



NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD

Nebraska State Fair * PO Box 1387 * Grand Island, NE * 68802-1387 * 308-382-1620

MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2017 – 1:00 p.m.

Board room in the Nebraska Building located at Fonner Park, Grand Island NE

A regular monthly meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Friday, July 14, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. Public notice of this meeting was published in the July 2 & 3, 2017 issues of the Grand Island Independent newspaper and posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website from June 27 – July 14, 2017.

Roll call was read with the following members present: Stan Brodine; Bob Haag; Harry Hoch, Treasurer; Denny Hoffman; Jeff Kliment; Kathleen Lodl; Doug Lukassen; Chuck Rolf, Secretary; Kirk Shane, Vice Chairperson; Beth Smith and Kent Zeller. Others in attendance were: Joseph McDermott, Executive Director; Kelly O'Brien, Administrative Assistant; Bill Angell, Livestock Superintendent; Sandy Spiehs, Assistant Livestock Superintendent; Shaun Schleif, Marketing & Sponsorship Director; Jace Robinson, Marketing Assistant; Chelsey Jungck, Events & Entertainment Director; Selena Aguilar, Entertainment Assistant; Kayla Crowder, Events Assistant; Gabby Christensen, Events Assistant; Jaime Parr, Facility Director; Janna Kuklis, Facility Assistant; Scott Yound, Maintenance Director; Robert Pore, the Independent; Lindsey Koepke, 1868 Foundation Executive Director; Jayne Mann, 1868 Foundation Chairman; Terry Galloway, 1868 Foundation Treasurer and Eddie Biwer, 1868 Foundation Board Member and Susan Littlefield, KRVN.

Shane announced the meeting had been properly advertised as an open meeting and informed those in attendance of the posting location of the Open Meetings Act.

Minutes of June 2, 2017

There being no corrections:

**Motion made by Lukassen to approve the minutes of June 2, 2017 as printed.
Brodine seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

June Financial Report

McDermott reported total current assets of \$4,652,047; total current liabilities at \$333,223; total direct revenue at \$987,001 and total direct expenses \$1,072,738.

**Motion made by Rolf to approve the June Financial Report.
Hoch seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Director's Report

McDermott reported Pierson wireless has been on the grounds for approximately 10-days installing the wireless network. They expect to be done August 1. The security cameras should be here next week and Tom Bridge will start installing them once they are received. There will be T.V.'s in the State Patrol office where they will have someone monitoring the cameras.

McDermott gave an update on the facilities study RFP. The RFP was sent to eight different companies. Only received one response back. The bid that came in was at \$200k. It was higher than expected. There is a GILCA meeting this coming Tuesday where the company that submitted the bid will come in and present their proposal. Nebraska State Fair also wants to conduct a facility study so we know what our needs are 5-10-15 years down the road. That study will hopefully be paid for partially with Grow Grand Island funds.

Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation – Expansion of membership network

Mann shared, the 1868 Foundation serves as the fundraising organization for the Nebraska State Fair. As the fair continues to gain momentum, statewide and regional interest grows. The 1868 Foundation promotes partnerships, both public and private to help ensure our fair remains on the cutting edge of fairs in the nation.

Mann continued, since the relocation of the State Fair to Grand Island in 2010, the growth of the 1868 Foundation has been tremendous. Donor numbers and annual membership within the 1868 Foundation are on the rise. The long range plan for the State Fair includes expansion and development of facilities. The 1868 Foundation will play a vital role in securing funding for assistance with future developments and brick and mortar projects.

Koepke went through the *Nebraska Statewide Expansion* pamphlet, which is a Statewide Grassroots Fundraising Program to Develop Relationships throughout Nebraska to Enhance the Efforts of the Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation.

Galloway shared they want to get out there and generate some excitement. We are in a small area trying to raise a large amount of funds.

Mann asked for the Nebraska State Fair board members support.

Koepke added, it is a big step and will take time.

McDermott thanked Koepke and the 1868 Foundation Board and added that he thinks the timing is perfect.

Foundation updates

Koepke reminded everyone about the upcoming 13th Annual Blue Ribbon Roll out on Saturday, August 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Heartland Event Center. Koepke added the Blue Ribbon Roll out is their largest fundraising event.

Discussion/Approval of 2016 Nebraska State Fair audit

McDermott shared that he sent out to Board members the 2016 Audit and Management letter from BKD. Today, the Executive and Finance committee's went over the Audit with Robin Devore of BKD.

Hoch stated they had a nice conversation with Robin Devore. The Executive and Finance committees accepted everything they saw.

Motion made by Haag to approve the 2016 Audit as presented.

Hoch seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Rain Insurance – 2017 Nebraska State Fair outdoor concerts

McDermott reminded the board members that last month he asked the board to give him and the Executive committee permission to purchase rain insurance for the two outdoor concerts. McDermott explained the last three years since we started the outdoor concerts we have been purchasing rain insurance. The premiums for the rain insurance this year \$23,000.

Committee Reports

a. Facility Planning

-Rolf - no meeting, nothing to report.

b. Finance

-Hoch reported they discussed the Audit. Hoch also shared that McDermott & staff do an excellent job of record keeping which makes the audit process easy.

c. Public Affairs

-Lukassen reported they reviewed Fair benefits for full time employees during the NSF. This will be on the agenda next month.

d. Livestock

-Shane reported everything is pretty much under control. Heard there were four VERY good National Junior shows the last two months.

-Angell gave a brief report of the Junior National shows.

e. Events

-Jungck reported the committee met this morning and discussed:

- Historical time line project
- Marching bands
- Parades
- Opening ceremony
- Board Reunion
- Grand Marshalls
- County Fair Day
- Governors Breakfast

f. Executive

-Shane reported the committee met and discussed:

- Audit
- Listened to Foundation members on the 1868 Foundation Statewide Expansion project.

Future Nebraska State Fair Board Meeting Dates and Locations

- a. August 25-September 4 – “148th Nebraska State Fair”
- b. October 13 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- c. November 10 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- d. December 7 – NSF Board, 1868 Foundation Board & NSF Staff Christmas Dinner
- e. December 8 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- f. January 19 – Board meeting, Ramada Inn, Kearney
- g. January 19-20 – NAFM Convention, Ramada Inn, Kearney

Zeller mentioned we had an invitation from the Hoffman’s to hold our October or November board meeting in Thedford at the Hoffman Ranch.

Other Business

None

Adjourn

Motion made by Rolf to adjourn.

Hoch seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Time: 2:03 p.m.