

**CITY OF MERRILL
FAIRGROUNDS COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING 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, D1 Alderperson A. Caylor, D8 Alderperson Rutkowski, Rodeo rep George Henrichs, Fair rep Brad Becker
Present Not Voting: City Administrator/Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Social Media Specialist/Fairgrounds Coordinator Hallie Savall, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, David Buck - Fair Association
Excused: D2 Alderperson Michael Caylor, Jay Schlueter
- II. Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting**
 - 1. Minutes from the June 4th meeting.** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/Rodeo rep Henrichs) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion passed.
- III. General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 - 1. Fair Update** - Brad Becker provided an update. They received positive feedback. In 2027, the carnival will be open on Thursdays. They didn't realize how busy it would be on Thursday. The dates for the fair next year are July 28, 2027 - August 1, 2027.
 - 2. Rodeo Update** - George Henrich provided an update. They will expand the party tent in 2027. There may be an event in October of this year.
 - 3. Permanent Vendor Update** - No report.
 - 4. Calendar of Events** - The calendar was in the packet. Hallie said the bookings in 2027 are filling up. There will be an ad in the Visitor Guide promoting the Fairgrounds, Lincoln County Fair and Rodeo. There is the Festival of Quilts scheduled on October 4th and 5th, of this year.
- IV. Monthly Reports**
 - 1. Monthly Report - Fairgrounds Coordinator Savall** - FC Savall updated the committee. There are nine bookings at the campgrounds for September. After the campgrounds post on Facebook, there were 50,000 views and 90 shares. This is being marketed as a base camp and not as a camping destination. There will be picnic tables and fire rings. Dates are blocked during the Rodeo, Fair and Truck-a-Palooza. October 1st is the last date to camp and May 1st is the tentative start date. It was also reiterated, people cannot sell items out of a car, truck, van, tent, or any other space unless they are part of a flea market event.
 - 2. Consider placing monthly reports on file** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second to place reports on file. The motion passed.
- V. Public Comment** None.

VI. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Thursday, October 1st at 6:00 pm or Call of the Chair

VII. Adjournment (Becker/Henrichs) motion/second to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm

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