

Sanders County Fair Commission
January 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Bruce Icenoggle and Chris McGuigan. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton also were in attendance. Guests included County Commissioner Carol Brooker, County Extension Agent John Halpop, Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, and Kenton Pies and Les Wood representing the Valley Arts Association.

4-H was added to the agenda.

On a motion by Chris, seconded by Bruce, the minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission.

Kenton Pies then reviewed a proposal by the Valley Arts Association to host a Cowboy Arts and Crafts festival on the fairgrounds July 30th, July 31st and August 1st. They plan on having a juried western art show exhibiting works by painters, printmakers, illustrators, sculptors as well as participation from ceramists, jewelers, knife makers, stained-glass artisans, glass blowers, woodworkers, leather crafters and metal crafters.

To add to the western flavor of the event, they want to have cowboy skills demonstrations such as rope skills, leather craft, horseshoeing, and blacksmithing. They'll include the Heritage Gunfighters, and old west melodrama skit, cowboy music and poetry reading.

Les Woods told the Fair Commission they were attempting to raise "seed" money for their attempt at raising funds for a cultural center. Les went into detail of what they wanted the cultural center to become and requested the Commission's help in raising money.

Bruce wanted to know which parts of the fairgrounds they wanted to use and was told it would be the main midway, several concession booths, one or two of the exhibit barns, the vendors midway and the 4-H midway and showers for those artisans who would be camping on the fairgrounds during the event.

Mike stated they would be required to have their own security; that there could be no amplified sound after midnight; that there would be a High Country Motocross Association Motocross race on Sunday, August 31st with about 900 motorcycles present; and, asked if they planned on charging an admission fee. No admission charge is contemplated, but they are considering a parking fee.

Glen asked if they were working with the Sanders County Arts Council on this project and was told yes. Bruce then asked if they'd contacted the Montana Cowboy Artists Association, recommending that they do.

Kenton and Les then asked what the Fair Commission would charge them for the event. The Commission asked Mike what he thought should be charged. Mike responded that the fair should receive all income derived from campers/RVs/etc. using the fairgrounds and that the group should be charged \$25 per day per food booth used, just like the Concessions Group is charged during the fair. Additionally, if any buildings are used, they pay the non-profit rate for the building. Glen then stated they also would have to pay, in advance, a refundable grounds and buildings cleaning fee - \$250 for each building used and \$250 for the grounds.

They also were told they'd need insurance for the event, in the amount of \$1,000,000 aggregate, naming the Sanders County Fair and Sanders County as additional insureds.

The Commission said Mike would meet with them to complete the contract as discussed. Kenton and Les thanked the Commission for their time.

The expansion of the PRCA Rodeo Committee was again discussed. Glen mentioned the problems Missoula is experiencing, stating he wants none of that here. After considerable discussion, the Commission decided to meet with interested local people at Minnie's Café in Thompson Falls on Monday, February 8th at 1:00 p.m. Lunch is on Glen.

Mike reviewed with the Commission the "revamping" of arena events for this year's fair, stating the bull riding would be on Thursday evening, PRCA rodeo action on Friday and Saturday night with the fair ending with the Demolition Derby on Sunday evening. Mike plans on offering a three for two package to encourage more people to attend the rodeo events. If you buy tickets for two of the events at full price - \$15.00 per seat - the fair will provide the third event at no charge. For example, you purchase reserved tickets for both rodeos and end up with a free ticket to the bull riding. Additionally, Mike intends to offer general admission seating for the rodeo events. Only the center grandstand, northwest grandstand and bucking chutes will be reserved seating for those events. Everything else will be general admission seating with no seat assignments. Adults aged 19 and over could purchase a general admission ticket for \$10, teenagers 11 through 18 could buy a general admission ticket for \$5 and children 9 and under are free. This would allow a family of six, two adults, two teenagers and two children, to attend the rodeo of their choice for \$30.00. This could get more people to attend the rodeos.

Mike reviewed a proposed "request for quote" to be placed in the official county newspaper referencing the replacement of the long concession stand. The request will run for two weeks and stipulates the requirements associated with the construction project.

The Fair Commission reviewed the appropriations request Mike submitted to Senator Max Baucus. The request covered funds for replacing the pavilion with a larger structure.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the 4-H midway power - specifically the various outlets placed on poles throughout the midway. All of those outlets have had the covers removed from the fixture. Those fixtures will be replaced this summer to, once again, protect the power outlets from the elements. If any of the covers are removed from the new units, Mike will request that power no longer be supplied to the 4-H midway for campers.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

February 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Bruce Icenogge and Chris McGuigan. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton also were in attendance. Guests included State Representative Pat Ingraham (HD-13), County Extension Agent Meghan Phillippi, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee.

