

Country Fair Committee Minutes
March 8, 2006

Present: Barney Sheridan, Chair, Lisa Mills, Jerry Marks, Scot Meader, Tara Sheridan, Rena Kammerer, Dale & Lucy Clouse, Robin & Nick Miotke, Roger Christopher, Joey Hennes, Lora Hall, Lori Zeiser, Jeri Delys, Charlie Deschamps, Kim Green, and Colleen Terrazas

1. **Minutes of February 22, 2006 Meeting**

Tara Sheridan moved to approve the February 22, 2006 Country Fair meeting minutes. Joey Hennes seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2. **Tent**

The County Fair Committee was informed that the 4-H Council approved spending 4-H Council funds to purchase a new green and white 60 x 60 tent. The order must be placed by March 15 to insure delivery by Fair time. Lisa will have the "Tent Committee" review specifications before finalizing the order. Transportation must be found for the tent from Lincoln, Nebraska to Missoula.

3. **Last Fair Board meeting**

- Barney Sheridan submitted the "Memorandum of Understanding" for Fair Board review. The next step is for the rough draft to go to the County Attorney for review.
- It was noted by that Charlie Deschamps does an incredible job on the Fair Board representing the interests of the Country Fair Committee.
- Jerry Marks stated that the Fair Board is struggling with finances, and The County Commissioners are not coming up with additional dollars for the Fair. Charlie Deschamps confirmed that the Fair was experiencing a "tight" budget.
- Barney Sheridan wants to stress the importance of solidifying a positive relationship between the Fair Board and 4-H/FFA. Barney said the Fair Board was very receptive and excited about what the Country Fair Committee is doing.

4. Country Fair Fundraising

- Barney Sheridan asked that the Fair Office and/or Reed and Madeline from FunBiz to provide us with a list of major contributors to each individual area of the fairgrounds. The Country Fair Committee's concern is that we should not contact entities for donations that already contribute generously to the Fair.
- Montana First Credit Union is offering a promotion to collect one million pennies which equals \$10,000 to be donated to the Country Fair this year.
- Farm Credit Services donated \$1500 to the 4-H Council to offset the cost of the tent purchased by the 4-H Council. The 4-H Council is underwriting the purchase of a tent in the amount of \$15,000.
- Scot Meader indicated that the Fair Board was holding a special meeting tonight to discuss the purchase of a tent. Scot asked if he would be out of line telling the Fair Board that the Country Fair Committee would pay back the Fair Foundation for the purchase of the tent once fundraising efforts were realized. Barney Sheridan addressed Scot by saying if the Fair Board does not approve the purchase of a tent — it is a problem. The purchase of the tent represents a partnership. The 4-H Council is willing to back their commitment to the Country Fair concept by purchasing a tent. If the Fair Board decides they are not going to purchase a tent, the Country Fair Committee will have to address that issue.

5. Schedule of Special Attractions

- Kim Green, Wild West Miniature Horse Club, is interested in scheduling a jumping and driving demo.
- Rena Kammerer, 4-H Miniature Horse Leader, stated that the 4-H miniature horses do not want to be at the Fair all week since these members have other animals and projects during fair week they need to focus on. However, the 4-H mini horse group would like to schedule a demonstration on Saturday — preferably of Fair week.
- Special events were not added to the Country Fair Schedule as an event schedule will be available daily during Fair week.
- A committee needs to be formed to schedule demonstrations and special events during Fair week.
- It is recommended by the Country Fair Committee that the open class goat show be held on Monday and the 4-H goat show be on Tuesday.

6. Traffic Flow & Some Location Discussion

- More discussion regarding the arriving and departing of livestock. See schedule for details. *Tara Sheridan moved to accept the revised schedule. Roger Christopher seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*
- Lisa Mills moved that the Butler Barn remain as planned for the Miniature Horses all week. Dale Clouse seconded the motion . . . **the motion did not pass.** Discussion evolved around space needs for some of the open class goat show winners that would perhaps be considered for the Butler Barn space.
- Scot Meader moved that the Miniature Horse families be flexible and that the Fair will do everything they can to accommodate the miniature horses in the Butler Barn, once we know how many open class beef and goats want to stay at the Fair all week. Charlie Deschamps seconded the motion adding that if the Butler Barn is not available, the Miniature Horses will go on the northwest end under a tent . . . **the motion did not pass.**

7. Future Meetings

The next Country Fair Committee meeting is:

Wednesday, April 5 @ noon in the Extension Office conference room

(The next Fair Board meeting is Tuesday, March 21, 1:00 pm at the Missoula Chamber of Commerce)

Minutes submitted by Colleen Terrazas