

PRESENT: Jason Coulter, Chairman; Matt Plaisted, Vice Chairman; Wendy Wagner, Karrol Williams and Derrick DeHaan Fair Board Members; Shyla Hadley, Interim Fairgrounds Manager

GUESTS: Travis Keonig, William Bagley, Terry Hardenbrook, Jozell Witcher, Oceania Krech, Linden Krech, Staci Downing, Rachell Christeans: Fallon County Fairgrounds Stallers, Trenton Harbaugh: Law Enforcement, Kevin Braun, Steve Baldwin, Roy Rost: Fallon County Commissioners

6:30 PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Eddie Coulter called the meeting to order.

6:30 PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Wendy Wagner made a motion to approve the October 17, 2022 Fair Board Agenda. Karrol Williams seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

6:30 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Wendy Wagner made a motion to approve the September 19, 2022 Fair Board Minutes. Matt Plaisted seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

6:31 PM Manager's Report

Shyla said they are currently still hiring.

Extension Report

Tabled due to Amanda not yet being present.

6:32 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

Eddie addressed all guests asking that everyone get a chance to speak since this is an open conversation and that they remain respectful when doing so. Travis asked what the plan was exactly. Shyla said that per the last meeting, which is what she was going off of when she sent all stallers the notice, the Board decided to raise the rent to \$100 per stall and \$150 yearly fee to ride in the arena. Travis asked why. Shyla said there are many reasons, but one of the main ones being a supply and demand problem. They are running out of room, so only charging \$10 for a tack stall is tying up a lot of stalls and that's why all stalls will be charged the same amount whether it's horse or tack. Shyla also said that a lot of money goes into utilities and resources to maintain damages due to the stalls never getting a break. When they were built, they were built for temporary use rather than 24/7 tenants. Jozelle said since they started renting, they've put a lot of their personal money into things like dirt since there's been no maintenance put in by the county. Eddie said he's been here 8 years the amount of dirt and supplies they've put into stalls is substantial. He added that if Jozelle really is spending their personal money on that she shouldn't be, she should be coming to the Board since they can't fix something they don't know about. Shyla mentioned that it's very irrational to say that there's been no maintenance on the stalls because that's where Floyd spent the majority of his time, so it's simply untrue. Travis said there are stalls facing the arena that aren't rented out. Shyla said that's intentional, it's for any traveling stallers. Erika thinks considering that they have to stall their hay, paying \$100 for just a hay stall will force people to have it laying loosely outside of their stalls. If they are paying \$100 they should get a complimentary tack stall as well. Will said there are many things in this county, like the splash park that are free to use. Terry added that he's stalled the longest and he could see an increase, but he thinks that a 25% raise would be better. Terry thinks we are a small community and that we should encourage people to stall and this does the opposite. He said we would be happy to double up on tack stalls if we need more room. Kevin asked what the price was 15 years ago. Terry said it was 15 down below and 15 up top. No tack stalls. Kevin said that the price now isn't much higher than that and that it doesn't match the costs associated, we can't be charging what we charged 15 years ago. Erika added that people aren't going to be able to afford it, and then their horses will have nowhere to go. Rachelle said her horse will die if she has to stall him outdoors come January. Matt said we are no longer going to charge \$100 per stall. Kevin said the Board will re-evaluate but he asks that the people think about how much they would think is fair. There was discussion about this. Jozelle added that arena users are a big issue as well. Shyla agreed that common curtesy is an issue with the arena, but that paying even \$150 for an entire years worth of riding is still very accommodating. Eddie said we aren't even comparable to arenas around us, we are so affordable. Erika said that she thinks the arena fee is fair. Rachelle said that the stallers try and be accommodating to arena users but it's not reciprocated sometimes. Shyla agreed with that, and that most of the issues happen after five and on the weekends which makes it near impossible to manage. Jozelle asked what all is happening to the stalling agreement. Matt said they are going to address things like smoking in the barn and not taking care of

stalls because it's getting out of hand. Shyla said that it also has to do with the amount of animal neglect and abuse calls she would get on the regular. Trent said that the calls are vast especially during Fair. The Fairgrounds gets a lot of negative attention due to the status of some of the horses and something needs changed to address those issues. Shyla said it's been talked about for a while, and they've been waiting on our county attorney to make sure it's all done the right way. Jozelle asked whose horse was in the arena pens. Matt said it was his. Eddie said the Board will be discussing everyone's concerns and that they would reach out when a new price is negotiated. Shyla thanked everyone for coming, it's the best way to get their voices heard.