There were no changes to the agenda.

On a motion by Bruce, seconded by Chris, the minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission.

Glen addressed the Rodeo Committee Expansion meeting held in Thompson Falls on February 8th. Glen, Bruce, Mike, Wade Rehbein and Glen Cummins attended. It was a very successful session with sponsorships, additional help during the fair, ticket prices and packages, and other items discussed.

The issue of the Fair Theme was tabled until the March meeting.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on his discussions with the Plains/Paradise Chamber of Commerce concerning the fair parade. Mike stated the Chamber would continue to organize and run the parade, and make payment in chamber scrip to the winners, if the fair would continue to furnish \$500.00 to the Chamber to offset the costs associated with the parade. The Fair Commission agreed with the Chamber's proposal.

Mike then briefed the proposed 2010/2011 budget to the Fair Commission and was instructed to arrange time on the County Commissioners' schedule to present the proposed budget to them.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

March 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Bruce Icenogge, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki also was in attendance. Guests included County Commissioners Carol Brooker and Tony Cox, County Extension Agent John Halpop, Ron Robinson and Clyde Terrell representing the Plains Lions Club, Rick Sanders and Bobby Mayes.

There were no changes to the agenda.

On a motion by Bruce, seconded by Roberta, the minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission.

Rick Sanders addressed the Fair Commission explaining he wanted to promote a spring demolition derby. Much discussion ensued with the Fair Commission and Fair Manager laying out the minimal requirements Rick would need to meet in order to lease the fairgrounds for such an event.

The Fair Commission selected "County Fair with a western flair" as this year's fair theme.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the status of the long concession stand, stating the major demolition/salvage had been completed and the fair would place the approximately 500 cinder blocks which made up the stand's foundation in the upcoming county auction.

Mike then briefed the Commission on the Fair's financial status sheet which he had previously presented to the Board of County Commissioners.

The Commission then addressed the proposed 2010-2011 budget after instructing Mike to make cuts to the budget to downsize the expenditures. Mike stated he'd "slaughtered" some sacred cows in his hatchet job, but everything was open to negotiations. He just wanted the Fair Commission to realize cuts could be made everywhere except in personal services. The Commission reviewed the cuts and decided they would abstain from making any budgetary decisions until after they had received the construction quotes for the replacement long concession stand. Then they would adjust the budget as appropriate and schedule a time with the Board of County Commissioners to present the 2010-2011 budget to them.

There was no public comment.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

April 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Directors in attendance included Bruce Icenogge, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith. Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton also were in attendance. Guests included County Commissioners Carol Brooker, County Extension Agent Meghan Phillippi, Danielle Switalski of the Valley Press, Ken Matthiesen and Dwight Schwappe of the Plains Lions Club and Rick Sanders.

There were no changes to the agenda.

On a motion by Roberta, seconded by Chris, the minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission.

The Fair Commission proceeded to open the three quotes for the construction of a new concession stand. Quotes received were \$70,358 from Van Dorothy Construction, \$74,534 from Correct Construction and \$82,000 from Frame to Finish Construction. The Fair Commission took the quotes under advisement.

Rick Sanders addressed the Fair Commission stating the proposed fee for use of the fairgrounds for the proposed spring demolition derby was excessive. The Fair Commission explained they required signed contracts to ensure the event would be managed professionally. Glen interjected that he wanted Rick to develop a solid, detailed list of what he is planning to do and then put that list in order of how you are going to run the derby. Lynn wanted to know who he was going to contract with and what amount those individuals would be paid. Much discussion ensued with the Fair Commission laying out the minimal requirements Rick would need to meet in order to lease the fairgrounds for such an event. Bruce stated we are asking him to do what we have to do to produce the fair's derby.

Rick then addressed the fair demolition derby, complaining about the limited area for working on demolition cars as well as the new rules issued by the Lions Club. He was informed that the rules were re-written so local people could participate in the derby again since it's becoming a "closed" event where local individuals can't participate just for the fun of it. The Lions Club members present asked Rick to attend the next Plains Lions Club meeting to discuss the rules with the club since they produced the derby. Rick accepted the invitation.

Roberta then briefed the Fair Commission on a proposal to use draft horses and a wagon to promote the "tough enough to wear pink" rodeo, as well as bringing this year's Community Service Award winners into the arena to receive their recognition during Saturday night's PRCA rodeo. Roberta will follow-up with the details concerning her proposal.

Bruce briefed the Fair Commission on his interaction with Roper, stating it appears they are going to turn the issue of financing over to the local vendor, Mountain West Clothing. Bruce will continue to work with Roper (Colorado headquarters) to see if he can get corporate monies to help sponsor the rodeo portion of the fair.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the financial results of the April 11th Motocross Races and stated he had no information, as yet, on the county's surplus equipment auction held on Saturday, April 17th. He also briefed the Commission on the application forms for this year's PRCA Rodeo and WPRA barrel racing event.

