

CASCADE COW CUTTERS

October 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Present: Brent Stewart, Ross Hansen, Amber Simon, Jane Roundtree, Jack and Sue Kitt, Danny Ziebell, Megan Hunsaker, Dan and Rusanne Wagner, and Nina Lundgren

The meeting was called to order by Brent at 11:20

Review of roles of officers and board members

Reading of the bylaws regarding officer roles. No further discussion.

Financial Review

Jane presented the financial reports and gave all present a copy of the QuickBooks reports. At this point, the reports do not include the final payment to the fairgrounds nor for the September arena sand. With it understood that those two items still need to be paid, the current balances are:

Checking Account – General	\$19,431.94
Savings Account – Nading Memorial	\$ 640.00
Savings Account – Youth	\$ 5,211.17

There was discussion about the approval of bill payments. Jane requested that she receives approval from someone else before she pays the bills. For example, she is not involved with discussions with the fairgrounds nor does she have the information that the show secretary has related to the number of camper hookups or stall rentals, so she does not know if the bill she receives is accurate or not before she pays it. Review by other parties will help avoid erroneous payments. The Board's consensus was that this is a good idea.

There was further discussion about the fairgrounds bills. There is a dispute about the accuracy of the camper hookups charged for at the September show and the bill has not yet been paid because of it. Rusanne goes around and counts campers each morning and her totals do not always agree with what the fairgrounds bills us for. To avoid overbilling of camper hookups, we are going to request the fairgrounds staff to check in with the show office with their count each morning so any disputes can be resolved that morning. In the meantime, Jane is going to take Sue's September numbers and discuss them with the fairgrounds office staff.

There are also questions involving the cost of the sand for the September show. There has been no invoice yet received from Reecer Creek Excavating. Once that amount is known, CCC will receive a payment from Bill Grady for half of the cost of the sand that he purchased.

The Youth savings account balance is \$5,211.17. The Board discussed the technicalities of having youth scholarships since the club is liable for the money until it is paid out. Nina shared that Peter Bansmer is experienced with scholarships and previously acted as an advisor. Michelle Carson was the Youth advisor last year. The Board needs to find out if Michelle will continue on as the director and is requesting that the Youth committee get back to us with a formal written plan of how the scholarships are to be handled. Amber also shared De Leigh's suggestion that the Youth officers be allowed to be involved with the CCC board meetings to a certain extent so that they can gain practical experience and have open communication.

Jane pointed out that it does not appear that depreciation has ever been taken on the club's assets. It was agreed that we should depreciate the assets.

Sue mentioned that the current financial statements do not include the payout of the NCHA Director's fees to the directors. She will provide the breakdown of those figures so that Jane can make those payments.

Fairgrounds

The 2016 show dates were provided to the fairgrounds earlier this year. The May and July dates proposed were different than the traditional CCC dates of the first weekend of the month. This was due to efforts to move the shows off of Mother's Day and 4th of July holiday weekends. The fairgrounds had conflicts with the new dates and it was also determined that the proposed July date would interfere with WCHA's traditional show date. The Board unanimously agreed to move the May and July dates back to the first weekend of those months. The 2016 show dates in Ellensburg will be:

April 1st – 3rd
May 6th – 8th
July 1st – 3rd
August 5th – 7th
September 15th – 17th

There was discussion of approving the co-sponsorship of one or two shows at Bonina. The dates of those shows will be determined over the winter and the CCC co-approval of those shows will happen before the show season begins.

The fairgrounds provided the Board with a preliminary copy of the contract. Review of the contract indicates that the following items must be further negotiated with the fairgrounds before the final contract is entered into:

1. A fixed rate for the setup and teardown. It has been observed that the fairgrounds staff does not work efficiently while we are being charged an hourly rate.
2. An extra holding pen needs to be set up in the back to allow for better sorting of the cattle. It has been discussed in the past, but it has not been provided.
3. Negotiate a stall price with a bag of shavings included now that the fairgrounds will be selling shavings by the bag instead of having the unlimited shavings supply. There was further discussion how more bags of shavings can be made available without the club having to monitor and track shavings usage.
4. Clear with the fairgrounds that we can bring our own tractor into the arena. We would like to work with Washington Tractor to have a tractor on the grounds to work the arena ourselves without paying the fairgrounds.
5. The ground MUST be rolled before our sand is added. This had been verbally agreed to, but it has not been happening for every show.
6. The cost of the camper fees is going up. If that is the case, then the fairgrounds needs to supply better hookups so that people are not blowing breakers and that water is available to ALL camp areas (the grass strip through the parking lot between the Teanaway Hall and the swimming pool does not have water).

