

Country Fair Committee Minutes
February 20, 2008 meeting

Present: Lori Zeiser, Kris Handley, Scot Meader, John Warehime, Jerry Marks, Campbell Barrett, Colleen Terrazas.

1. Campbell Barrett called the meeting to order.
2. The January 16, 2008 minutes stand approved.
3. Scot Meader, Fair Manager, provided an update on the Fair
 - The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is 110% behind the Country Fair Committee.
 - The BCC approved a three year employment contract for Scot as Fair Manager.
 - The roof on the Culinary building is being replaced right now.
 - Building 35 (formerly known as Marsda Hall) has new doors, will be repainted and the floors will be redone. A new air conditioner will be installed in the spring.
 - Hoping to have an exhibit of Montana Made products this year.
 - May have the opportunity to bring in racing pigs, Tuesday - Saturday.
 - Mountain FM handles the Fair Stage. It will be under a tent this year with seating and shade.
4. Country Fair Coordinator Position
 - Jerry Marks thinks the Country Fair concept should grow to include all exhibit buildings, and a Country Fair Coordinator should be hired by the Fair to handle this. Eventually, the entire Country Fair should be managed by the Fair Office.
 - The BCC says they are unable to fund a Country Fair Coordinator position.
 - Without the funding of the Country Fair Coordinator by the Fair, we will not have the resources available to include all the fair exhibit buildings. The Country Fair Committee will continue to plan and organize the Country Fair in the same area as last year.

5. Country Fair

- 4-H/FFA is educational. Jerry Marks feels we need to showcase what is happening in those programs rather than scheduling gymnasts, folk dancers, etc.
- Obtain displays from MSU and other agriculture organizations to educate the public on agriculture.
- The 4-H Stage could be used for demonstrations such as sheep shearing and herding.
- Perhaps the Cenex tent could be used to advertise what 4-H does all year long (posters of Shooting Sports Exhibition, drama festival, weigh ins, livestock judging, a club doing community service, etc)
- Kris Handley will contact NRCS about a traveling display.
- Lori Zeiser will contact Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Trout Unlimited, Beef Council and Cattlewomen for displays.
- Scot Meader will call the Metra about educational displays.
- What about adding contests like pie eating, watermelon seed spitting, apple bobbing?

The next Country Fair Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, March 19, 5:30 pm, County Extension Office.

Minutes submitted by: Colleen Terrazas