The Fair Commission then discussed the long concessions stand construction as well as other construction requirements for the 2010/2011 budgetary year. Mike stated that in a conversation that he had with the Board of County Commissioners, that Commissioner Brooker stated the fair should look at paying off its 2002 INTERCAP loan early, then entering into another loan agreement with the Montana Board of Investments in order to accomplish the construction projects for this coming fiscal year. There was general consensus this was the route the fair should take.

During public comment, Meghan stated 4-H was developing a "code of conduct" for those 4-H members/families camping on the fairgrounds during the annual county fair.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

May 17, 2010 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Fair Commission directors Bruce Icenoggle, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith were present. Also attending were Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton. Others in attendance 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, and Rick Sanders and his son A.J.

There were no changes made to the agenda.

The minutes of the Fair Commission's April 19th meeting were approved on a motion by Roberta, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Please refer to the May 17th booklet for details.

Rick Sanders addressed the Fair Commission stating the requirements levied on him relative to producing a spring demolition derby are onerous and need to be relaxed. After much discussion, the Fair Commission stated the requirements levied on Rick are no different than those requirements levied for the conduct of the fair's demolition derby. Rick stated he wanted to use dirt berms rather than logs to protect the arena since he feels the berm is safer than logs. None of the Fair Commission members wanted the arena torn-up to create dirt berms. Additional comments were made about insurance requirements, that Rick's plan and rules are much safer than those used by the Plains Lions Club, that the Motocross is treated differently than he is for the proposed derby. Lynn stated that Rick was talking about multiple subjects, the fair derby, the motocross requirements and his proposed derby and to please keep his comments on his proposal. Rick then provided the Commission with a list of items he thought were necessary to produce a successful derby. The Fair Commission decided to not take further action on Rick's proposal until they had time to review his list.

Roberta briefed the Fair Commission on John Hanson and his draft horses. John will be here at the fair with his horses and one carriage. His only requirement is to be reimbursed for his gas money. The plan is for several cancer survivors to be brought into the arena during Friday night's "Tough Enough To Wear Pink" PRCA rodeo. The same carriage will be used to bring Dixie and Neal Carmen into the arena on Saturday night when the Fair Commission presents them with the 2010 Community Service Award.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the financial results of the County Auction as well as the May motocross races. He then continued to delineate what projects were being funded under the INTERCAP Loan application. Finally, he briefed the Fair Commission on the proposal for a change in ticketing venue. The fair will use a "web-based" system where patrons can go on-line, pick the event they want tickets for, then select their reserved seating. Once they've paid for their seats, they can print out their tickets to the event using their home computer and printer. The same system will be used in the office for ticket pre-sales and the ticket office during the fair. Mike will brief the Fair Commission on the entire concept once it's finalized.

The 2010-2011 Sanders County Fair project income and projected expense budget was briefed to the Fair Commission. Mike was instructed to reserve time on the County Commissioner's schedule to brief them on the fair's proposed 2010-2011 budget.

During public comment, Meghan stated the 4-H had adopted the "barn patrol rules" she briefed the Fair Commission on previously. And if someone fails to follow the rules, that person will be required to come to the office and pay for a week's worth of camping during the fair. Another subject discussed during the public comment session was SCCFF and bringing them back on the fairgrounds during the fair. The Commission instructed that Mike reserve space for a SCCFF booth. Finally, the idea of a "Calcutta" during the main event heat of the demolition derby was discussed. The Commission will ask the Plains Lions Club to host the Calcutta.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the fair's financial status and the May claims. The claims were approved for payment on a motion made by Lynn, seconded by Roberta and passed.

Mike read a letter from the Montana Department of Agriculture regarding last year's problems regarding the fairgrounds lawns and the chemicals applied to control the weeds. Because the property is public, not private, the chemicals had to be applied by a licensed applicator. Additionally, adequate records should have been kept regarding amount of chemicals used, application procedures and protective clothing worn. Because of a failure to follow appropriate guidelines, Sanders County, as the employer of record, was being fined \$400.00 for the mistakes. The Fair Commission asked Mike to present that letter to County Commissioner Gail Patton, a voting member of the County's Weed Board, and request that the Weed Board pay the fine as well as, in the future, have the county's weed shop do all necessary weed spraying on the county's fairgrounds in a timely manner.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

June 21, 2010 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera. Fair Commission directors Bruce Icenoggle was in attendance and director Roberta Smith arrived at 7:30 p.m. Also attending were Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton. Others in attendance included State Representative Pat Ingraham, County Commissioner Carol Brooker, County Extension Agent John Halpop, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council, Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Larry Rivinius and Don Burrell representing the Fair Concessions Group, John and Kate Hanson of Hanson's Carriage Company, Wade Rehbein, Bobby Mayes and Rick Sanders.

