

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022

PRESENT: Jason Coulter, Chairman; Matt Plaisted, Vice Chairman; Wendy Wagner, Alyse Webber and Karrol Williams, Fair Board Members; Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager
GUESTS: Darrick and Michelle Gorder; Baker Wrestling Club, Roy Rost and Kevin Braun; Fallon County Commissioners, Trenton Harbaugh and Nick Eisle; Sherriff's Department; Linda Herbst, Patti Brookes and Karla King; Gamma Beta Sorority

6:30 PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Eddie called the meeting to order.

6:30 PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Matt Plaisted made a motion to approve the August 29, 2022, Fair Board Agenda. Karrol Williams seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

6:31 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Wendy Wagner made a motion to approve the August 8, 2022, Fair Board Minutes. Karrol Williams seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

6:31 PM Extension Report

Amanda said although there were hiccups, Fair overall went really well. She thought not having a Lead really set them behind and was very difficult. She said them and Shyla made it work but it wasn't easy. Wendy said there were a lot of compliments on the grand champion announcement. Amanda was glad that worked out. Eddie said we would improve on it if it's something they want to keep doing. Amanda hopes the kids liked it. Eddie asked about the meetings, Amanda said Livestock Committee is Monday, October 10 at the Courthouse and 4-H Council is Monday, October 17 in the Exhibit Hall.

6:37 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

All attendees were on the agenda.

6:38 PM NEW BUSINESS

2022 Fallon County Fair Review

Law Enforcement—Trent said the Sheriff's office didn't have a ton of issues. The biggest headache was parking. He said that they aren't able to do anything about the parking and that it would be up to the Fair to control that, which is why Shyla had it announced this year. Nick said people park bumper to bumper and it's a huge problem, but they have more pressing things to worry about than parking. Alyse said we tried to have parking attendants once but that it was still very difficult to control people. Shyla said the Exhibit Hall lot was the best it's ever been since there was a sign stating that "permits were required" at the entrance, but she agreed that it's a problem everywhere else. Trent said the last minute liquor deal didn't propose any issues on their end. He added that they didn't have a ton of good comments about it. Trent also reported that the garbage was overflowing Saturday night. Shyla said she doesn't have staff after the night show so that was why. Trent said the road department was upset the yard didn't get locked after it being opened for the Jordan Davis tour buses. Shyla said she should have checked. Eddie asked about having one centrally located cop at all times. Someone that is stationary so that they could be found easier. Trent and Nick think that is doable. The Board thanked them for their hard work and for coming to the meeting.

6:56 pm Nick Eisle left the meeting.

Vendor Update—Karla asked what exactly Thee Garage puts back into the community. Wendy said that Brenda does a lot for the community, a lot. Shyla added that we are a small town and any non-profit or business adds to the community in one way or another. She said it's not the Board's job to determine who does more than the other. Patti said that she got the same complaints Trent did, mostly that it wasn't a family friendly decision. Shyla said we've never had a closed beer garden, so no matter the beverage, adults have always been able to go anywhere on the grounds, drink in hand. Trent said that was true, but it being sold outside of the beer garden made it seem more accessible. Matt asked what the difference between holding a beer and holding a mixed drink is? Wendy said she has heard nothing but compliments on it. Eddie agreed and said we are doing what most Fairs do. Linda said the cooler locks got broken on

Saturday night. Patti clarified that when they locked up everything Saturday it was fine then Sunday morning it looked like someone tried pulling at the door and couldn't get in, but they tried. Wendy asked if the main door was locked. Patti said it was. Shyla asked if any inventory was missing outside of the cooler. Patti said no. Linda said it's just something to address before next year. Shyla said she'd look into it. Linda said they had plenty of help and the workers were all great. Patti said that their profits were really good. Shyla said that was awesome to hear, but that she wanted to address a couple of rumors. She had heard one rumor that their rent was hired by a thousand dollars, which is untrue. She was also confronted about the Board limiting their "open hours" as well which is also untrue, Gamma Beta agreed. She said those are just a couple of examples, and we may not know where it started but that rumors are damaging. She would like help reeling those back in. Linda said it's hard saying where all that is coming from. Shyla agreed, and that although the decision to add liquor was change and change is hard, ultimately hearing that there were zero issues from law enforcement and Gamma Beta's profits didn't take a hit is all you can ask for. She said that we are working together not against each other. Shyla also added that she knows of a situation where two Gamma Beta members let themselves into Thee Garage's booth. She knows it to be a fact, and that it was completely unacceptable. She said all vendors have one grandstands master to be able to get into the building, and that abusing that is a huge problem. Linda and Karla said they did not know that occurred. Shyla said she wouldn't name names but that it needs to be taken seriously. Linda talked about the speakers, there were ones not working where she was sitting at the Derby. Wendy said the sound at the Derby was a problem.

7:32 pm Trent, Patti, Karla, and Linda left the meeting.

