next year. The long concessions stand will be replaced and the Home Economics building remodeled. Chris asked that when the plans put together, other local contractors are allowed to bid on the projects.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the fair’s financial status and reviewed the September claims with the Fair Commission. On a motion by Lynn, seconded by Bruce, the Fair Commission agreed to pay the September claims.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

October 18th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Fair Office by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Chris McGuigan and Bruce Icenoggle. Director Roberta Smith attended via telephone. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton also were in attendance. Guests included County Commissioner Carol Brooker, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee.

No changes were made to the agenda.

On a motion by Roberta, seconded by Chris, the minutes of the September 20th meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Of note was the fact the PRCA is now offering membership in the Heartland Series rodeos to all rodeos with a purse of \$30,000.00 or less at no charge. The Sanders County Fair rodeo purse is \$24,000.00 so the fair's rodeo qualifies for the Heartland Series.

The Fair Commission was told members of the Concessions Group had removed the equipment they wanted from the long concessions stand. The stand is now ready to be removed. The fair has received the architect's drawings for the proposed replacement. Mike will contact Dan Miles and Melanie Shaw to get their input on any possible restrictions or other requirements needed to rebuild the structure.

The Fair Commission then discussed the expansion of the fair's PRCA rodeo committee. It was the general opinion of the Commission that the committee be expanded. Glen asked each member to consider the expansion and be prepared to nominate additional members at the November meeting, to include prominent women. He also wants additional ideas and names of corporate sponsors. Bruce Icenoggle then briefed the Commission on a person he met who represents roper.com, telling the Commission the rep was interested in furnishing silver buckles at his cost to the winners of the various rodeo venues. Chris stated the Commission should focus on corporate sponsors such as Conoco, Yellowstone Pipeline, Blackfoot, Avista, Rivette Mining, PPL Montana and Northwestern Energy since our local businesses are overwhelmed with requests to support various city and county programs.

Mike then asked Michele if there would be a problem with moving the Open Ranch Horse Show into the main arena next year since the rodeo slack was being moved to Friday morning. Michele saw no problem but Chris was concerned if we could adequately prepare the arena for the Saturday night rodeo, his primary concern being adequate water in the arena to hold down the dust. No decision was made on moving the Open Ranch Horse Show to the main arena.

Glen then addressed the issue of the fair's free ticket policy for Fair Commission members. After much discussion, the Commission agreed to limit tickets for each Commission member to four (4) tickets per event, excluding the demolition derby and carnival tickets.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the October Claims. On a motion by Bruce, seconded by Roberta, payment of the October claims was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Sanders County Fair Commission

November 16th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Bruce Icenogge, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton also were in attendance. Guests included State Representative Pat Ingraham, Randy Andrews, Pat Connolly, Bobby Mayes and Mike Woods.

The Clark Fork Valley Shrine Club was added to the agenda.

On a motion by Chris, seconded by Roberta, the minutes of the October 18th meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Bruce requested clarification on the letter Mike sent to Land Services concerning the site of the new concession stand. Please refer to the October 18th booklet for more information.

The first item on the agenda under business was the PRCA Rodeo Committee expansion proposal. After discussion, the Fair Commission decided to table any further discussion until their January 18th meeting.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the status of the long concession stand. Demolition of the building almost is complete. Mike met with Dan Miles and Melanie Shaw to discuss the proposed site for the replacement building. Several issues must be addressed by land services and the sanitarian and they will try to have information available at the Fair Commission's January 18th meeting.

The Fair Commission was briefed on the October 25th Motocross Race income.

The Shriner's Contract was discussed. Mike was under the impression their contract had expired with this year's fair; it hasn't. And Mike proposed raising the payment to the Shriner's from their current \$1750.00 fee to \$2000.00 since the money is donated directly to the Shrine Children Hospital foundation, one of the nation's most worthy charities. Mike informed the Shrine members present that the fair would continue using wrist bands instead of stamps for the demolition derby spectators.

The Fair Commission then discussed the 2010 fair and the program of events. Thursday evening's event will be Bull Riding; PRCA rodeo action will occur on Friday and Saturday nights with slack held Friday morning; and, the fair concludes with the Demolition Derby which will start one hour earlier at 5:00 p.m. Mike asked if the Open Class Ranch Horse Show could move from the horse arena to the main arena on Saturday morning to provide more seating for those people interested in observing the event. Chris said he'd check with Michele, but his main concern was the Ranch Horse Show concluding in time to prep the arena for Saturday night's PRCA rodeo. Mike stated he intended on changing the seating for the bull riding and rodeos from entirely reserved seating to reserved seating only in the center grandstand,

northwest grandstand and bucking chute seating. All other seats would be general admission. Reserved seating will cost \$15.00 per person for the grandstand seating and \$20.00 per person for the bucking chute seating. General admission seating will be \$10.00 for adults (19 years and older) and \$5.00 for children aged 8 through 18. This would permit a family of four, two adults and two children aged 8 through 18, to attend a rodeo event for \$30.00. Mike also wants to run a special next year when tickets go on sale where if you buy reserved seating for the two PRCA rodeo events and the Bull Riding event, a \$45.00 value, the fair will offer all three performances for \$30.00.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the financial status of the fair and the November Claims. On a motion by Roberta, seconded by Bruce, payment of the November claims was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____