Hanson's Carriages and the Fair Concessions Group were added to the agenda. Members of the County Park Board did not attend the meeting were removed from the agenda. Glen Magera, Chairman, also removed the Spring Demolition Derby from the agenda because he wanted a full board present for any decisions concerning the proposed spring derby.

The minutes of the Fair Commission's May 17th meeting were approved on a motion by Roberta, seconded by Bruce and passed.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Please refer to the June 21st booklet for details.

John Hanson introduced he and his wife to the Fair Commission and then described the various horse-drawn carriages available for use by the fair. The Commission picked the "Studebaker" carriage. A stall in the Open Class Beef Barn will be used to house the two Clydesdales and the carriage will be stored outside nearby. The carriage will be used during the Friday night PRCA rodeo to present cancer survivors to the audience in attendance since the Friday night rodeo is our "tough enough to wear pink" rodeo. On Saturday, our community service award winners will ride in the carriage during the fair parade in downtown Plains as the fair's grand marshals. Then Saturday night, the carriage will be used to bring Neal and Dixie Carmen into the arena immediately prior to the bull riding to receive their award.

Glen told John he could put any type of advertisements on his carriage he so desired. The Fair Manager asked if one of those signs would be "Magera for Commissioner?" The Fair Manager shouldn't have asked that question; he bad!

The Fair Concessions Groups representatives asked about the new concessions stand, especially if there would be enough electricity available. Mike explained there would be 400 amps of power available and if the Group didn't plug in four or more coffee pots at the same time, there should be adequate power for everything. Mike told them what equipment would be supplied by the Fair – hand washing sinks, three bay sinks, and prep tables in four of the booths. All that equipment will be stainless steel. Two on-demand propane-fired water heaters will provide adequate hot water for the six booths. The Concessions Group will be responsible for any other equipment they need in the booths.

Larry asked if the fair was going to provide a grey water drain for his "coffee" booth; Mike stated he'd ask Bobby Mayes if he could extend the grey water line to the area where Larry's booth is usually located.

Don asked if the fair was going to install an electric deep fat fryer in one of the booths and was told no. He stated the gas-fired fryer which was removed from the old concession stand was extremely dangerous and should be replaced. Mike recommended the Concessions Group purchase a new gas-fired deep fat fryer and the fair would have it installed. Don then asked about the cooler which sat on the deck behind the old concessions stand, asking if it could be placed behind the new concessions booth. Mike stated there was going to be a four foot wide concrete sidewalk behind the booths and the cooler could be placed on that sidewalk.

Parking for the Concessions Group personnel was then discussed and Mike stated he had saved the three reserved parking signs and would have them mounted on the fence to the downriver side of the Concessions Group refrigeration truck. Additionally, Mike stated there would be a gate in the chain link fence emplaced around the new concessions building allowing access for our grounds cleaning crew.

Wade Rehbein then addressed the Fair Commission stating his business was willing to add \$3000.00 to the bull riding purse; the purse would rise from \$6,000.00 to \$9,000.00 with that addition. He also wanted to have signage in the arena and be allowed to drive various models of Ford trucks in the arena prior to bull riding and during any breaks in the action. He will be "shooting" tee shirts into the grandstands from the pick-ups as an advertising ploy. Wade said he'd talked to Batt Lulack about joining in his effort to enhance the bull riding; he said Batt was interested and Wade would follow-up on his initial conversation. He hopes Block Mountain Stone will join with Rehbein Ford in sponsoring the bull riding.

Wade stated he has 11 jersey barriers for use by the fair during the demolition derby to protect the Preifert Rodeo equipments (the bucking chutes and timed event chute).

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the August 7th date of the performance of the Glen Miller Orchestra. The Sanders County Arts Council, the Sanders County Fair and Quinns are sponsoring the event. Tickets for the event are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the financial results of the June 19th motocross races; that race was originally scheduled for Kalispell but was cancelled and rescheduled for Plains. The fair made \$690.00 on the event.

Mike then addressed the INTERCAP loan application and the status of the loan, stating the Board of Investments had a backlog of loan applications but that the fair's application should be reviewed and the money available by the last week in June.

