Sale Committee meeting July 16, 2009

Those in attendance: Dustin Johnson, Shana Withee, Angie Ketscher, Michelle Tummonds, Jimmy Zamora

Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm

Additions to the Agenda: Add on form

Minutes: Corrections were noted on the minutes that the species the judges were going to be judging were reversed, and that Extension does not pay for judges, the Fair Board does. Also, the fair board only pays $60.00 towards judge’s motel rooms, that is why the discussion was held on the the Stockgrowers helping out with expenses.

Motion to approve minutes with corrections was made by Angie Ketscher and seconded by Dustin Johnson. Motion approved.

Fairgrounds:

Sale Barn update: Dustin reported that this was Lee McConnell’s area. Nothing has happened yet other than taking down the old Crow’s nest. Plans have changed from add on to the outside of the building to having a podium at ground level but having an “in” and an “out” door to the sale arena.

Pig Scale Update: Pig scale has not been moved yet. Concrete has been bought. A date was set for July 24th at 8am to move the old scale, dig out the area and pour the concrete. Shana Withee says she has a cement mixer that the group could use to mix the concrete. Jim Withee may be available to help. Angie Ketscher has floats and re-bar if needed. Jimmy will get the gravel for under the concrete. Dustin will talk to Jack at the fairgrounds to see if he is available to run the tractor to pull the old scale out. Dustin will send an email out to all members of the committee letting them know about the workday.

Workdays: Jack is doing a good job at keeping weeds down around the barns and other areas this year. We need to schedule a “clean up day” to make repairs and make sure everything is in working order ready for fair.

Stall Fees: Dustin asked if stall fees would remain the same as last year. Fees took a big jump in price last year in order to cover actual costs. We had a lot of chips left over last year, someone will go out and check to see if they are still there. There may be enough that they may not need to buy additional chips. Angie Ketscher volunteered to check on the chip situation.

Marketing: Shana was at the Lane County Fair this last week and they have a white vinyl fence where they post the name of the buyers from the previous year’s auction on a wall. Shana showed pictures of the wall. Perhaps in the future we can develop a project like this, maybe when we get the bleachers replaced.
Shana had an idea to perhaps approach the Lions Club and ask if they would be willing to feed the judges for one day as a sponsorship to 4-H.

**Add-on form:** Angie asked about the add-on form, she had several people ask about the availability of the forms. Dustin has made changes to the form and removed “Nevada” from the form. He also was removing a line for people to add-on for one specific participant. People still could, but it would not be an obvious option. The forms will be available on the Extension website also. Forms need to be available as people are asking.

Shana shared that some sponsors do NOT want their donations made public. It was felt that those who wished to be anonymous should stay that way.

Dustin shared that he had an email the other day and that animal “rights” folks are starting to pick on fairs. He handed out a form where PETA is asking for background checks on animal exhibitors. They are also worried about the safety of the public and that the public should be “protected” from being hurt by the animals.

**Stall Cards:** Jimmy asked if we wanted to use the new stall cards that Jimmy had designed. Shana stated that she felt there were enough 4-H cards that had been printed several years ago to last through this year’s fair. We will look at printing combined cards for next year.

**Visiting 4-H clubs:** Angie and Lee have been visiting clubs and informing them of the Sale Committee and asking them to write letters to former and prospective buyers. They have not covered clubs in town but have contacted most of the large animals clubs so far. It was thought that perhaps we should have kids bring in their thank you with a stamped envelope and they should be checked before being mailed to make sure they are appropriate.

It was asked if we would be able to work out getting the kids their checks earlier this year. Dustin said that we have not talked to all of the banks yet. Discussion on how to get buyers to pay in a reasonable amount of time took place.

Angie Ketscher talked about how kids in the Premium Livestock club are writing invitation letters to buyers. We are encouraging all kids to invite past and prospective buyers to the fair and auction.

Shana noted that the extension office sends out letters to all previous buyers with their ticket to the BBQ. It was though perhaps we can add a sentence on to the letter asking for payment at this year’s auction to be made the night of the auction.

**Next meeting date:** The next meeting was set for Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 6pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09pm