

Boundary County Fair Board Members
Ben Robertson, Chairman
Ken Goggia, Vice-Chairman
Glenda Poston
Stacie Watts
Bert Wood



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**2021 MINUTES of Fair Board Meeting
Monday, September 13, @ 6:00 PM
Boundary County Fair Board Room**

Call to Order of the Monthly Board Meeting-- 6:07 p.m.

In Attendance:

Board Members: Glenda Poston, Stacie Watts, Ben Robertson, Bert Wood, Ken Goggia

Guests: Liz Wood

Staff: Jodi Stoddard, Chris Sabin

Liz heard good things about the fair. 4-H Awards ceremony will be Oct 21, in the Exhibit Hall at 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. This year they are just doing the awards because of the resurgence of Covid, so no dinner. Banquet Oct 5th at Chicken Chop. The Board is invited. She mentioned that they received a lot of complaints about family fun night having been changed to Thursday. She suggested that the leaders need to move judging times if it continues on Thursday. They did enjoy Saturday, as it was a more relaxed day after the parade.

Lars Jacobson of Jake's Landing did not attend, but asked to be moved to October's board meeting under a heading of 'Food Vendors'.

August 2, 2021 Minutes. Glenda motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Bert seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Maintenance/Administrator Report

Chris: Maintenance Report

Chris suggested Boundary Electric move the 240 power outlets to the outside of the goat barn for easier food vendor access. It was also noted that there had been an issue with them during the fair. A quote of \$695.88 has been received from Boundary Electric. They can do it in early October.

Glenda motioned to have Boundary Electric move and upgrade the power from the inside to the outside of the goat barn. Stacie seconded motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Bert mentioned that the beef barn blows circuits when the blowers are turned on. They used 2 generators to run them. Will at Boundary Electric is familiar with the problem. The Board asked Chris to call him for a quote.

Liz said that the livestock committee would like to extend the shade over the chicken/poultry area. They would be willing to share in the cost. Amy and Ben had looked on the tarp for a manufacturer name but couldn't find one. Glenda suggested that we check with Road & Bridge for a source. Jodi and Chris will research this, come up with some quotes and present them at the next board meeting.

Ken asked if the trees seemed to be trimmed well enough for the fair vendors. Discussion on removing the tree by the indoor arena this fall. Chris will get quotes for removing the tree.

Chris's Fair Report: Helpers were great – had several probation folks helping as well. Bathroom helper (Maggie Bateman) was outstanding. Chris would like to see her here full-time the 4 fair days instead of 10 times @ \$50

each time (\$500 total). Bo would like to come back, but would need more hours. Glenda suggested that Chris look for projects prior to fair that need to be done, that Bo could help with, and present it to the board. Ben suggested putting together a wish list of things that need to be done, especially larger projects where he will need help.

Adding more shade tarps over the Food Court was discussed, as well as putting them on the other side of annex. Check into colored triangle tarps. For the next meeting research and have pricing on shade tarps (100x 100) Paula had purchased some from Amazon that were good.

Bert suggested a project of putting a roof over the sawdust bins.

Discussion on KG&T porta-potties. It became necessary to add more after fair had begun. We paid for 9 and they donated 7. Ben thought the bill was reasonable.

Parks and Rec Bathrooms update. Ben spoke to them, and they don't want to put the bathrooms over on our side – but want to keep them where they currently are.

