Annual Meeting 4H Finals Rodeo Committee

 October 31, 2015

The October 31, 2015 Annual Meeting was Called to Order by President, Treg Cowan. The Pledge of Allegiance and 4H Pledge were recited.

Members present: Shelly Cowan, Teri Heninger, Treg Cowan, Don Heninger, Janet Wright, Russ Maier, Heather Shoultz, Kasey Hansen, Casey Cowan, John Keimig, Peter Nielson, Pauline Witte, Roger Theobald.

Russ Maier made a motion to dispense of the reading of the August 4, 2015 meeting minutes and accept as written. Kathy Monnens 2nd. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Teri Heninger reported $26,082.64 currently in the checking account (see attached). January 2015 thru October 2015 total income $108,412.49 and total expenses $102,811.82. There will scholarships to pay out in January and the bill from Starrography for the 4th place finals prizes will also be invoiced in January. There is approximately $5,700.00 still in receivables. Heather Shoultz made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Pauline Witte seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Treg Cowan, President, reported that feedback on the 2015 Finals was overwhelmingly positive. **A huge “Thank You” to all of the volunteers who came and helped at the Finals- this includes those that helped set-up and take-down and everyone in between.** We could not do it without you. Things went smoothly even with the extremely hot temperature on Saturday and the VSV outbreak. **The Finals Committee would also like to thank Jim Wolf, DVM (Oahe Vet) for donating his time and expertise on short notice**!!

Currently there are 4 Regional Rodeos with unpaid fees for 2015. Clark (2 day rodeo), Bennett County, Sioux Empire (2 day rodeo), Haakon/Jackson, for a total of $4,200.00 in receivables.

*SDSU Extension:* Peter Nielson, SDSU/Program Director-4H Youth Development and John Keimig, SDSU 4H Rodeo Extension Liaison reported that South Dakota is one of only two states in the U.S. that currently have a 4H Rodeo Program. Peter explained that the Extension program is here to work with 4H Rodeo on any current issues and assist us with making our program even more successful. Peter reminded us that we should all be signed up as a 4H Volunteer so that we have the volunteer insurance coverage. John reported that the Regional Rodeo Approval form will be sent out the first week in November and will be due April 1, 2016. John requested the photos of the 2015 Saddle Winners so that they can be added to the iGrow site.

Discussion was held regarding the 4H Finals Rodeo entry process, the issues encountered in 2015 and how to improve the process for our rodeo families. The Finals Committee and Heather Shoultz, Finals Rodeo Secretary will work with Peter and John (SDSU Extension) to try to simplify and improve the entry form and process.

Heather Shoultz made a motion to make the following change to the 4H Finals Rodeo Inc. By-Laws:

* Proposed change: Quarterly meetings may be held by conference call.

Current By-Law Reads:

Article V

The Annual meeting of the general membership will be held the last Saturday of October, unless otherwise established by the Board of Directors. At least quarterly meetings will be held of the Board of Directors to consider policy and regulation changes for the State 4-H Finals Rodeo. Conference calls are not counted as one of the quarterly meetings.

Russ Maier seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken – 11 regional rodeos voted Aye. 0 voted Nay. This motion was approved.

***Proposed increase in Saddle Sponsorship from January 17, 2015 meeting:***

* **Diana Melvin made a motion to bring the following to a vote at the October 2015 Annual Rodeo Committee Meeting. Increase the Saddle Sponsorship cost to $800.00 /saddle or $400.00 /half saddle for private sponsors only. (not to include the Regional Rodeos) This motion would affect the 2016 sponsorships. Julie Maude 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Discussion was held regarding the motion: The 2015 average price per saddle was $898.00. Potential isuues with tracking who is to pay $700.00 vs. $800.00 was brought up. There was no motion to bring this to a vote; therefore the proposal died for a lack of motion.**

New Business:

4H Finals Rodeo will be August 19, 20, 21st, 2016 (3rd weekend in August ). The Stanley County Fairgrounds liaison, Casey Cowan, will reserve the fairgrounds for the 2016 dates.