During public comment, Michele stated there would be no horse show in July and Mike stated the Arts Show proposed by Kenton Pies also was canceled but the entertainment planned for the pavilion on July 31st during that proposed event was still a go. John stated there would be 46 pigs, 9 lambs, 14 steers and 32 horses entered by 4-H in this year's fair. Mike asked 4-H to look into producing YouTube videos of the fair so that those videos could be posted on the fair's website. He suggested things like the 4-H showmanship competition, parts of the market stock sale, maybe some shots of the rodeos and bull riding, the demolition derby and an overall video of what the fairgrounds looks like during the fair. 4-H will look into that proposal as a project. John stated 4-H had a new camping coordinator for the fair, Kevin Watson of the Heron 4-H club.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the fair's financial status and the June claims. The claims were approved for payment on a motion made by Roberta, seconded by Bruce and passed.

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

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission
August 16th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera with Fair Commission Directors Bruce Icenoggle, Lynn Lanzoni, Chris McGuigan and Roberta Smith present. Also present were Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton. Guests included John Halpop and Meghan Phillippi, County Extension Agents, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council, Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Steve and Sarah Pieper, Gary Revier, and AJ, Rick and Holly Sanders.

No changes were made to the agenda.

Roberta made a motion to approve the July Fair Commission meeting minutes, seconded by Chris and passed.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Please refer to the August 16th booklet for details.

The new by-laws for the Fair Commission were discussed. On a motion by Bruce and seconded by Roberta, the by-laws were adopted. Mike will furnish a copy to the Board of County Commissioners.

As a result of the Glen Miller Orchestra performance when motorized watercraft were restricted from access to the boat launch area and motorcycles were restricted from using the motocross track, it was recommended a change be made to the policy manual concerning restricted use of the fairgrounds' beach area. The proposal was to post the closure notice at the main entrance to the area at least two days in advance and, if funding permitted, to post the closure in both county newspapers the week prior to the closure. After discussion, to include audience participation, Lynn suggested that the funding for the advertising announcing the restricted access to the area be provided by the event sponsor. Roberta made a motion accept the entire proposal - announce the closure at the main entrance and advertise the closure in both county newspapers with the event sponsor paying for the advertising, seconded by Lynn and passed. Gary Revier then stated he did not think the Fair Commission could restrict access to the boat launch facility. Bruce made a motion to table the issues until the County Attorney could review the issue, seconded by Roberta and passed. Mike was instructed to meet with the county attorney to discuss the issue to ensure the Fair Commission was within its rights as manager of the fairgrounds to restrict access to the area during special events.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the Board of County Commissioners concerns about children diving off of the bridge into the river. They asked Mike to get a bid on the cost of a chain link fence which would run from the end of the guard rail on the bridge to the roadway entrance leading to the pavilion. Chris stated he felt it was an excellent idea because it was definitely a safety issue relative to the children and a liability issue for the county.

Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the rumors of a drivers boycott of this year's demolition derby and suggested the Fair Commission add \$1500.00 to the purse the Plains Lions Club awards. Mike felt this would encourage more drivers to attend the event. The Fair Commission agreed to the added money. Mike then addressed the 2011 Demolition Derby, stating since it would be the fair's 100th anniversary, the Fair Commission should match the Plains Lions Club added money of \$3,000.00. However, Mike felt the Fair Commission should add a stipulation that the winner, to be eligible for the added \$3000.00 must have participated in this year's demolition derby, otherwise he would only be eligible for the \$3,000.00 sponsored by the Plains Lions Club. The Fair Commission concurred in Mike's proposal. Lynn made a motion, seconded by Roberta to provide an additional \$1500.00 prize money for this year's derby and an additional \$3000.00 for next year's demolition derby. Motion carried.

The Fair Commission questioned if everything was being done to encourage drivers to participate. Mike stated the Plains Lions Club was calling all of the former drivers and would be informing them of the added money for this year's derby. Additionally, all drivers on the Club's mailing list will be mailed the information too.

Mike gave the Fair Commission an update on the construction and then asked what duties the Fair Commission members would like to assume during the fair. During that discussion, feed for the rodeo stock was discussed as was additional panels for the Open Ranch Horse Show which was moved from the main arena to the horse arena due to time constraints prior to the PRCA Saturday night rodeo. Chris stated he'd need about 4 tons of hay for the open ranch show and the rodeo needs 8 tons as well as a ton and one half of oats. Panels are available from Western Ranch Supply for the Open Ranch Horse Show.

During public comment, 4-H had nothing to add, saying they felt all preparations were made for this year's fair.

Rick Sanders presented the Fair Commission with his proposed "draft" contract for producing a spring demolition derby on the fairgrounds. Bruce stated he didn't want to see another demolition derby occur as it may unfavorably impact the fair's demolition derby. The Fair Commission tabled any further discussion on Sanders' proposal until their October meeting.