Jodi: Admin Report

- Discuss changes for Facility Rentals when events have food vendors. Table for next month.
- The **second half of the County Allocation**, which was originally placed into savings has now been put into the Checking account, and this is reflected in the reports.
- Bull Riding – they used the arena-vader without asking. Do we charge them \$75 rent/ remove it from their security deposit? Chris is replacing some teeth (likely normal wear-n-tear). A bolt was missing. Stacie suggests that it needs to go on their contract if they want to rent it, otherwise keep it locked. Stacie remembers having this discussion with them last year. Anything they use needs to be added to their bill. Chris asked if he could add more chain-link fence that can be locked. Like along the straight gate by the mill – do a long narrow fence. Move discussion forward to October's board meeting. Glenda suggested that the \$75 for using the arena-vator be removed from their deposit.
- Report on how many T-Shirts sold. Despite the series of unfortunate events, the t-shirts ended up not really costing us anything. Without the misunderstanding with Far North, we would have made a profit. I think the community likes the idea. I saw tons of shirts at the parade and walking around the fair, and even in town. It gives local artists a chance to shine. Board members agreed and would like to offer shirts again next year.
- Family Fun Night / concert changes – several people voiced dislike for Thursday night. Attendance seemed to be down according to the 4-H folks. Food Vendors stated that regardless of the night they would really like the Concert to be held in the Outdoor Arena so they could continue to generate sales. Otherwise, the food court traffic dies out. Bert said family fun night seemed well attended. Smoke and heat were a contributing factor.
- Democrat fair booth – someone described as an older guy with dark clothes and balding, put a 'Closed for Business' sign their booth this year, and spread Republican papers on their table. Ben and Glenda had gone out twice and talked to people. Then there were a couple of other vendors that said there was a disturbance with some teenage girls walking around and a man in the democrat booth taking photos of them. Both vendors wrote down what they witnessed and left a copy in the office with their contact information.
- 497 people entered items in Open Class for a total of 1959 entries.
- Baked Good Auction brought in \$1,590.
- Report on **Superintendent Lunch**. After talking to Annie and Paula, they thought Saturday, as soon after the fair as possible, would be best so we could discuss what worked and didn't work for the Supers and volunteers. That left some folks out who couldn't attend on Saturday. But some of our supers and volunteers work during the week, and can't attend on a weekday. I suggest we alternate Saturdays with a weekday every other year so we can catch as many as possible. We had 12 RSVP, and 8 attend. Lots of great discussion. I took 3 pages of notes on what they need, like, and ideas for the future.
- **Supers and Judges**. We had a couple of last-minute cancellations, but were able to find new folks to fill in. I want to work between now and next year to recruit some new blood... younger folks as well. Many of our volunteers are getting up there in age and retiring.

- **Vendor Report:** We were completely full. We had 93 vendors - 3 complaints
 1. KRVI - sent in app under Kootenai Tribe instead of KRVI - it appeared they were a 'new' vendor, so I didn't reassign them their old booth. Because we were full, I had nowhere to move them. There was one vendor who was looking for a smaller booth, and would have traded, but by the time we got ahold of them, KVRI had already set up their booth, and were okay with staying put. I did apologize to Dan Dinning when I saw him later at Opening Ceremonies, and assured him they would be in a full-size booth next year.
What it did bring to light is that we have never had a different price break for the center booths, despite the fact that they are half the size at only 4x8 instead of 8x8. I didn't realize that until KVRI brought this to my attention...they usually have a perimeter booth which is larger. That is something we need to address before the 2022 Fair Aps are finalized.
 2. Helping Hands sent in their app asking for a different building than usual. And when Linda Cromwell saw where they were, she asked to change to a new booth, but it was too late at that point.
 3. Another discussion that was brought to the office was about having 'politics' in the Exhibit Hall. We had a Heather Scott booth, and a booth collecting signatures about the library issue. What would the Board would like to do going forward with that? Glenda shared that years ago there were no raffle tickets in there, no political – to keep the atmosphere more focused on the exhibits. The Board agreed that going forward we will not allow political booths in the Exhibit Hall. Jodi will add that to the back of contract. She will also call the two people who came into the office with concerns about it.
- Because I am still recovering from Covid long-haulers, and to be sure I could make it through all of fair, Paula suggested we work out the schedule so that I could come in an hour or two late and/or go home an hour or two earlier. And while it worked, we should have communicated better with the board about our arrangement. I am confident that by next year, I will be pretty much back to normal.
I was also glad she was there to help show me the ropes in real-time. I really enjoyed fair and had a lot of fun. I did make it around to most of the vendors to introduce myself during the fair.
- I handed out a **pre-registration form for the 2022 fair**. It stated that the updated prices would be finalized in January, but that they could reserve their current booth location with the standard \$25 Rental Security Deposit. I have received about a dozen of them back already. Many of the vendors want their same spot year after year, and this will help me know in advance that they plan to return. This year I had added a spot on the application for their email addresses. In January I will email this year's vendors with the new Vendor Application, and remind them to get their complete payments in prior to March 15 to reserve their favorite booth. After that, I will open the remaining booths on a first come-first choice basis.
- I have a few cost saving ideas for next year. I will research them some more and present them to the board.
- I think the new system of having 4-H go through Debbie to book future meetings will be much more productive. She and I are going to get together soon and make a plan.
- I am here to help facilitate the vision of the board members, and hopefully expand that with some fresh ideas of my own. I am always open to whatever suggestions you have to help me do my job better and perform up to your expectations. I have really enjoyed this past year. I am grateful for the patience shown and extra help given as needed so I could learn and do my job. I am super excited about the upcoming year. I am ready to get organized again post fair, and get started on 2022.

