The January 23, 2016 SD 4-H Finals Committee Meeting was called to Order by President Don Bergeson. The Pledge of Allegiance and 4H Pledge were recited.

**Members Present:** Don Bergeson, Kasey Hanson, Shelly Cowan, Kathy Monnens, Tony Monnens, Tom Heitsch, Diana Melvin, Mark Melvin, Pauline Witte, Mike Steiger, Shaun McKay, John Keimig.

Kathy Monnens was added to the members present at the October 31, 2015 Annual Meeting. Diane Melvin made a motion to dispense of the reading of the October 31, 2015 meeting minutes and accept the minutes written with the addition of Kathy Monnens. Pauline Witte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Don Bergeson reported in Teri Heninger’s absence- Credits: All Regional Rodeos are paid up for 2015. The Sioux Empire Fair has also paid for 2016. Croplan Ag, $2,500.00 for the back number sponsorship for 2016, Fort Pierre Development, $1,500.00 grant for 2015 from the Ft Pierre BID Board. Expenses: 2015 4H Finals Rodeo Scholarships, Starrography photo certificates (4th place prizes), website maintenance and postage for sponsor letters. Current checking account balance is $ 33,940.14. Diana Melvin made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report, Pauline Witte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

* 2016 4H Rodeo Entry Form is now available on the iGrow website: <http://igrow.org/up/resources/01-4043-2015.pdf>. John Keimig (SDSU Extension Associate/4H Rodeo Liason) went through the new entry process. All 4H Official Entry Forms will now go to the 4H Finals Rodeo Secretary, Healther Shoultz, with the exception of the Insurance Verification Form which will need to be turned in to the County 4H Office. All forms are due May 1, 2016. John will be mailing out postcards with 4H Rodeo entry information, due dates, and the 4H Finals Rodeo dates to all families enrolled in 4H Rodeo on April 1, 2016. The postcards will also be available at the SDSU Extension Booth at the Black Hills Stock Show.
* The Finals Rodeo tab, “Entry Process” on the website will need to updated – Heather Schoultz and Shelly will work on getting this updated.
* The “SD 4-H Member Rodeo Insurance Forms” will need to be updated on the Regional Rodeos tab. Shelly will get this updated.
* Update on 4H Rodeo Waiver/Release Form – The 4H Finals Rodeo Board members will continue to work with the Stanley County Commissioners towards the goal of having one 4H Rodeo Waiver/Release for all SD 4H Rodeo’s including the SD 4H Finals Rodeo, alleviating the need to have a separate Stanley County Waiver Form.
* The link for the 2016 4H Regional Rodeo Approval Form (for SDSU) was sent out to rodeo secretaries in December and is due March 1, 2016. John has received 4 approval forms thus far. **If there are any Regional Rodeos that have not received the information please contact Shelly Cowan to get the link for the paperwork**.
* Checking Account – The 4H Finals Rodeo officers signed signature cards at today’s meeting and will now be authorized on the checking account.
* Laptop and software for Finals Program – Teri Henninger is researching options for a laptop and software.

**New Business**

* The entry fee for 2014 and 2015 was $47.00 for the first event (this includes the office fee) and $20.00 per event after that. Kathy Monnens made a motion to leave the entry fee the same for the 2016 SD 4H Finals Rodeo. Diana Melvin seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
* 4h Rodeo Scholarship Awards - There was discussion regarding the current requirement of verification of completion of the 1st semester before awarding 4H Finals Rodeo Scholarships. The 4H Finals Rodeo Inc. Committee made the recommendation that the Scholarship Awards be given at the 4H Finals Rodeo on Sunday before the final performance. The recipients must be present and have their photo taken at the time the scholarship awards are announced. Kathy Monnens will relay the recommendation to the 4H Finals Lay Board.

Kathy reported that Lay Board had received a “Thank You” from Jacey Hupp a 2015 Scholarship Awardee.

* 2016 Stock Bid Forms – Mike Steiger made a motion to add the following requirement to the Stock Bid Forms: “All stock identification/numbers must be turned into the rodeo office no less than 5 hours before the first performance of the 4H Finals Rodeo.” Shaun McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bid Forms will be updated and available on the SD 4H Rodeo website**.** Bids must be received by March 1, 2016 and will be opened during the next Finals Committee Meeting in March.
* 2016 Stall Reservation Forms – Forms will be updated and uploaded to the website.
* Ft Pierre Tourism & Promotion Grant (letter of intent due February 1, 2016- application due May 2016.) The Grant requirements were discussed. The 4H Finals Committee will apply for the maximum amount, $2,500.00- Shelly Cowan will be the authorized Grant Project Director and will prepare and submit the application and proposal.

**Rodeo Committee Reports**

*Rodeo Manager: (*judges/timers/regional rodeo event helpers)

* There will be a mandatory meeting before the first performance of the 2016 4H Finals Rodeo for judges and timers to go over rules, etc.
* Mike Steiger will line up judges and serve as the Rough Stock/Track Arena Director.
* Don Bergeson will appoint a Barrel/Pole Arena Director.
* A sub-committee was appointed to line up timers and a Rough Stock/Track Announcer assistant. The committee includes Lee Ann Gaer, Kathy Monnens, Mike Steiger and Kasey Hanson. The committee will meet by conference call immediately following the next 4H Finals Rodeo Committee conference call on March 16th.

There was discussion regarding making an effort to ensure there is adequate help in the barrel/pole arena. John Keimig offered to contact county extension staff to ask for volunteers. Shaun McKay suggested reaching out to Ellsworth Airforce Base to inquire if there might be some folks interested in volunteering.

* The committee would like to thank all the regional rodeo volunteers that have helped with an event at the Finals Rodeo in the past! We encourage all rodeos to get involved – we cannot have a successful rodeo without all of you. If you know which event you would like to help with please let Mike Steiger know.

*Sponsors/Advertising:* Teri Heninger has mailed out 193 sponsor letters.

* 2016 Back Number Sponsor – Croplan (Full Circle Ag)

*Grounds*: Scott Hoyt – nothing to report.

* John Keimig will drive one of the tractors at the Finals. Thank you John!!

*Stalls*: Stanley County Commissioners

*Gate/Ticket Sales:* Lex Heathershaw – contact for Stanley County Girls Basketball Team confirmed they would like to handle gate/ticket sales again for 2016.

*Ambassador Committee:* Pauline Witte reported that our reigning Ambassador, Shelby Riggs and four Ambassador Committee Members, visited the Capital and Legislative Session on January 20th. Shelby met with the Lieutenant Governor and had her photo taken with him and her local Representatives. Shelby received a standing ovation when she was introduced in both the house and the senate and will be returning to the Capital as a Legislative Page. Shelby will be representing SD 4H Rodeo at the Black Hills Rodeo and Stock Show the last weekend in January.

The Casey Tibbs Center will be hosting the Ambassador Luncheon in 2016.

The Ambassador Committee along with Shelby Riggs, Ambassador, will be visiting the Pierre/Ft Pierre hotels on March 25th.

*Awards (Buckles & Go-Around):* Kathy Monnens will order the buckles. Teri and Vicki Heninger will order go-around awards. Pauline Witte and Diana Melvin will check in to items for the raffles that support the scholarship fund.

*Saddles:* Don B. reported one saddle ordered thus far. **Rodeo Committees are reminded to contact Roger Theobald (222-4413) with your information as soon as possible and submit your 2016 sponsor monies to ensure you will have your saddle for display.**

*Photography:* 2016 Photographer will be Starrography – Brad Kuehn

*Sound System/Rodeo Announcer:* Don B. reported there is a group working to acquire a sound system that could be used by all youth activities at the Stanley County Fairgrounds and that the group may be asking for a donation from the 4H Finals Rodeo Committee towards the sound system in the future.

*Concessions* – Stanley County AAU Wrestling

Additional Business:

* Lend a Hand….The 2016 Sponsor Letter/Form is attached and can be printed off or e-mailed to any potential sponsors or if you have a person or business you think might be interested in sponsoring the 4H Rodeo Finals, but would rather we contact them, please forward the information to Teri Heninger or Shelly Cowan.
* **Regional Rodeos**: Your *2016 rodeo dates and Contestant Entry Forms* and can be e-mailed to Kathy Monnens at **Kathy.Monnens@edgewoodvista.com****.**
* The ***2016 Rodeo Approval Forms*** are due to John Keimig by March 1, 2016. The forms are located at [**http://igrow.org/up/resources/01-4037-2015.pdf**](http://igrow.org/up/resources/01-4037-2015.pdf)**.**

The next meeting will be held by conference call on **Wednesday, March 16th at 8:00 p.m**. - Central.

Kathy Monnens made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diana Melvin -2nd . Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Cowan

SD 4H Finals Rodeo, Inc

Board Secretary