Mike then briefed the Fair Commission on the fair's financial status as well as the August claims. Lynn moved to approve the August claims, seconded by Bruce and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission
September 20th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera with Fair Commission Directors Bruce Icenogge, Lynn Lanzoni and Roberta Smith present. Also present were Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki and Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton. Guests included Tony Cox, Sanders County Commissioner, Pat Bursell, Sanders County Fair Cashier, John Halpop, County Extension Agent, Jim Newman and Michele McGuigan representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, Don Burrell representing the Sanders County Fair Concessions Group, Jim Sinclair representing the Sanders County Fair Parking Crew, Clyde Terrell, Dwight Schwappe and Ken Matthiesen representing the Plains Lions Club, Rick Sanders and Gina Noirot.

No changes were made to the agenda.

Bruce made a motion to approve the August Fair Commission meeting minutes, seconded by Roberta and passed.

Mike reviewed the correspondence with the Fair Commission. Please refer to the August 16th booklet for details.

Mike and Pat Bursell presented the 2010 Fair Cashier's Report relative to the just completed fair.

The Fair Commission then proceeded into a critique of the fair.

The Demolition Derby was discussed, to include the letters the Fair Commission had received from various individuals commenting on the derby. Lynn asked that Mike ensure the Plains Lions Club receives a copy of all fair correspondence concerning the demolition derby. Mike stated he had a letter prepared for the Fair Commission to release regarding the demolition derby. After reading the letter to the Commission and audience, Bruce made a motion, seconded by Roberta, that the letter as prepared by Mike be sent out to the two county newspapers as well as the Lake County Leader. Lynn suggested that the letter be a joint letter and suggested that the Plains Lions Club be co-signers of the letter. The Lions Club members present agreed to that suggestion and the letter will be sent out as a joint letter by both the Sanders County Fair Commission and the Plains Lions Club. (Note: Mike has posted the joint letter on the home page of the fair's website and on the facebook page developed by an unknown person entitled "Sanders County Fair.")

The Thursday night PRCA bull riding event was reviewed and critiqued. It was noted that 15 of the world's top bull riders participated in the event and that it appears the event will no longer be plagued by a lack of riders. However, something extra will have to be added to the event to stretch it to two hours. The Fair Commission agreed to two sets of "mutton busting" to break up the bull riding and add additional entertainment to the venue. Mike will pursue the mutton busting with Powder River Rodeo.

The two PRCA rodeo performances were then reviewed with Mike noting we had record crowds at both events, attributing the attendance to the general admission policy of \$10 per adult and \$5 for teenagers with children 10 and under free when accompanied by

an adult. However, there was confusion as to what was general admission and what was reserved seating. That will be rectified by signage next year. Also, when a person buys a general admission seat, it will not designate a specific seat assignment. It will only stipulate if the general admission seat is non-drinking or drinking.

And that discussion led to the critique on the on-line ticketing program. It was a disaster at every turn, cumulating with the discovery Thursday evening that the Ticket Leap tickets printed by the fair would not scan. The solution was to not scan any tickets but mark them as used by using a dark mark-a-lot and drawing a line through the ticket. Of course, that led to tickets being duplicated for the demolition derby and numerous people watched the demolition derby for free. The solution: next year, Mike will submit a request for proposals to on-line ticketing firms which will eliminate the problems which occurred this year. Additionally, the fair will purchase three thermal printers for tickets with stubs as well as additional Sony Vaio laptops for use when scanning the tickets for event entry. Mike will contact Blackfoot Telecommunications about running Ethernet connections to the northwest gate, the office gate, the center gate and the beer garden gate so that the laptops can be plugged directly into the internet rather than having to depend on the fair's WiFi system for connectivity. The only gate which will not have it's hardwired port will be the west bleachers. Power outlets will be installed at each gate so that the laptops will not have to depend on their batteries. On line seating charts will reflect all reserved seating for the demolition derby and only the center and northwest grandstands and bucking chutes as reserved seating for the three rodeo events. And the general admission tickets will not be "seat assignment specific" but will just indicate whether the seating is in non-drinking or drinking sections.

Parking was the next issue discussed. Jim Sinclair stated that there were no major problems except for handicap parking and the traffic-flow disruption coming from and going to the field we lease from Sonya White. The handicap parking problem will be worked extensively prior to next year's fair. One suggestion was to make the handicap parking alongside the county road (River Road) parallel parking vice diagonal parking and using the extra space as a designated walkway so that fair patrons would not be walking in the traffic lanes. That suggestion will be accomplished early next spring. And Mike will meet with the County Commissioners to see if there's a way, money/resources permitting, for the pavilion parking lot to be paved with the spaces closest to the fair marked for handicap parking. The final parking issue was the huge horse trailers and the amount of space they consume. It was decided that those horse trailers and the rigs pulling them would be parked in the fair's acreage south of River Road West. A gate will be installed directly across the road from the demolition derby entry gate so that horses can be led directly from their parking area to the arena. That should eliminate the need for overflow parking on Friday of the fair.

