

Dawson County Fair Board Meeting held November 27th

The regular monthly meeting of the Dawson County Fair Board was called to order by Nathan Stortz at 7:05 pm on November 27th in the Fair Office at the Dawson County Fairgrounds. In attendance were: Tacee DeSaye, Nathan Stortz, Larry Evans, Troy Kaufman, Wade Nielsen, Brady Smelser, Eric Smeltzer, Terah Lynn and Kelsey Crawford. Kathy Doane was absent.

Guests present were Paul Eiker, Anthony Varriano, Lori Cullinan, Masons, Linda Lohse with ABATE and Grace Evinrude from Search and Rescue.

The Masons next meeting is December 5th. We asked for their blessing in using the \$30,000 for necessary repairs in the exhibit building instead of the roof. They will not be giving the board any more money - have several other projects they would like to donate to. We will look into applying for a grant to finish renovations. One of the bidding contractors needs more information on material preference.

Anthony Varriano: The majority of the ice rink group voted to invest their money into improving Whipkey Field instead of using the fairgrounds this year. The arena is a long term goal. They want the ice rink to be seen as a tourist attraction.

Event Insurance:

The county needs to be protected in case of an accident during an event. Weddings and similar events will need to have a special event policy in order to rent the grounds. The skating rink is not a specialized event, so this doesn't pertain to them. Pat will print off some guidelines for us.

ABATE:

They are not interested in having a joint event with the fair, so another date is being looked in to. They camp out have a hog roast, band and alcohol, so it isn't feasible to have both events at the same time.

If we have 2 events, possible problems that can arise will be double the work nights, volunteer conflicts, multiple event conflicts (baseball, Miss Montana, swimming, etc) and budget issues (carnival in 2017 budget year and fair in 2018 budget year).

North Star:

A list of rides and contract days is still needed.

15 rides will be there, but only 14 will be running. 3 or 4 food vendors and 15+ games

Eric made a motion to go with North Star during the 3rd weekend of June. Larry seconded the motion.

We will bring it to the Commissioners meeting on December 5th. They will take a vote on the date change for this year. Something should be written up for the paper to publish.

Long standing vendors need to be contacted to inform of date change.

Maintenance/lawn care: meeting with department heads - they are willing to help at fair grounds. Lawn clippings need to be bagged.

Board member terms - Wade, Kathy and Kelsey are up for new terms

Free Stage acts: don't use on Sunday?

Doo Wah riders (\$2000/day)

Tyson (hypnotist)

Inflatables and petting zoo (no horses this year)

Permanent food vendor contracts
-currently at \$250 per year, they can open at any time
-2012 was last rent change?
-may need to increase rent to accommodate for MDU and water increase

Exhibit Building:

Wait until insurance info comes in to change prices. Increase in rent will offset cleaning and damage.

January is the next 4H council meeting

After rodeo music
River North out of Miles City is \$800
Sams from terry is \$700
Big Jim is \$750

Night Show
Need a \$40,000 band

Financials were approved.

Wade made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Terah seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20

x

Kelsey Crawford, Secretary

x

Nathan Stortz, Chariman