

Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds – Fair Board Meeting

May 29, 2020 – Entry Hall – 11:30 am

98 W Custer Ave; Helena MT 59602

Allen Cormany called the meeting to order at 11:32 am. Board members present were Mark Menke, Fay Dee Hamilton, Mike Murray, Dirk Anderson, Greg Pace, Kelly Hanson, Judy Rolfe, and Allen Cormany. County Commissioner Andy Hunthausen was present. Staff present were Kevin Tenney and Logan Gustafson. Guest present was Roger Baltz, county CAO.

Approval of Minutes: Mike Murray made the motion to approve April minutes, 2nded by Greg Pace. Motion Passed.

Public Comment: Roger Baltz was present for any questions form the fair board.

Operations Report: Kevin Tenney remarked that feedback form the Drive in Movie has been positive. Kevin Tenney said maintenance's work on the VIP room has progressed nicely. He also said a berm was built to raise the screens for the drive in movie to improve visibility. Kevin said the movies have been selling out, and he would like to possibly expand them by moving them to Friday's, adding band performances, and possibly food trucks.

Finance Report: Kevin Tenney said expenses have been cut down to the essentials, and that there is near \$100,000 in lost revenue from cancellations. Kevin said he had submitted the FY21 budget to commissioners this morning. Kevin also noted that some events planned have gotten approval from the health department.

Stampede and Fair Discussion – COVID-19 Affects: Kevin Tenney said that a decision on the fair needs to be made so that money is not being spent for no reason. Kevin added that some vendors, and sponsorships were already pulling out of the fair, and that there may be an issue being able to get stock from the main contractor because of possible issues with crossing the border. Kevin also said that the carnival also may not be able to set up because of potential insurance and liability issues, along with routing issues do to other fairs cancelling. Allen Cormany asked what was 4H going to do and if they would continue. Kevin said 4H will continue but they will have altered plans. Kelly Hanson asked it the ranch rodeo could still be held. Kevin said for the ranch rodeo to go forward, the state would have to be in phase 3 and that they would need to have a plan approved by the county health department. Andy Hunthausen said that having the fair could be a large public health risk, and there are too many unknowns to gamble with tax payer money. Allen Cormany asked for the motion of the recommendation to cancel the Last Chance Stampede and Fair from the fair board. Mark Menke motioned, 2nded by Dirk Anderson. **Motion passed.** It was also motioned for the fair board to go forward with the ranch rodeo on the same day and to submit a plan to county health. Kelly Hanson motioned, 2nded by Judy Rolfe. **Motion Passed.**

Allen Cormany asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Mark Menke. Seconded by Dirk Anderson. Meeting adjourned at 12:18.