4-H stated the fair went quite smoothly with no camping problems. They asked if the Fair Commission would consider some method of isolating the 4-H midway and bathrooms from the rest of the fair starting at around 4:00 p.m. on Sunday of the fair. Additionally, the cleaning crew would like the men's and women's showers locked prior to the demolition derby too. This will prevent some people from using the showers as a bathroom. Another subject the 4-H livestock committee would like to address is the fact that the pigs are digging out their pens and that perhaps, if money is available, the 4-H

could install cement floors in the pig pens. There was some concern that communicable diseases might remain if the pens were concrete lined but 4-H assured the Fair Commission that each pen would be sanitized immediately prior to the fair to ensure the pens were clean and disease free. 4-H then asked that the open class livestock judging be scheduled to run immediately following the 4-H livestock judging. Mike asked if the Clydesdales or Longhorns caused any problems and Jim Newman said no, that they were a great draw to get people to look through the barns at all the livestock projects. Roberta asked if the open class beef barn interior could be painted white so that the building is not so dark. Mike asked if all the lights were working and suggested that maybe the barn should be rewired for better lighting. Jim noted there were no electrical light fixtures on the outside aisle of the sheep/pig barn. That could be added to the electrical upgrade.

Don Burrell stated the new concessions stands were nice and the alleyway provided between the stand and carnival bathroom made it much easier for the food booths to be serviced. Mike asked for any comments on how to improve three of the new booths, stating he didn't want any suggestions from the coke, pepsi or milkshake booths as they appeared to work without any problems. Don stated the coffee booth continues to trip circuit breakers and asked if those breakers could be replaced before next year's fair with new breakers. Additionally, Don stated too many people were selling the same products. Mike asked what and he said water, lemonade, coffee and tea. Mike stated the Fair Commission's policy is no competition on main entrée items to include coke and pepsi products which were the Concessions Group. However, everything else could be sold by anyone. Mike told Don the Concessions Group contract was up this year and that the group would need to meet with the Fair Commission to establish a new contract. Don asked how soon and was told the contract should be in place by May 1st. Mike then suggested the Group raise its prices using beer as an example. A can of beer sells for \$2.50 in town but only \$2.00 here. It should be equal to or higher than the price downtown. Mike stated he desired the price increase so that the fair would realize more money from the Concessions Group to offset the cost of building the new concessions stand which is used only by the Concessions Group. Glen then stated the Group needs to look at leaner hamburgers as the fat content is too high in the current buy and it results in numerous grease fires. Glen felt that 85% lean would do and that those burgers could be bought locally either in Sanders or Lake counties. It was suggested that the former pepsi booth could be converted to a booth which sold "broasted" chicken. Mike stated Costco had, once again, contacted him about furnishing all the food products for the fair and asked that the Concessions Group look into including Costco in their bidding process. Glen asked when the Concessions Group meeting was and Don said October. Glen asked to be invited to attend.

The Plains Lions Club stated there were no problems with the wreckers this year and thanked the Fair Commission for installing the car inspection station. It was suggested the Ford mechanics be sent thank you cards for inspecting the demolition cars. The members noted Ron Robinson is planning on getting new logs to replace the ones which are deteriorating. Those new logs need to rest on a structure above ground so that dry rot doesn't set in. Mike suggested to Jack that the county bring back the bridge planking that Mike had them haul away and build a log deck upon which to store the logs. Jack said he'd take that idea to the road foreman. Jack then stated the fair went

quite well for the Plains District road crew with no major problems. Jack noted the idea for the sidewalk between River Road and the fair chain link fence, saying it would save a life some day and was worth the expense. Mike suggested street lights for River Road which would only be used during the fair; he was instructed to contact NorthWestern Energy about street lights. Jack stated we needed to paint the crosswalks per highway rules – two broad white lines which cross perpendicular to the flow of traffic – and one needs to be painted at the crossing from Sonya White’s field and the second from the field the fair owns south of the fairgrounds across River Road West to the demolition derby entry gate. Flashing yellow lights warning of the pedestrian crossings would be a good safety addition as well.

Michele McGuigan commented that the barrel racing was running too fast going out the arena gate. It was decided to close the gate between each contestant and force them to stop before the main gate is opened allowing them to exit and the next contestant to enter. The new exterior lighting around the arena helped tremendously as did the new lighting for the food court midway and the pavilion parking lot.

