

The Brown County Fair Board meeting was held in the basement of the Brown County Courthouse on February 11, 2026. President Nancy Radke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Fair Board members present included: Aaron Dosch, Dylan Frey, Joel Green, Dwight Guthmiller, Nicole Hansen, Kevin Heinrich, Samantha Hockenbrock, Jeff Kippley, Trevor Meints, Katie Moulsoff, Brodie Mueller, Eric Pigors, Nancy Radke, Alley Shelton, Dan Stevens, Joyce Voeller. Also present were Commissioners Duane Sutton and Drew Dennert, as well as staff members Rachel Kippley, McKenzie Bierman, Sarah Hartje, Misty Dosch, and Becca Tullar. Payton Carda joined telephonically. Excused members were: Conald Burgard, Payton Carda, Nichole Hacker, Terry Nash, Jeff Swingler, and Rhonda Retzlaff.

Trevor motioned approval of the January minutes, the motion was seconded by Joel and approved.

Joel moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Jeff. Approved.

The communications folder was sent around for all to view.

#### **Foundation Report:**

Duane Sutton spoke about the new style benches that will be available for \$750. Old-style benches, which are plastic, cost \$250 each. Meetings occur monthly on the first Wednesday. VIP parking packages are available for \$1,000.

#### **Commissioner's Report:**

Drew Dennert talked about load limits, which will be postponed for one week. Also, talk of the bridge work north of Columbia, should start mid to late spring and possibly be finished before the end of 2026. Duane Sutton spoke of the congestion at the Soybean Plant on Highway 14 and 8th Avenue. Dirk is applying for a Agricultural Access Grant, to make improvements off of hwy 14 to help with the road congestions by the soybean plant.

Duane Sutton mentioned "Conducting the Public's Business in Public" needed to be reviewed annually. Acknowledging the Open Meeting Laws Pamphlet. Motioned by Trevor seconded by Eric Approved

#### **4-H Report:**

Becca mentioned that the fruit sale has started. New building update, exciting conversations, next month or so should be very interesting with some of the conversations that are happening right now. New Grant Writer, Sharon, have learned a lot. Still doing Robotics in the classroom. Leaders association meeting at the end of January, we decided

to incorporate our Brown County 4H Gala into the recognition event, new committee that will investigate what that will look like.

**Fair & Park Managers' Report:**

Burdett Security finished the fire alarm system in both Odde and Expo. ABC Seamless was lowest quote for new windows in the infirmary cabin, at the Richmond Lake Youth Camp. Seasonal employees, including mowers, cleaners, bartenders and interns will be posted at the brown.sd.gov website on February 17. Job description copies are also the communications folder. Searching for gate monitors at \$2000 weekly OR \$230-\$350 daily. Rachel met with the Sheriff's Office and discussed improvements for 2026 - ASI will be used only in the Grandstands and deputies will assist in making Clubhouse rounds and attend morning fairboard meetings. A sponsorship update was given. Rachel has applied for the Aberdeen Energy Agriculture Grant (\$15,000 in 2025 for Beef Barn fans). Reminded Board members of invitation to Business After Hours on February 12 at Montgomery's Furniture 4:30-6:30 BCF 90th Birthday! 14 signed up

**Fair & Park Assistant Manager's Report:**

McKenzie Camping contracts (available in office) going out February 23rd. Marketing Contracts Brodie will have some. Special Events, trying to get those contracts finalized and in the books. Reminder "You Make The Difference Tour" is coming up. All are welcome

**Fair and Parks Event Coordinator Report:**

Sarah Hartje...All the vendor contracts got sent out at the end of January. Deadline is March 2nd. Comp/Ex meeting February 26th. Take Expo back on March 1st.

**Fair and 4-H Administrative Assistant:**

Misty...Working on Junior Fair Board applications. Sign up volunteers list is being updated to make sure we have enough volunteers. Livestock Committee met, working on sponsorships and judges. Winter storage is going strong. 4H fruit sale going on right now.

**Junior Fair Board:**

No Report

**Advertising/Marketing:**

Seven Dust announced, teaser will go out Friday and be announced on Monday. The next one will be March 2nd which will be the last one. Band line up really great. Contracts- News Dakota, \$3900 Riverfront Broadcasting, \$1500 Mobridge Tribune, \$900, Watertown Radio Station \$600 Motion by Brodie Seconded by Dwight, Approved

**Building and Grounds:**

Interior Gate Control \$2000, Motioned by Jeff Seconded by Dan Approved

Fire Safety First will provide 75 Fire Extinguishers Motioned by Jeff Seconded by Dan Approved

Tent Contract(Same tents as last year) \$19,400 +4 tickets need to send to commission Motioned by Jeff Seconded by Aaron, Approved

Sheep will be using tent from Dakota Bank

Discussion on when to have the stage improvements done. Dwight will order the steal. Test and tune is scheduled for the last weekend in April.

**Camping:**

Joel-Meeting tonight

**Carnival and Vendors:**

Joyce-Meeting tonight to discuss vendors in & out for vendors load out process on Sunday.

**Competitive Exhibits:**

Alley-No report Meeting February 26th at Fair Office

**Food:**

Dan-No report

**Friends of the Fair:**

Misty--Cutting Board for our volunteer of the year

**Grandstand Events:**

Dwight-Go to Executive for announcement. Groton Hasa Chapter-Grandstand Cleaning \$6,250 Needs to go to commission. Dwight motioned, Dan seconded. Approved.

Fireworks \$4,000 Dwight motioned seconded by Jeff. Approved

Entertainment conference call for AMP, Monster Truck Company. No money left.

**Livestock:**

Dylan-Meeting 2 weeks ago, calling sponsors are currently. Becca secured 2 Dakota Bank Tents that we can use they are 20X40. We will need help putting them up. Panels and Benches will need to be painted this spring. We will try for an April workday.

**Rodeo:**

Dan-Sideline Production agreement \$2,600 Dan motioned, Jeff seconded Approved

Mutton Busting sponsorship Schley Farms INC Motioned by Dan, seconded by Aaron Approved

**Special Event:**

Katie-McKenzie's been working on our schedules. 2 contracts

452nd Family Readiness Group, military breakfast. Motioned by Katie, Seconded by Sam.

Ashley Wineland, \$5,800 Send to commission Motioned by Katie, Seconded by Joyce. Approved

**Clubhouse:**

Eric- My Monday Regret \$2,700

Van Meter Entertainment \$1,200

Aberdeen Cornhole League FREE

Clubhouse Volunteer Assistance-Groton HOSA Chapter \$1,600 6 people, Brown County Fair Foundation \$900, 8 people, Northwestern, \$1,000, 10 people, Frederick Area Cross Country, \$1,000, 10 people. Looking for someone for Wednesday. Need 8 people for \$900 plus tips. Motioned by Eric, seconded by Trevor. Approved

Lizzy Hofer Band, \$6,000, Eric made motion to send on to commission, seconded by Dwight. Approved

**Old Business:**

We are going to purchase 2 signs, \$150 per sign for 3 years

**New Business:**

Executive Session

**Announcements/Other**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11th at 6:30 pm in the basement of the courthouse.

Notes taken by Alley Shelton, Fairboard Secretary.