Facilities, Expense/Budget Worksheet Review. Motion to pay the bills of \$31,318.35 was made by Glenda, and seconded by Bert. Motion was unanimously approved.

Expense Report

- Bills \$ 21,305.23
- Payroll \$ 10,013.12
- Rental Security Refunds \$ 1,260.95
- Fair Security Rental Deposit Refunds \$ 2,150.00

Income Report

- Deposits \$ 10,149.58

Checking/Savings Account Balances as of August 30

- Checking \$ 53,737.12
- Savings \$ 137,541.48

Old Business –

USDA Grant – The most recent email from Howard at the USDA says that they will be moving our project and grant request into their new fiscal year which begins in October. We are still in the cue, and they have all the paperwork they need from us. The Board asked Jodi to call Larry Jenkins to see if he is able to do start on it this

year, and EMAIL them with his answer. Board agrees to move forward if Larry can. Question was asked 'Did Larry order supplies already for this year for the Wells Building'? Ideas for future projects? Table this for October's board meeting.

New Business –

It was discussed that the **VEC rental** during Fair is too expensive as it is not a prime location for a food vendor. Two Tones paid the regular rate of \$975, but it had been approved at \$775 prior to the fair. Glenda suggested a greater reduction of the rate so we can keep a food vendor in there. Ben suggested telling them we would give them a partial refund of the rent this year, and lower the price moving forward. Motion was made by Ken Goggia to refund \$500 to Two Tones. Glenda seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Rob Regalia with Country Snack Shack was unhappy because the old ruling stated burgers could only be sold by whomever had the VEC kitchen, and he couldn't bring burgers. Then this year Compass Grille moved out to the food court with their new trailer after having been in the VEC last year, and their primary menu item is burgers. The suggestion was made that we allow Rob to bring burgers in the future. Glenda and Ben voiced that they would prefer we not to limit the menus.

Camper parking? More campers are parking on the fairgrounds asphalt parking lot, rather than on the gravel parking lot on the Parks & Rec side. This could be an issue when we have large events as each takes upwards of 5 parking spots. Board agreed to adding signage. "No overnight Parking, No camping". To 2 of the signs add "beyond this point". Order a total of 6 signs.

2022 Fair Dates Week Normally our fair runs Wednesday through Saturday, which in 2022 would be August 10-13. Ben suggested starting at least a day earlier, noting that the horse judging happens on Monday already, and livestock judging could be extended. Ben spoke to 4-H leaders about it. The Exhibit Hall could be a staggered start, with Open Class entries and judging moving up a day, or staying as is. One concern voiced is that the flowers, baked goods and produce are perishable. It was suggested starting just the animals or 'livestock' part of fair beginning on Tuesday 9th.

Ken made a motion to have a 'Fair Week' with 2022 dates of August 8-13. Bert seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

2022 Preliminary Budget Glenda will work on it over the next month. Commissioners have approved our budget for 2021/2022 year. She will report back with the allocation amount.

Fair Exhibitor and Violation Consequences – the Board reviewed the fair book pages 28/29 and 79. There was an issue with 4-H and Open Class animals being removed early this year. Ben pointed out that according to the rules stated in the fair book, those who remove animals early are not allowed back. Ben expressed to Amy Robertson and Debbie Higgins at the UI Extension & 4-H offices, that whatever rules come down from 4-H or the fair board need to be consistent. The question was asked 'what action should be taken'? Ben voiced that the decisions need to be a united front between the Fair Board, 4-H and FFA. Letters will be composed by 4-H and sent to the Fair Office to be reviewed by the Board, put on official letterhead, and then sent to the offending parties along with a copy of the several rules which were broken.

Ben asked that in the future the Fair Board be apprised by 4-H or FFA of situations like this as soon as they occur.

Stacie recommended that the fair office maintain a list of those who have been disqualified from entering in future years. Glenda suggested that we put a sign in the barns that the Fair Board backs up the 4-H and FFA rules.

Executive Session: began at 9:05 p.m. To 9:52 p.m. No motions were made.

Adjourn: the regular meeting reconvened and then adjourned at 9:52 pm.

The next Board Meeting will be Monday October 4, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by: _____ Jodi Stoddard, Fair Administrator

Approved by: _____ Ben Robertson, Chairman