Mike then stated the five cottonwood trees located within the pavilion parking lot would be removed this fall due to the danger they pose. They’re almost rotted entirely through and will start becoming a liability for the county. Mike’s contacted Jim Sinclair about removing the trees and his group will. County Commissioner Tony Cox asked about replacing the trees. Mike stated he’s ordered 24 hybrid cotton-less cottonwood trees from Lynch Creek Nursery. They’ll be planted next spring around the perimeter of the parking lot and a drip line installed to ensure they get adequate water until their root systems develop. Those hybrids will be the same as those planted in the 4-H and carnival midways so within six years, there will be sixty foot tall trees surrounding the parking lot.

At the conclusion of the fair critique, Mike briefed the Fair Commission on the fair’s cash balance and then proceeded to brief the Commission on the September claims. Roberta made a motion, seconded by Lynn, to pay the September claims; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Sanders County Fair Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the pavilion by Chairman Glen Magera with Directors Chris McGuigan, Bruce Icenogge and Roberta Smith in attendance. Also attending was Fair Manager Mike Hashisaki; Fair Secretary Ruth Hamilton arrived later. Guests included Sanders County Commission Carol Brooker, Sanders County Attorney Coleen Magera, Shannone Hart and Sandi Tyler representing Missoula County's Chicks n Chaps organization, County Extension Agent John Halpop, Karen Dwyer representing the 4-H Council, Carrie Guenzler representing the 4-H Livestock Committee, and Jim Newman.

Since the Fair Manager failed to place Chicks n Chaps on the agenda, they were added to the meeting's agenda.

The minutes of the Fair Commission's October meeting were approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Roberta and passed.

Correspondence was reviewed by the Fair Commission. Please refer to the November booklet for specifics.

Coleen Magera introduced Shannone and Staci for their presentation on Chicks n Chaps, a non-profit organization which raises funds and awareness to combat breast cancer. The two women briefed the Fair Commission on what they've done in Missoula as well as at the fair's in Helena, Great Falls and Kalispell to promote breast cancer awareness. Specifically, they assist a local organization host a day-long session which educates local women on the "ins and outs" of professional rodeo. They have the ladies who attend the function meet with the participating cowboys and cowgirls, the stock contractor and his help, including bull fighters and specialty acts, and the rodeo announcer and other support personnel. Food and beverages are provided to the women participating in the day-long event, with the day ending with attendance at the evening PRCA rodeo performance. The event charges \$50 per woman to attend and learn about professional rodeo. That money is then turned over as a Tough Enough To Wear Pink donation for Montana which is then forwarded to the local group responsible for distributing funds to cancer patients and their families. As discussed, Chicks n Chaps is a Women's Only Rodeo Clinic which raises money for Tough Enough to Wear Pink of Montana as well as raising awareness for the fight against breast cancer and the many lives the disease affects every day. The day-long event teaches women about the 7 events of professional rodeo where the women are able to be in the rodeo arena with top cowboys from around the state and nation. Complete with roping and riding stations, the

women rub elbows with the cowboys while learning about saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, bull riding, calf roping, team roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing. Food and beverages are provided to the women and the day-long event concludes with a raffle and a live auction of a custom Montana Silversmiths belt buckle, followed by the rodeo performance.

In the ensuing discussion, it was suggested the Fair Commission work with members of the Cancer Network of Sanders County to pursue this event. Mike stated that bucking chute seating would be provided, at no charge, for the event for the Friday night PRCA rodeo, the Fair's Tough Enough to Wear Pink rodeo. Food could be catered by the Butcher's Nook for feeding the ladies who attend the event and doctors from the local hospital could be present to give a presentation on breast cancer screening and other medical activities related to breast cancer. After much discussion, Bruce made a motion to proceed with the Chicks n Chaps program for this year's fair, seconded by Roberta and passed.

Since Rick Sanders was not present, the discussion about the spring demolition derby was tabled until the January meeting.

Mike reviewed with the Fair Commission the results of the meeting Glen and he had with the Board of County Commissioners concerning the cut of tax support for the fair from four mils to three mils. Mike stated that following the discussion of the impact that the loss of one mil would have on the bottom line of the fair budget, the Board of County Commissioners decided that they would ensure the fair budget ended the fiscal year in the black.

Mike reminded everyone present that the Christmas Lighting Ceremony was scheduled for Sunday, November 22nd at 6 p.m. with free chili dogs, hot chocolate and cake available in the pavilion with Christmas music provided by a band from Polson, the same group we had last year. Santa will arrive at 6:30 p.m. on a sleigh provided by Warren Wickum and the event closes at 7:00 p.m. with fireworks.

Mike then reviewed the current financial status of the fair and presented the November claims to the Fair Commission for review and approval. Bruce made a motion to approve the claims for payment, seconded by Roberta and passed.

Approved: _____ Date: _____