

**CITY OF MERRILL  
FAIRGROUNDS COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING - REVISED DATE CITY HALL COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS 6:00 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm  
Present: Mayor Hass, D2 Alderperson Caylor, D1 Alderperson Caylor, Brad Becker, D5 Alderperson Holdorf, Becky Meyer  
Present Not Voting: Social Media Specialist/Fairgrounds Coordinator Hallie Savall, City Administrator/Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, City Attorney Thomas Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm  
Excused: Rodeo rep George Henrichs  
Others present: Henry and Cloe Savall, Cindi Christiansen, Sue Kunkel, Merrill Community Media
  
- II. **Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting**
  1. **Minutes from the October 3, 2024 meeting** - Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to place the minutes on file. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.
  
- III. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
  1. **Fair Update** - Brad Becker updated the committee. He stated there are more vendors and mentioned Vic Ferrari will be playing at the Fair this year. All is ahead of schedule.
  2. **Rodeo Update** - No update.
  3. **Permanent Vendor Update** - Becky Meyer updated the committee. She mentioned renting a larger tent between the two permanent vendor stands (St. John and St. Francis) due to the lack of space to sit for eating.
  4. **Calendar of Events** - This was included in the packet.
  5. **Discuss and consider the Expo Center kitchen rental fee.** - FG Coordinator Savall provided information at the meeting. It was decided that this would be included on the next agenda for further discussion.
  6. **Discuss and consider a rate fee increase for the Expo Center.** - Additional information was provided at the meeting. Following discussion, Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to increase the fee, starting with 2026 bookings, to \$500/\$400/\$300. Alderperson Holdorf seconded and the motion passed.
  7. **Consider the best use for the grounds in front of the grandstand.** - CA Akey provided information to the committee. It costs \$5,000 to put sand on and take the sand off on the grounds in front of the Grandstand. Following the discussion, Mayor Hass motioned to remove the sand in front of the

Grandstand on Thursday of the Fair for the remainder of the year.  
Aldersperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

8. **Update on improvements for 2025.** - CA Akey informed the committee about the following improvements: the fence donated by the Rodeo will be installed, the southwest bathroom will be reconfigured with 2 showers being added, weave will be added to the fence for esthetics, the Armory will be purchased, and electrical updates will be completed.

#### **IV. Monthly Reports**

1. **Monthly Report - Fairgrounds Coordinator Savall** - The report was included in the packet; there were no additional questions.
2. **Consider placing monthly reports on file** - Aldersperson A. Caylor motioned to place the report on file. Aldersperson Holdorf seconded and the motion passed.

**V. Public Comment** None.

**VI. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Thursday, March 6th at 6:00 pm** The March meeting will be Call of the Chair.

**VII. Adjournment** Aldersperson Holdorf motioned to adjourn. Aldersperson M. Caylor seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm

*Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.*