7. Request that fairgrounds staff check in with camper and stall counts to Sue and Rusanne each morning to verify accuracy.
8. Discussion of potential cancellation of September reservation needs to be discussed with the fairgrounds. If we don't have cattle available and need to move the show elsewhere, then we want to make sure we are not stuck with a financial obligation.

There was further discussion about the options to save money on the arena sand. The fairgrounds proposed that if we would pay \$5,000 per year for the next two years, then they would come up with the other \$10,000 to put in the Kiser recommended sand mixture in the arena. While that would save us money over the current \$13,000 annual bill, it must be a sand mixture that we agree with. It was suggested that there be a group meeting with the fairgrounds manager on this issue. Before then, Ross is going to contact Bill Grady to discuss potential options of his assistance with the trucking/storage of the sand. After Ross talks to Bill, a meeting will be arranged with the fairgrounds management and a County Commissioner or two. Ross and Brent agreed to be a part of such a meeting.

Committees – the Board's goal was to get a Board member assigned to each committee. It is not the intention of the Board that the Board members should do all of the committee work, but rather have a Board member responsible for making sure committee members are recruited and the work of the committees moves forward. The following committees were discussed:

- **Sponsorships** – Jane Roundtree will be the Board member on this committee. Some ideas discussed for this committee included creating business-type cards that members can show to businesses to show that our club is supporting potential sponsors. Amber will send out a survey to the club members to gain information on which businesses they frequent, how much they spend, etc. This information will be used to show to businesses in an effort to gain sponsorships. There was also discussion on the committee work starting sooner rather than later because businesses are creating their budgets for 2016 now.
- **Fundraisers** – **There was no Board member assigned to overseeing the fundraiser committee.** Most of the discussion revolved around doing the stallion auction again. Nina expressed her concerns about how much work it is. Brent said that Neil Higgins has already agreed to help and Amber shared that Tiffany Scott has agreed to take on the website work for it again. Rusanne Wagner said she would help with the clerical part of it (following up on contract signatures, etc.) and Megan Hunsaker said she would help with phone calls. Nina mentioned that Janie Larson would most likely help out again. With Nina taking the lead on this fundraising effort and discussing donations with stallion owners while she is at the NCHA Futurity, Brent made the motion that CCC buys Nina's airline ticket to Ft. Worth for the Futurity. Ross seconded the motion. The vote to pass the motion was unanimous. There was further discussion about how the stallion auction money would be spent. The group's consensus was that the money should be used to benefit the entire membership, but there was no decision reached on exactly how the money would be spent. There were a variety of opinions about giving out saddles again, increasing the awards budget, using it for expenses such as sand so the entry fees could be decreased, having weekend circuit awards, having year-end cash awards in non-added money classes, etc.
- **Finance/Budget** – Amber Simon will be the Board member overseeing this committee. She will recruit other committee members to assist with analyzing the financial statements, creating a budget, and analyzing the fees charged for the shows. This committee will work closely with Jane as the Treasurer.

- Awards – Tiffany Scott and Sue Kitt have volunteered to take the lead on awards.
- Judges – Jack Kitt will be responsible for hiring the judges and Nina will continue to set up their travel arrangements.
- Cattle – Brent Stewart, Dan Wagner, and Ross Hanson will negotiate the cattle fees and be responsible for ordering the cattle.
- Banquet – Jane Roundtree will lead a committee to arrange the year-end banquet.
- Social – Megan Hunsaker will take charge of the social committee for potlucks, dog races, etc. There was discussion about holding events that are purely social without fundraising efforts involved. It was also suggested that we create new social fundraisers to renew enthusiasm.

Youth – Youth involvement with the Board was discussed during the financial discussion.

Other – Other items of business discussed were:

- Aaron from Hitchhiker productions, wants to make a video for CCC. It can be purchased by members at the end of the year. We will find out more information from him as we get closer to show season.
- Danny will confirm with Keith McGinnis that WCHA is in fact planning on hosting NCHA days. He will let Sue know before the November 1st deadline.
- Sue requested that we change the year-end points system so that throwing out points happens before the September show and the September show points count. The calculation of the points under pressure at the September show causes delays and leaves too much room for error. Since this would require a change to the bylaws, there needs to be a vote of the membership. It also needs to happen before the show season begins. Ross made a motion that we do an electronic vote of the membership. Megan seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote. Amber will set up the electronic vote over the winter.

Danny made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Amber Simon, CCC Secretary