MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Judith Basin County Fair Board Meeting Minutes

May 19th, 2025 JB Co. Courthouse - Stanford, MT

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm by Fair Board President Janet Wertheimer, also present were Brenda McCray, Dawnita Sampsel, Billie Jo Holzer, Kallie Probert, Don Hajenga and Sidney Stratton.

Minutes were approved by Dawnita and a second was given by Kallie.

Treasurers report given by Dawnita.

No announcements or public comments were offered.

Judith Basin County Extension Office

Old Business

Sigrid Deegan Replacement

- Sigrid Deegan is in the process of identifying a replacement. Chad Waltz was suggested as a potential candidate. He will need to contact the Extension Office and meet with the commissioners for official approval to join the Fair Board.

Fair Buyer Dinner

- The JB County Farm Bureau declined to sponsor the Buyer Dinner. Sidney has reached out to Kelly at CHS to explore potential sponsorship.

New Business

Fairground Improvements

- A new concrete slab was installed outside the small animal barn, thanks to Tim Mauws, to facilitate weigh-ins and fair activities.
- Sidney will measure the space for a new refrigerator and freezer for the food booth.
- A water line in the food booth froze and cracked over the winter. Dawnita found a plumber, Jim, to repair the line and update the sink. Billie Jo Holzer moved to proceed with the repairs, with a second by Kallie Probert. Motion carried. Repairs will be completed before the first scheduled fairground event on June 10.

Fairground Use and Updates

Montana State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Montana Counties Cooperating. MSU Extension is an equal opportunity/ affirmative action provider of educational outreach.

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- Event dates for the summer were reviewed (see May meeting agenda for details). A Fairground Use Agreement and a $100 deposit will be required for all rentals to cover potential damage.
- The Stampede Club may undertake ground improvements near the bucking chutes.
- Kyle is confirmed as the auctioneer for the livestock sale. Bidder numbers will not be used. Butchers and loadouts are scheduled for the evening following the sale. All fair judges are confirmed. Ellen Kittleman is scheduled to serve as ultrasound technician on Friday morning.
- Sidney will coordinate wood shaving delivery with Rodger and discuss placing boards under shavings in the sheep barn to accommodate additional pigs and prevent rooting damage. Sidney will also contact the swine superintendent to finalize arrangements.
- Sidney will reach out to B and L Scales to have the scales certified one week before the fair.
- Dumpsters are in place for the summer and will be emptied regularly. To limit public use of the dumpsters during fair season, the fairgrounds will be locked, and access will be granted through the Extension Office.

Budget

- Dawnita will meet with the county commissioners to discuss the upcoming budget and will request the same amount as allocated last year.

Fair Dates

- The Fair Board voted to hold the 2026 County Fair from July 27th to August 1st. Motion by Billie Jo Holzer, seconded by Dawnita Sampsel. Motion passed.

Next Fair Board meeting date set for Monday **August 25th @ 5:30 pm.**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm by Kallie, 2nd by Dawnita.

Minutes prepared by Sidney Stratton, Ext. Agent

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