**Heather Shoultz made a motion to nominate Kasey Hansen as Vice President. Casey Cowan second. Russ Maier made a motion that nominations cease. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Heather Shoultz made a motion to re-elect Teri Heninger as Treasurer. Kasey Hansen second. Janet Wright made a motion that nominations cease. All in favor. Motion carried.**

*2016 4H Finals Rodeo:*

* Fairgrounds Board/Stalling: Casey Cowan and Roger Theobald representing the Stanley County Fairgrounds Board reported that an entrance/exit on the north side of the Fairgrounds is one of the improvements they are working on. This would allow those parked on the north side of the arena a way to exit the grounds during the rodeo and alleviate some congestion. The stalling form will be updated for the 2016 Finals Rodeo and there will be set hours for stalling check-in.
* Rodeo Manager: Don Bergerson reported Mike Stieger will continue to be the Rodeo Manager- Thank you Mike! There will be a meeting before the first performance of the 2016 4H Finals Rodeo with judges and timers to go over rules, etc.
* Grounds: Don Bergeson reported Scott Hoyt will continue to be in charge of the grounds for the Finals Rodeo. Thank you Scott!
* BBQ: Thank you to Regina Maier for another successful Contestant BBQ! The cost of the meat, buns, etc was $750.00 in 2015. The Finals Committee would welcome a sponsor for the BBQ if anyone has a suggestion please let a board member know.
* Buckles: Kathy Monnens will work with Tres Rios for the 2016 rodeo buckles. Tres Rios does sponsor 4 buckles for the Finals.
* Saddles: Roger Theobald stated that anyone who knows they want to sponsor a saddle for the 2016 Finals Rodeo may contact him now. rodeoroger@aol.com
* Go-Around Prizes: Positive response to the prizes in 2015. Teri Heninger and Vicki Heninger will order go-around prizes for the 2016 rodeo.
* Vendors – fees/space: Discussion regarding an increase in the number of vendor requests for space at the Finals Rodeo. Currently the charge for a vendor to rent space for the Finals is $150.00 or $100.00 with a donation of a $50.00 item to the silent auction**. Kathy Monnens made a motion to raise the vendor rent for the Finals to $250.00 or $200.00 with a donation of a $50.00 item to the silent auction. Heather Shoultz second. All in favor.** Motion approved. Also discussed adding a statement to the vendor agreement stating that the Finals Committee/Stanley County Fairgrounds assumes no liability for the vendors property and that there will be a dance held in the building on Saturday night.
* Programs: Teri Heninger worked with a local printer this year to complete the Finals Program. Teri reported it may save money and time to purchase our own program to create the Finals Program in the future. **Russ Maier made a motion to authorize Teri Heninger up to $3,000.00 to research and purchase a laptop and software to create the Finals Rodeo Program. Kathy Monnens second. All in favor. Motion approved.**
* Concessions: The Stanley County Wrestling will again run the concession stand in 2016.
* Ambassador Committee: Pauline Witte, Ambassador Committee, reported there were 12 contestants in the 2015 contest. There was a total of $1,700.00 in scholarship money. Our 2015 4H Finals Rodeo Ambassador, Shelby Riggs, has been representing 4H Rodeo throughout SD. She has attended the SDRA Finals Rodeo and the State Fair among other events.
* Saturday night Entertainment/Dance: The 2015 Saturday night contestant dance was well attended. Thank you to Blake Paxton and his help for putting this on for the kids.

Open/Miscellaneous

Colleen Harris has agreed to continue to handle the SD 4H Rodeo website updates. Thank you Colleen!

There was discussion regarding the 4H Finals Inc. checking account. **Heather Shoultz made a motion to authorize all of the 4H Finals Rodeo Inc. officers (President- Don Bergeson, Vice President- Kasey Hansen, Secretary- Shelly Cowan and Treasurer- Teri Heninger) on the checking account. Russ Maier second. All in favor. Motion approved.**

The next SD 4H Rodeo Finals meeting will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. CST at the Ft Pierre, Community/Senior Center in Ft Pierre.

Kathy Monnens made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Russ Maier second. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Cowan

SD 4H Finals Rodeo, Inc. Secretary