



Minutes of Regular Meeting Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board

Tuesday, July 13, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

Fair Board Meeting Room – 101 S. Commercial Street, Lovington, New Mexico

Notice of this Meeting has been given to the Public in Compliance with Section 10-15-4 NMSA 1978

Chairman, Larry Wheeler, called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M. at the Lea County Fair Board Meeting Room.

Members Present to Wit: Trey Kerby, Larry Wheeler, Kris Allen, Vivian Flemens, Brian Pointer, Tyson Pierce, and Marcy Butts.

Also Present: Commissioner Dean Jackson, County Manager Mike Gallagher, County Attorney John Caldwell, BM Cristina Wilhoit, GM Jim Kemp

ITEM 01: FAIR AND RODEO BOARD

- Consideration of Approval of the June 16, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

No discussion.

Trey Kerby made motion to approve minutes from the June 16, 2020 special meeting. Marcy Butts seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Public Comments

County Attorney John Caldwell stated he would offer an explanation as to why commission voted the way they did. Current health order prohibits the event to go on as planned; members (commission) could be penalized for going against the public health order. Legally the board did what they had to do in order to avoid any jail time, legal fees, removal from office. The Fair Board could also be affected by the actions as well, and suffer the same consequences since members are appointed by the commission.

No further public comments.

- Fair & Rodeo Board Member Comments

No comments.

ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Approval of option to renew Entertainment Booking Agency (Linda Brown & Associates - \$45,000)

Chairman Larry Wheeler stated everything is ready to get started moving forward for 2021. First off, the board needs to renew or not renew contract for promoter Linda Brown. Board Member Tyson Pierce asked how is Linda doing in negotiations, and are we getting the best bang for our buck? Chairman Wheeler stated he has worked closely with Linda the past few years and is confident that she has done a good job; overall, better communication needs to be done in order to keep everyone up to date with the latest information.

Kris Allen made motion to approve Linda Brown & Associates as the 2021 Entertainment Booking Agency. Trey Kerby seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Consideration of Approval of option to renew Sound & Production Company (Epicenter Productions - \$156,000)

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District 3: Terry Criswell & Brian Pointer ~ **District 4:** Vivian Flemens & Tyson Pierce ~ **District 5:** Pat Sims & Marcy Butts

Chairman Wheeler stated their set up last year was incredible. GM Kemp stated there were absolutely no problems. Zach and George are the best that he has worked with and were self-maintained. Kemp also stated he spoke to a lot of people during the week that expressed positive difference in lighting and sound.

Trey Kerby made motion to approve Epicenter Productions as the 2021 Sound & Production Company. Brian Pointer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Consideration of Approval of the Entertainment Artists' Contracts for 2020 to be forwarded to 2021

Chairman Wheeler stated he visited with Linda regarding the entertainment lineup; Linda has spoken to all artists' agencies other than Hispanic Heritage. GM Kemp stated she has made arrangements to book them for 2021 at the same rate with the exception of the Hispanic Heritage. Board Member Kris Allen asked if we have received any contracts and do we know who the artists are. GM Kemp stated we have received the contracts but nothing has been signed. Board Member Tyson Pierce asked who made the decision to roll over the entertainment. Chairman Wheeler stated she spoke to each artist beforehand and then presented to the entertainment committee members. Mr. Pierce asked if it is something that we have to do now and can we pursue better acts next year. We have to have a better show this next year, current lineup is ok, but can we try bring more options to the table. Vice Chairman Trey Kerby asked what the entertainment budget will be next year. GM Kemp stated the budget is within 10% next year. He agreed that Mr. Pierce has very valid comments and it is the fair board's decision whether to pursue the same entertainment for next year or not. Vice Chair Kerby stated we do not need to be waiting until the last minute. GM Kemp stated July 26th is a date to respond whether to carry them over. Mr. Pierce stated it ought to be fair for all board members to know instead of voting blindly on entertainment they know nothing of. Board Member Brian Pointer stated he sees Mr. Pierce's point but the lineup is ok for next year. Vice Chair Kerby stated he will go with the entertainment committee's opinion. Mr. Pointer stated he would like to realistically see other people but I think it will be good for the county overall.

Trey Kerby made motion to forward all 2020 Entertainment Contracts to 2021. Marcy Butts seconded the motion; motion carried 5 to 1.

- Consideration of Approval of 2020 Rabbit Show

Chairman Larry Wheeler stated this has nothing to do with COVID19, the recommendation from State Veterinarian to not have show due to RHD (Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease). Most counties are not having rabbit shows, some doing virtual. Board Member Kris Allen stated it is a serious disease and should be avoided at all costs.

Kris Allen made motion to cancel the 2020 Rabbit Show due to RHD concerns. Brian Pointer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Consideration of Approval of Livestock Committee Chairman

Chairman Larry Wheeler stated the position of Livestock Committee Chairman/Superintendent is currently held by Wayne Cox, who will be retiring at the end of July 2020; Wayne's recommendation to fill position is Clyde Wilhoit, who is currently the swine superintendent. Mr. Wilhoit has been instrumental and has knowledge of all species. He has been contacted and has expressed interest in becoming chairman.

Tyson Pierce made motion to approve Clyde Wilhoit as Livestock Superintendent/Committee Chairman. Brian Pointer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 02: OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Wheeler stated that as of right now, the county is still hopeful to have livestock show on county property. Commission sent resolution to governor and have yet to hear a response. As soon as something is known, everyone will be notified immediately. Also waiting to see what happens to Eddy County,

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which starts next week. GM Kemp stated the board ought to notify the extension office to go ahead and spread the word.

ADJOURN

Brian Pointer made a motion at 6:43 P.M. to adjourn this meeting. Kris Allen seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Next Scheduled Meeting: August 10, 2020 at 6pm

DRAFT

District 1: Vice Chairman Trey Kerby & Chairman Larry Wheeler ~ **District 2:** Kris Allen & Rick Schaap
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