7:03pm Travis, Will, Terry, Jozell, Oceania, Linden, Staci, Rachell and Steve left the meeting.

Roy said if the Board is going to send out letters that the Commission would appreciate a heads-up next time. Shyla said that she sends a letter to the stallers yearly with updates, and that the Commission gave their blessing on a price increase when she's talked about it in her updates. Roy said he understands the decision, he just was caught off guard when the calls started coming in. Wendy asked what the commission thinks. Kevin said an increase is necessary but that it should all be implemented in the stalling agreement.

7:13pm Amanda entered the meeting.

There was discussion on the price. Karrol thought \$50 per stall horse or tack. Kevin asked to have the whole agreement be drafted with commission.

7:22pm Roy and Kevin left the meeting.

Eddie asked Amanda to give the extension report. She handed over the announcements from Freckle Farms and Circus Funtastic. She said Julie and Commission met today for an interim plan, Traci is no longer going to come so Julie is doing the cleaning/checking, Treasurers are taking all money and the extension will let renters in. Shyla thanked her for all they are taking care of for the Fairgrounds. Amanda asked the Board about premiums. Shyla said they are all taken care of. Amanda asked about putting a gate at the bottom of the wash rack. Eddie thought that'd be an easy fix. Amanda mentioned the ongoing issue with the blow dryers so she asked about a power tree. Shyla said that we use all of the ones we have for other aspects of Fair but maybe we could rent one. Eddie thought we could buy another one. Amanda said the drain gets plugged. Matt said it got sucked out. Shyla said that hair just blocks it. Amanda said it was suggested to her to get a bucket for the drain. Eddie asked them to present us with what they are talking about. Amanda said that shooting sports is on hold since all the instructors quit and you need to be certified to lead. Amanda added that the committee had an issue with hearing around town that 4-H kids are going to be required to set up and tear down. She said they don't like being singled out because we wouldn't make open class set up. Shyla clarified that the Board never made them this year, that it was offered due to not having a maintenance person this year which was very generous although only a handful of people came each time. Matt said that's how it is with most other Fairs. Wendy said she doesn't know when it changed because they used to always set up and tear down the barn. Shyla said that the 4-H and FFA are gifted a lot of things like free rent for the entire facility throughout the year so comparing themselves to open class doesn't really make sense. Amanda understands and just wanted to bring it to the Board's attention. The Board thanked her.

6:35 PM OLD BUSINESS

2023 Conventions

RMAF—November 9-11, 2022 no one is able to go. IAFE—November 27 - 30, 2022 Wendy, Matt, Derrick and Shyla will be attending. Shyla will make their travel arrangements. PRCA—November 29-December 1, 2022 Karrol's accommodations have been made.

Drive—In Movie

Shyla said she's just gotten busy with trying to close out Fair in a month and transitioning with this new job that plans have fallen through. The Board wants to wait and do something next summer.

7:15 PM NEW BUSINESS

Bank of Baker Signature Card

Shyla said she is currently still on it and didn't know if the Board wanted that changed. They will need to vote on it, approve minutes with the vote included, and involve Barb Ketterling to update it. Eddie thinks they keep it the same until a new manager is hired. The Board agrees.

2023 Fallon County Fair Plans

Wendy Wagner made a motion to hire SLAMABAMA for the 2023 Fallon County Fair. Matt Plaisted seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Shyla said they may be interested in opening, just as an idea. Freckle Farms will not be touring in Montana next year so the Board will be looking for a petting zoo at convention. Shyla said she booked Grub Stop. Eddie said some Montana people are partners with the Texas Twister vendor. The Board would like to hire them. Wendy wants to talk to Street Beat at convention and asked about Pippi. The Board decided to hold off until after convention.

Fair Board Internal Elections

Wendy voted to elect Eddie Coulter to stay as Chairman and Matt Plaisted to stay as Vice-Chairman. They accepted the nominations.

Wendy Wagner made a motion to elect Eddie Coulter as Chairman and Matt Plaisted as Vice-Chairman. Karrol Williams seconded the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

Eddie asked what everyone thought about the stall fee. Matt Plaisted said adjust it to \$50 per month for any stall and keep the deposit at \$50. Karrol Williams thought that was fair and that the arena fee should stay at \$150. The Board agreed.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2022

8:36 PM ADJOURN

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

ADJOURN:
s/Jason Coulter, Chairman

ATTEST:
s/Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager