

Country Fair Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2007 meeting

Present: Lisa Mills, Barney & Tara Sheridan, Lisa Dumontier & Karleigh Bolin, Joanne & Bobbi Ailport, Shawna & Tiffany O'Neill, Robin & Jim Miotke, Lucy & Dale Clouse, Jeri Delys, Kim Sol, Logan Braaten, Candace Wiley, Campbell Barrett, John Warehime, Margi Thurston, Tim O'Neill, Joey Hennes, Lori Zeiser, and Colleen Terrazas.

1. Comments from the Chair, Barney Sheridan

In 2006 the Country Fair Committee surpassed the expectations of the Fair Commission. We are thrilled to have Lisa Mills back as Country Fair Coordinator. Barney said that the PRC Rodeo schedule, (*he is a rodeo announcer*), conflicts greatly with the Country Fair schedule. Last year we had tons of energy and excitement thrown into making the Country Fair a reality. Barney asked Lisa Mills to act as chair of the Country Fair Committee in his absence. Barney went on to say that his strong points are his relationships with Scot Meader and Buck Smith. Barney said that Lisa is everything he is not . . .

2. Comments from Lisa Mills, Country Fair Coordinator

Lisa said she is happy to be back. She is hired in a part time capacity to coordinate the Country Fair. She said she has a national cell phone plan and email, so she can be contacted anytime, anywhere. She will be in Colorado the next two weeks, but plans to make contacts while she's away. She says she is willing to "pound the pavement" to get us what we need as quickly as possible.

3. Theme and Signage Committee Report by Joey Hennes and Jeri Delys

- Until events and donors are final, we cannot move forward.
- Ben Hennes will create a new map of the Country Fair and it is important to give him a couple of weeks to get that job done.
- After the last "walk through" of the Country Fair area, it was felt that there is a ton of space by the sheep barn that isn't utilized.
- After last year, we realize we missed a marketing opportunity. We need to beautify the fence area along Russell and South to entice the public into the Fair.

4. Events, Special Areas, Booths Reports

- Information Booth. We realize we have trouble keeping volunteers in the Information Booth and we need to work at ways to keep that booth manned. Jeri Delys said she would contact a Senior Volunteer group to determine interest in helping with this.
- Kiddie Rodeos
 - Lucy Clouse spoke with Laura Bakker and found out that rodeo queens and princesses are suppose to organize kiddie rodeos and their efforts are at no charge to us. Lucy thought that perhaps that this group could organize a kiddie rodeo on Thursday and Friday.
 - Sigi Anders-Olson organized a kiddie rodeo for one day of the Fair last year. It was a HUGE hit and the pubic asked for this event every day. Lisa will contact Sigi about holding a kiddie rodeo on Wednesday and Saturday. We will budget for this expense.

- Discussion regarding "housing" a mobile TV station in the Country Fair. Live broadcasts with the Country Fair as background could be a great boost of awareness to the community. All present seemed interested in pursuing this option and Jeri Delys was designated as the contact person.
- Inclusion of the Culinary/Agriculture Bldg, 4-H Café, and 4-H Exhibit Building into the Country Fair was discussed. These building cannot be fenced in to the Country Fair due to fire lanes which must remain open. We will try to provide signage and decorate near the building with Country Fair fencing to show the appearance of the Country Fair. We will try to include Culinary Bldg cooking events in our schedule.
- Build a Stage/Amphitheater
 - Perhaps we need to find a Corporate sponsor to donate money for a stage. The stage could showcase the Irish Dancers, etc., and mats could be laid in front of the stage for gymnastic events.
 - Mountain West Coop (Cenex) is potentially interested in sponsoring the building of a stage.
 - Lucy Clouse will check with the Msla Children's Theater to see if they have a portable stage we could use, and Jeri Delys will do the same regarding the Southgate Mall stage
- Event/Attraction Ideas
 - Cowboy Poets
 - Old Time Fiddlers
 - Dunking Booth on Sunday (confirmed by Jim Miotke)
 - Talent Show showcasing 4-H members in skits, playing instruments, etc.
 - Display of antique tractors or older model cars along fence line
 - Silhouettes along fence line
 - Irish Dance performance (confirmed by Lisa)
 - Gymnastics performances
 - Kiddie Tractors back (confirmed by Joey)
 - Maria Freeman's Snack Truck (confirmed by Robin)
 - Caras Nursery (confirmed by Lisa)
 - Horses are a huge attraction. Perhaps a mare with foal could be on display
 - Entry passes into the Fair for volunteers and event participants will be hand delivered prior to the Fair. Lucy will coordinate.

5. 4-H Dance

Stomping Ground is opening for Josh Gracin concert, so they cannot perform for the 4-H dance this year. Barney will contact County Line. What about security this year?

6. Tents

- The National Guard will put up and take down the large tents. (Tara Sheridan will make the contact).
- An inventory of the small shade tents is necessary
- The Cenex tent will be relocated. Logan Braaten from Mountain West Coop (Cenex) said he could do this with a tractor and a couple of people on a Wednesday or Thursday morning. The Cenex tent will house the Weed Office Information Booth, 4-H information and perhaps showcase some 4-H projects.

7. Petting Zoo Report by Tara Sheridan

Tara says she needs more staff and a wide variety of animals. Tara said she will contact Gene McClure regarding help from FFA members and alumni. She will also contact Tim Furey regarding help from Opportunity Resources.

8. Budget

- There is a carryover amount from 2006 of \$4,000 and the Extension Office is contributing \$3,000, so we have \$7,000 to get started.

\$2,000	Signage
\$ 900	2 days Kiddie Rodeo
\$ 900	Pony rides
\$ 300	Sound system
\$ 500	Band
<u>\$1,000</u>	Miscellaneous
\$5,600	Total

It was noted that a locking cabinet is needed for the sound system.

- *Lisa Mills moved to accept the proposed budget. Jim Miotke seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*
- An Executive Committee was formed. Members are Joey Hennes, Tara Sheridan, Jeri Delys, Robin Miotke, and Barney Sheridan (interchangeable with Lisa Mills). *Jim Miotke made a motion to allow the Executive Committee to approve expenses above \$200. Lori Zeiser seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*
- *The Fundraising Committee of Joey Hennes, Tara Sheridan, Jim Miotke, Lucy Clouse, Shawna O'Neill, and Lisa Mills will meet Friday, June 22, 10 am at the Extension Office. Fundraising options will be discussed.*

9. Work Days

- **July 12:** Fair employees are relocating Fair supplies
- **July 14:** Now that the Fair supplies are out of the way, the National Guard will set up the large tents. The Sheep Barn Superintendents will set up sheep pens in the sheep barn. What about getting Fair employees to help string the lights and misters?
- **July 21:** Set up remaining pens, weeding and painting
- **July 28:** Complete the jobs started on July 21.

10. Miscellaneous

- Dale Clouse and Campbell Barrett will make arrangements for panels from Mountain West Coop and Quality Supply for the show rings.
- Joey Hennes continues to pursue the Country Fair trademark.