

Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds – Foundation Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2022 – 12:30 pm
98 W. Custer Ave., Helena MT 59602

Attendees:

Board members: Phil Porrini, Greg Pace, Jo Young, Mike Murray, Mark Menke, and Dave Duffy

Staff: Kevin Tenney, Sandy McIntyre

Lewis and Clark County Commissioner: Tom Rolfe

Mark Menke, called the meeting to order at 12:47 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

There were no corrections or additions to the January 26, 2022 minutes. Mike Murray motioned to approve the January 26, 2022 minutes, Phil Porrini seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

- Mark Menke reported that the financials have not changed since last month's meeting.
- Gail Hatch, representing the Miss Last Chance Stampede committee asked Kevin Tenney to request \$2,000 from the Foundation for a scholarship for Miss Last Chance Stampede 2022. On behalf of the committee, Kevin Tenney requested the Foundation allocate \$2,000 for an education scholarship for Miss Last Chance Stampede 2022.
 - Phil Porrini made a motion to provide \$2,000 for Miss Last Chance Stampede 2022's educational scholarship. Jo Young seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Mark Menke noted that Foundation funds are generally used to fund "wish list" improvement projects rather than necessary Fairgrounds projects.

Review of Updated "Suggestions for Future Projects":

- Mark Menke opened the floor for discussion about possible future projects for the Foundation.
- The directional signs have been installed and Maintenance will stain them this spring.
- VIP Hospitality Room – Commissioner Rolfe said that the County Commission passed the funding request for water and sewer improvements to the VIP building.
- Kevin Tenney mentioned the idea of getting water to the campground as a possible project. It would be city water if run from the hydrant by the barns.
- Tree trimming will be done by the County Extension office this spring and the dead trees on the west side of the Exhibit Hall will be replaced.
- Kevin Tenney will budget for a brush cutter in CIP funds next fiscal year.

Paving Project Update:

- The flagpole project has been approved. Kevin Tenney said the start date is dependent on getting the power pole moved which will happen once the paving project begins. No cost is available at this time. There is no other news on the paving project at this time.

Ideas for Fundraising Letter:

- Mark Menke opened to floor to discussion about the Foundation's spring fundraising letter.
- Kevin Tenny said that no gate fee will be charged for the Last Chance Stampede and Stampede rodeo tickets will be priced higher this year. Free gate admission passes and rodeo tickets have previously been a donor benefit. Kevin said that about 60% of the rodeo tickets given as Foundation donor benefits are not used.
- Mark Menke suggested that donation levels and donor benefits be reviewed at the next Foundation Board meeting.
- Mike Murray suggested possibly offering a discount on the steak sandwiches sold by the American Legion at the Fair.
- Mark Menke said that review of Foundation accomplishments for the fundraising letter will be on next month's agenda.

Other Business:

- There was no other business to be discussed.

Adjournment:

- Phil Porrini made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:13pm.