

Fair board discusses members not attending the meetings

By Linda Schneider
The first Cheyenne County Fair Board meeting of 2009 was shy of having enough members for a quorum to vote; however, the board still covered a lot of information and voted on the theme for this year's fair and parade. (See related article.)

Dick Bursch, president, addressed the matter of absent members.

"We have members who have not been at a meeting in quite awhile," said Mr. Bursch. "We do not want to lose any members, but it is getting harder to have a quorum."

According to the minutes, unless approved by the board, a member can be dismissed after three absences.

Clay Zimbelman, without going into detail, said he felt Mike Hanson was absent under special circumstances.

Mr. Bursch added that Ryan McAtee had missed the last five meetings and asked if anyone had talked to him recently. In addition, with 13 members on the board and only six present, the quorum was one-half a member short. No action was taken.

Mr. Bursch said he had talked to Lacy Reed earlier to get an updated treasurer's report. He said she had planned on attending the meeting to report there was ap-

proximately \$8,000 on account, but she received a phone call from her son, Trevor, saying her father had died.

The board agreed to purchase flowers to send to Mrs. Reed.

Fairground locks
Rod's Locksmith had changed the locks at the fairgrounds including padlocks. This matter had been discussed in the November meeting, all master keys were numbered and recorded. The bill for the service was \$167.40.

Mr. Bursch distributed and recorded the keys to the present members. Other keys were given to the Extension office, the Amusement Authority, and Lampe Hardware.

Mr. Bursch said changing the locks and numbering the keys is the best way to keep a handle on where keys are at and with whom. In November's meeting, members approved a \$10 deposit on keys along with a contract to groups and/or people who rent a building on the fairgrounds.

He said in distributing keys this way, it would help secure the tables and chairs that are needed for fair time. He said as many as 10 tables, a number of chairs were missing last year at fair time and no one knew where they were.

Mr. Bursch said he had also told

Rod Ritchey, locksmith, that only the fair board president could authorize duplicate keys.

Insurance settlement
As reported in the November meeting, the kitchen area that had caught on fire was cleaned and all items replaced. Mr. Bursch reported the bill for everything was \$3,120 with a \$1,000 deductible.

He reported that, on the copier that was also destroyed in the fire, the insurance company had allowed \$1,050, less \$100 for age. However, being that the copier was owned by the 4-H, he asked Joe Leibbrandt, county Extension agent, if he was willing to accept \$600.

Mr. Bursch said the amount was what the board received, less 30 per cent of the deductible. Mr. Leibbrandt answered it was acceptable.

Mr. Zimbelman asked if the board was going to collect the \$1,000 deductible from the people responsible for the fire. He said that he believed their homeowner insurance would cover it.

Mr. Bursch said the problem was that someone allowed the renters to use the facility without a written agreement and no one has come forward with the information. Therefore there is nothing in writing to show personal responsibility for damages. No action will be taken.

The members discussed having a new rental contract that would add a clause holding the renters responsible for damages done and give it to the county attorney to draw up with the right wording.

Income taxes
Mr. Bursch said it was time to send out 1099 tax forms to those who had done work for the fair board. Executive session was called for personnel.

When the meeting resumed, motion carried to hire an accounting assistant for the treasurer.

Another motion carried to require social security numbers from the participants who sell livestock in the sale barn.

Miscellaneous items
Since there were not enough members present for a quorum, the members discussed:

- Three "no trespassing" signs were going to be posted at the fair's main entrance, derby area and east end of the horse barns.
- Talking to Mr. Flemming about crowning the arena with sand.
- Having the fair book out sooner with added changes.
- There is one more payment of \$2,000 and the grandstand is paid for. This will give more breathing room for entertainment costs.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the fair board will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 5, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Club Clip

McDonald Area Development
McDonald Area Development met Wednesday, Jan. 7 with nine members present.

The Christmas bingo was discussed. It was estimated that there were 150 people playing bingo. There were 51 contributors who gave prizes for the games. There were five new contributors and this was really appreciated.

Ray Johnson said he is placing the canisters in local places of business for placing names for the valentine drawing.

There will be two \$30.00 gift certificates to the local restaurants. The drawing will be held on Valentine's Day.

With no other new business, the meeting was adjourned.



TIA SAGER tries to get open for a pass during a recent basketball game against Dighton. Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Cougars play tough game

Last Friday evening, the Cheylin Lady Cougars played against Dighton, the number one ranked team in the league. The girls played a good game, but lost to Dighton with the final score, 35-81.

Tia Sager scored 17 points and had five rebounds and one block; Sydney Busse had seven points and one block; Naomi Reeh had four points, three rebounds, three assists and one steal. Teryn Carmichael had three point, three rebounds, three assists and two steals. Whitney Churchwell and Ana Ponce each added two points to the score. Ponce also had one rebound, five assists, two steals and two blocks; Churchwell had one rebound and one assist and Forrest Burr had one rebound.

"We played extremely tentative in the first two quarters, but looked a lot better in the second half," said Coach Deb Pochop. "And like Sharon Springs, they out numbered our team and were able to have fresh bodies out on the court every few minutes."

Wallace County (Sharon Springs)
For the Cheylin Lady Cougars, the game against Sharon Springs on Jan. 6 was one of the frustrating games of the season. Out numbered in team players, Sharon Springs was able to run five fresh girls every 2-3 minutes, and they wanted to hit the century mark. The final score was 34-94, Sharon Springs.

Sager had the high points for the evening with 13, along with five rebounds, three assist and one steal; Churchwell made seven points and had eight rebounds and two blocks while Carmichael had six points, two assists and one steal.

Reeh added four points to the score, and had five assists, one steal and four rebounds, Ponce made two points, and had two assists, one steal and three rebounds; Busse contributed two points, seven rebounds, one steal and one block;

Robertson had one assist and one steal and Burr had one rebound.

"The girls did a remarkable job of reaching deep within themselves and played an incredible final few minutes," said Coach Pochop. "This kept Sharon Springs from reaching their goal of the night."

Junior varsity Lady Cougars
The junior varsity girls basketball team also played against Sharon Springs on Jan. 6. The final score was 12-34 Sharon Springs.

Burr was the high scorer for the game with four points and she had three rebounds, one assist, one steal and one block while Churchwell, Ponce, Reeh and Robertson each added two points to the score.

Churchwell continued with three rebounds, two assists, one steal and one block, Reeh had five rebounds and one steal, Ponce had three rebounds and one block, Robertson also had three rebounds and added one steal, while Carmi-

chael had one assist and one steal.

Triplains
At the Dec. 19 game, the Cheylin Lady Cougars played against Triplains. The final score was 48-77 with Triplains winning.

Sager had 22 points, two assists, eight rebounds, Ponce had 12 points, three assists, two steals and five rebounds, Carmichael added 10 points to the game and had two assists, one rebound and two steals, Reeh had two points, nine assists, one steal and no rebounds, Churchwell had two points, one rebound, one steal, two assists and one block, Busse had two assists and six rebounds while Robertson and Burr each had three rebounds.

"Triplains has a lot of speed and we just couldn't shut them down," said Coach Pochop. "Ana Ponce had her highest scoring night of the season and Tia Sager had a great night, shooting 86 per cent from the free throw line."



Dee and Stan Dorsch

Couple to celebrate wedding anniversary

Stan and Dee Dorsch celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 28. The Dorsch clan spent the weekend at the Kuhrt Ranch on the Beaver, staying in the hunting lodge, playing games and exploring the countryside.

Stan and Dee led an expedition to the nearby Kidder massacre site and memorial, explaining the history of the 1867 event to grandchildren, Austin Dorsch, Emily Erickson, Anna Erickson and Andrew Dorsch.

The group enjoyed seeing numerous deer and the Beaver Creek turkey flock, numbering upwards of 300 birds, patrolling the fields in search of grain.

The Dorsch boys engaged ranch owner Brent Flanders in a Wii game of Cabela's Dangerous Hunts, the Erickson girls enter-

tained with fiddle and guitar music, and all the Dorsches enjoyed visiting with Brent and his father, Jim Flanders.

Scott and Dawn Dorsch, Fort Collins, Colo., and Jennifer (Dorsch) and Scott Erickson, Clive, Iowa, celebrated with their parents.

Stan and Dee were married in St. John Lutheran Church in Bird City on Dec. 28, 1958, and have lived in the Bird City area since returning from a year's tour of military service in Germany in 1959.


The Dorsch and Erickson families also spent the Christmas holiday with Stan and Dee in Bird City. Christmas dinner guests included neighbor Gene Johnsen and David and Marcia Hickert, and afternoon callers were Craig and Lynette Seymour, Ames, Iowa.

Sign-up for Scouting in Bird City.

Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts

Monday, Jan. 19
6:30 p.m.

Cheylin Elementary Cafeteria




Cheyenne County Energy Assistance Program (CCEAP)

Rising energy costs have created some difficulties for some families to meet their winter heating costs. Assistance with part of your energy bill is now available for income qualified applicants.

CCEAP Applications will be available starting Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at the following locations:

Cheyenne County Treasurer's Office
City Office
St. Francis Equity Co-Op
First National Bank
BANKWEST
Bird City - City Office



Frontier Ag
First National Bank
SRS Agents - Goodland and Colby
You may also request an application by contacting Priority Oil & Gas LLC at (303-296-3435), PriorityOG@aol.com, LaRanaLLC@aol.com, or P. O. Box 27798, Denver, CO 80227-0798.

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