

Three Forks Rodeo Arena Board of Directors
Minutes of Meeting held Monday, March 4, 2024

Our regular meeting was held on this date at the City Hall, 206 Main Street, Three Forks, MT at 5:32pm.

Present were Adam Miller, Casey Elmore, Mike Lane, Ryan Hamilton and Gene Townsend; Secretary Crystal Turner was in attendance. Ryan Pestel, Ann Price, and Christina Kamps were excused. Guests: Barbara Mutter and Jeri Crowe.

Financials & Approval of Minutes

Gene Townsend moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting, Mike Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Casey turned it over to the guests to bring up their issue. Barbara Mutter explained the costs they expend to standby at events, and explained they transport as well as handle the “bumps and bruises” care for the cowboys, however they need to raise the rates. She presented a detailed breakdown (see packet). Ryan Hamilton said the hours they have for High School rodeo are too short, “It is rare to be done before 4PM and more than likely it will be 5PM.” Barb said they would cover those extra hours at the same price.

Gene Townsend moved to pay the Three Forks Area Ambulance service \$1,000 for High School rodeo in April, and \$1,240 for NRA rodeo in July. Adam Miller and Mike Lane seconded the motion in unison. Motion passed unanimously. Casey told Barb and Jeri, “We appreciate everything you do for us.” (Barb and Jeri left after this agenda item.)

Adam Miller reviewed the financials. Crystal Turner reported the bills entered thus far are: Christina Kamps \$425, reimbursements to the City of Three Forks \$2,054.47, Northwestern Energy \$40.71, and Susan Swimley \$39.00, but there could be others as these will not be paid until the March 12, 2024, Council meeting.

Mike Lane moved to pay the bills. Gene Townsend seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports. Still need to schedule a “cleanup/fix it” day prior to the High School rodeo.

Rodeo & Events

Casey reported the mini chuck wagon intermission act cannot do it this year, “They booked another event in Canada so are going to stay up there close to home.” He then asked Crystal to reach out to the trick riders from last year.

Adam said he will start the process for the Security Contract and getting new quotes from a few companies, but he wondered if someone else will take it on. He recommended Ryan Pestel for this duty. Casey said Ryan is pretty busy in the eer garden to be the point of contact for security measures on site but could probably take on the quotes. Without Ryan’s presence at this meeting Crystal said she would help. The Board will need to decide if they are going to let folks be against, on, or leaning on the fence (Board agreed this is a huge safety concern and does not recommend allowing), if they will be allow folks in between the fence and bleachers (Board said this is basically giving them permission to lean the fence), and what the total number of attendees will be allowed in.

With that, Adam brought up “capping the attendance numbers” for both Friday and Saturday nights. Crystal said there were just about 1200 actual tickets left over at the end of 2023’s event (with just over 400 of those being kids Friday night), so 439 adult Friday tickets leftover and 477 adult Saturday tickets leftover. Adam recommended online ticket sales be capped at 2500 each night, and then just order 1000 real tickets be printed for both Friday and Saturday nights - leaving the overall total around 3500 attendees.

Casey met with Mike Helzer and the Northwestern Energy contractor to try and get back on schedule with the new/additional power. They are still working on it, it took three weeks to meet with the contractor and still waiting to hear back from him on his thoughts for schedule. They wondered if there is any underground power down Kansas Street along the Headwaters Trail side of the rodeo grounds fence. Crystal will reach out to Erin Hulett to see if he knows. (Update - Ernie said there is underground power, but maps aren’t public so have the Northwestern Energy contract utilize maps NWE has on record. City has water line coming in too Ernie said.)

Discussion on ticket prices - Board agrees to leave at \$20/adult.

Regarding prizes for Junior & High School Rodeo - Casey believes Ann Price had offered to take over this from Diane Kolberg. Casey said he gives free reign to Ann and Christina to pick out and order prizes for High School Rodeo. Crystal commented on

last year's prizes really didn't differentiate much between "All Around" winners and just say a "Goat Tying" winner. "They were insulated bags, which seemed more like an adult gift to me, and I just wondered if there is something more usable for a teen?" Crystal posed.

New Business

Next meeting will be 4/1/2024 at 5:30pm at City Hall.

Ryan Hamilton moved to adjourn. Mike Lane seconded. Motion Passed Unanimously.