Demolition Derby Update—Darrick said they did get a lot of complaints about the sound. Eddie said maybe we have Walt stay through the Derby next year. Darrick said that the arena was great, the weather was perfect so then packing and watering it worked out really well. He added that no one from the county was around after Mitch watered and packed it in the morning. Wendy asked where Mitch went. Darrick said he was sick. Matt said he left for vacation Sunday so Mitch was the one that was supposed to be there. Eddie said he'd have done it if he'd have known. Darrick said that the check in was just really tough having it at a different location. Shyla asked when check in begins. Darrick said 9am. Shyla offered that the drivers have to turn in their keys when they check in, then once Cowboy Church ends at 11am, checked in drivers can then relocate their cars. Darrick said because they are antsy as it is, he then described the whole check-in process and why it wouldn't work. He added that check-in takes so much time that we lost two cars because of it. Alyse asked why we couldn't check in earlier. Darrick said they'd still have to check in elsewhere if Cowboy Church stays at 10am. Darrick informed the Board of some about the issues they had with drivers cornering other drivers. He said they are typical derby issues the club addressed as best they could. Matt asked about starting the derby later. Darrick said the later the start, the less cars they will get. Roy said they do 10am because that's when their radio time is. Wendy asked if that could be changed. No one knew. Wendy said that'd be something to talk to them about now for next year. Eddie said they complained it was too hot this year so they may want it earlier. Darrick said he'd look into it. Shyla asked about the tickets. Michelle said there were some printer issues but overall, it went well. The Board thanked them for coming.

7:53 pm Darrick and Michelle left the meeting.

General Fair Review—Shyla presented the final ticket count, adding that it as a record-breaking year. Karrol said she had some complaints that the breakaway ropers weren't on the program, but Karrol told them that the programs are printed before their slack. Eddie said we could make up an insert for the breakaway roping qualifiers. Wendy thought everything was so well attended and that most the non-profit food vendors ran out of food. Shyla said the vendors were all very happy. Amanda said the sale did great numbers wise. Kevin asked what all the sorority donates to. Wendy listed off some things. Kevin thought to be fair to everyone it used to be rotating schedule. Shyla said it is something to look into for next year. Roy said the short notice was tough. Shyla said it only became a subject of discussion after the pre-fair meeting. Wendy said Thee Garage was the only one that bid for Xtreme Broncs and under short notice that's who the Board thought to ask since there was no time to bid it out. Matt thought the addition was great. Wendy added that issues involving law enforcement were all downtown. Shyla said G&G Garbage was incredibly disappointing. She said whoever is managing there was beyond unhelpful and that if we could not use them next year that would be best. Roy said the county is purchasing containers and will try and utilize those instead. Wendy said the little ones were the big issue, and the City emptied them Saturday as a favor. Shyla said she's never had an issue getting them emptied until this year. Shyla said they stunk up the whole free stage area. Roy thinks we move the little ones and put a container close by. Shyla said we need the lock and key guy to come fix the grandstands doors. Alyse asked about

the sponsor tickets. Shyla said all the sponsors were covered for the rodeo but any other ticket giveaways can be hard to keep track of. Eddie said that he wasn't worried about a concert ticket for the flag girl due to her volunteering for both perfs and her families long time sponsorship. Karrol said it is hard to find flag girls. Shyla said incentivizing volunteers is good, we just need a system so that she knows who's getting what. Alyse agreed that it's a good thing to do. Matt said the crew did good during the Fair. Shyla said they did end up doing great. Eddie emphasized to Commission that we need a Lead. Roy and Kevin said they were working on it. Amanda said she was disappointed by the clean up crew, adding that FFA was supposed to contribute to that as well. Shyla said it was very disheartening having four kids and one adult show up. Matt thinks it should be the kids' responsibility every year to set up and tear down. Eddie thinks too many animals are being sold, there's currently no cap and that only allowing two animals per kid would really improve the quality of the sale. Kevin asked who would make those decisions. Amanda said it would be something to present to the Livestock Committee. Shyla said she always attends the meetings but that would be the best way to get things done. Amanda said according to the chain of command the Commission and Board do have a lot of say. Matt thought he'd like to attend the next one. Eddie asked about putting in large ceiling fans. There was discussion on this. Amanda asked what we thought about the Ambassador's Community Dance. Shyla said she loved it.

Barn Sand

Shyla said we need to add new sand to the barn and that she'd leave it up to the Road Department to choose and haul. Matt said they could get it done next week.

Karrol Williams made a motion to add more sand to the Indoor Arena as the Road Department sees fit. Matt Plaisted seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

Shyla said that she didn't want to blindside anyone, but that this meeting was the only way for the Board and Commission to hear it from her that she is taking a new position. She described the position and the various reasons why it's a good fit for her and her family. She said she doesn't start until the October 3, so she'll work until September 30. She hopes to have everything from this Fair closed out and to be able to train the next person if we start recruiting right away. She said the decision has been extremely difficult and that this job and her Board has done so much for her. It's work from home so she will still be around, and she wants the next person to get the support and training she never had as long as the county allows it. Karrol and Matt said they were happy for Shyla. The Board was supportive.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2022, 6:30pm at the Fair Office

8:22 PM ADJOURN

Matt Plaisted made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alyse Webber seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

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

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