

Monday, December 20, 2021

**6:30 PM CONVENE**

**PRESENT: Eddie Coulter, Chairman; Matt Plaisted, Vice Chairman; Alyse Webber, Wendy Wagner; Board Members; Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager**  
**GUEST: Kevin Braun, Fallon County Commissioner**  
**ABSENT: Karrol Williams, Fair Board Member**

**6:32 PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Eddie Coulter called the meeting to order.

**6:32 PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Matt Plaisted made a motion to approve the Monday, December 20 Fair Board Agenda. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

**6:30 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Wendy Wagner made a motion to approve the Monday, October 18 Fair Board Minutes. Matt Plaisted seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

**6:30 PM Manager's Report**

Shyla asked if the Board had any plans with the wolf wood carving or if Shyla could donate it to the Denton Fire Relief Auction.

**Wendy Wagner made a motion to donate the remaining wolf wood carving to the Denton Fire Relief Auction. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

**Extension Report**

Amanda informed the Board of the various activities the Extension has going on. They did a private applicator seminar in Ekalaka that went well. They have a cookie decorating workshop going on currently in the kitchen. They are getting ready for beef weigh ins December 30. Their winter ag series is in January 19. The 4-H Fair Book Revisions Committee changed the schedule a bit. The lama and alpaca show will be on Tuesday after horse show. Wednesday is "small animal day". Amanda said there were issues with the poultry last year. Dairy, goat and sheep Thursday. Pigs, beef and market beef Friday. Amanda is working on judges but it's been going really well. Shyla said our theme is Footloose at the Fair. Picked out by her and Kodie this year.

**6:31 PM PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kevin shared that the Commission will be halting all building projects until we recuperate funds within the county. There was further explanation on this. The Board and Shyla thanked him for the communication.

**6:33 PM OLD BUSINESS**

**Convention Review**

RMAF—

All promotional information was passed around. Shyla had discussions with two new Carnivals to the area. It's hard saying if they will be willing to commit to coming but it was nice to have new ones emerging. She learned, from the Carnival owners, that changing our dates really would not be beneficial. The number of Fairs only goes up on earlier dates unless you want early June. Our current dates are actually less common within our region than surrounding dates. Regardless, it wouldn't be wise to uproot our dates to temporarily get a carnival, we'd lose routing for everything else. Shyla will be persistent with the new carnivals to try and get on their schedules. Matt really liked the Young Guns Entertainment attraction. Shyla will ask for a quote. Matt also liked Octane Addictions as a potential Friday show. Shyla said we confirmed Pippi, Freckle Farms and Bubble Tower.

IAFE—

All promotional information was passed around. Shyla said we confirmed the Chicago Honey Bears and Slamma Bamma. Shyla thought the classes were really lacking. Wendy added that attendance was 60% down which reflected poorly on the selection compared to past years. Shyla thought we should create a qr code to be put on table tents to better get our schedule advertised. She also saw that many Fairs sell apparel and she thought that'd be a good thing to do. Wendy really likes the idea of having a Winter Carnival Event. There was discussion on some other collected brochure.

PRCA—

Eddie reported that was really well attended, there were more committees than ever. He said the speakers were really good and so was the selection. He noticed clowns are being booked years in advance. He said the new tour system is going to be called NFR Playoffs. The top 50 rodeos are selected based on purse. We are one of the two from Montana that qualify. Eddie felt like the PRCA is headed in a good direction for the first time in awhile with the new CEO. The board of directors that were there were actually responsive. Alyse asked about our purse. Eddie thought we keep it at the same money since we are going to only do two performances rather than three. There was discussion on this but it was tabled.

Shyla asked about Montex. Eddie said he had a good conversation with them and our entire rodeo personal. Everyone is so uptight the day of the rodeo because our crowd's nest is too small. There's about 8 people meant to stuff in there. Last year, announcers didn't even get to watch the rodeo live. Matt doesn't think it'd be too expensive to expand it. Kevin thought we should get a quote on it. Eddie is going to work on asking past sponsors.

Eddie and Karrol got our photographer, bull fighters and clown hired. No new venues are allowed to host any PRCA sanctioned Xtreme stand-alone events between May and October. It's become too popular and impossible to manage. We've hosted two Xtreme Bronc events, so we are set if we get our application in soon. If we skip a year, then our opportunity to host another in the future might be denied.

**Matt Plaisted made a motion to apply for another PRCA Xtreme Broncs event tentatively May 27. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

Shyla will get the purse discussion on the Commissioners Agenda.

#### **8:01 PM NEW BUSINESS**

##### **2022 Fallon County Fair**

Night Show Update—Patricia assured Shyla we would get the contract soon after the New Year. Our bid was officially accepted.

Vendor Review—Even as early as we started, finding food vendors has been very difficult. If the Board has suggestions, she's all ears. It's just extremely hard to get out of town people to our area for a four-day event. Eddie found one that might be interested.

##### **Dinner Party Event**

Shyla thought we just do one day of the dueling pianos rather than two. That seems to complicate big groups. The board agrees to only do Saturday, February 26.

**Wendy Wagner made a motion to hire The Killer Dueling Pianos. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

Shyla presented her catering letter to the Board. Eddie thinks we add a deadline so we can look further than Baker if we need to. The Board set a deadline for Friday, January 14, 2022.

#### **8:28 PM ADJOURN**

**Matt Plaisted made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.**

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**ADJOURN:  
s/Eddie Coulter, Chairman**

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**ATTEST:  
s/Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager**