



NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Friday March 18, 2022

A regular meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Friday March 18, 2022, at 9:00 AM at the Nebraska State Fair Board Room, Grand Island NE.

Public notice of this meeting was published in the Grand Island Independent newspaper, posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website and on the Nebraska State Fair Website. The public was invited to attend in person.

Roll call was read with the following Board Members present: Bob Haag, Chair; Dawn Caldwell, Vice Chair; Tom Schellpeper, Secretary; Boyd Strope, Treasurer; Beth Smith; Kevin Jorgensen; Lanna Hubbard; Jeff Kliment; Steve Wehrbein; Kathleen Lodl; Ryan Hassebrook via zoom; Tom Dinsdale via zoom.

Others in attendance:

Bill Ogg, Executive Director; Jaime Parr, Deputy Executive Director; Eileen Dawes, Office Administrator; Tammy Baker, Business Administrator; Holle Evert, Director of Sales; Vaughn Sievers, Director of Agriculture; Sam Foglesong, Sponsorship Director; Joe Ripp; Director of Operations; Joe Stump, AMGL- State Fair contracted accounting firm; Lindsey Koepke, Executive Director 1868 Foundation.

Bob Hagg 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.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion made by Kevin Jorgensen for Approval of Consent Agenda.

Second by Boyd Strope.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve consent agenda passed unanimously.

Approval of 2021 Audit Report as presented by Chris Lindner - BKD

Motion made by Tom Dinsdale for Approval of 2021 Audit Report.

Second by Lanna Hubbard.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve financials passed unanimously.

Approval of February Financial Report as presented by Joe Stump and Jaime Parr

Motion made by Dawn Caldwell to approve the Financial Report.

Second by Steve Wehrbein.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve the Financial Report passed unanimously.

Board Committee Reports

- Agriculture Committee report by Jeff Kliment.
 - Competitive Exhibits setting up timelines.
 - Livestock hiring judges, finalizing rules and protest forms.
 - Equine is finalizing schedules
 - Aksarben hiring judges and finalizing schedules.
 - GILCA shows coming up putting proposals together.

- Events committee reports by Steve Wehrbein.
 - Committee did not meet this month.

- District One meeting on April 3 Filmore County Fairgrounds in Genova
- Cattlemen's Ball coming up June 3rd & 4th. Volunteers needed: sign up at cattlemensball.com
- Facilities Planning report by Dawn Caldwell.
 - Capital Project list – Grounds and Equipment needs.
 - Appropriations committee reduced requested \$25 Million ARPA funding to \$20 Million.
 - The full Senate will debate prior to final approval.

Approval of Capital Budget

Motion made by Dawn Caldwell for Approval of 2022 Capital Budget of \$258,000.

Second by Beth Smith.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve consent agenda passed unanimously.

- Finance Committee report by Boyd Strope.
 - The Committee met and discussed the Audit report in detail.
 - Reviewed the monthly the financial reports.
 - Reported the Cash Reserve Policy had significant review and noted this in an ongoing document that will require review and change annually.

Adoption of Cash Reserve Policy

Motion made by Boyd Strope for Adoption of the Nebraska State Fair Cash Reserve Policy

Second by Lanna Hubbard.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve consent agenda passed unanimously.

- 4-H report by Kathleen Lodi.
 - Planning stages making all things fair run properly
 - Working with the Department of Ag with the poultry concerns. It is too soon to make decisions.
 - Alternative plans being discussed.
 - To be announced dairy store introducing two new flavors.
- FFA report by Ryan Hasebrook.
 - Final stages of updating the premium books.
 - Excited to showcase FFA exhibits on the 2nd weekend of the fair.
 - State FFA convention is to be back in person this April 2022.
- Executive Committee report by Bob Haag.
 - Distributed Board Committees for 2022

Approval of new NSF Board Committee - Retirement

Motion made by Boyd Strope motion to approve adding NSF Board committee – Retirement.

Second by Steve Wehrbein.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve new NSF Board committee - Retirement passed unanimously.

Approval of Retirement Committee to complete the retirement plans

Motion made by Boyd Strope motion to approve Retirement Committee to complete the retirement plans with Union Bank and Trust.

Second by Lanna Hubbard

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve new NSF Board committee - Retirement passed unanimously.

Department Staff Reports

- **Agriculture by Vaughn Sievers**
 - Competitive Exhibits drop off/pickup area to increase exhibits
 - Ag Educational quotes in the barns.
 - Avenue of breeds located on east side of grounds.
 - Amy working on the livestock entry books.
 - Amy manages the Livestock, Equine and GICKA on social media.
 - Amy attending the OYI Youth Expo showcasing Grand Drive presentation.
 - Aksarben Youth Lamb Challenge lambs to be delivered April 2nd
 - National Goat Show contract

- **Sales by Holle Evert**
 - Return Vendor applications are in with a 9% cancellation rate.
 - New vendors bringing new things to the fair.
 - Keaton is working on campground applications; he is doing a great job.
 - Vendors committee meetings: concessionaires outdoor, and indoor.
 - Volunteer banquet May 5th
 - Recycling council diversion rate 82.5 %

- **Events report by Karli Schulz**
 - Karli attending the OYE youth expo.
 - Applications for regional and Nebraska talent are available.
 - Application for events manager and event interns are available.

- **Operations report by Joe Ripp**
 - Grounds Activities; Big Red Show – Clean up
 - Inventory completed
 - Maintenance on machinery
 - RFPS for sub vendors
 - Working on emergency plans.

- **Sponsorship report by Sam Foglesong**
 - Chief Industry considering holding their annual picnic during the fair with 1200 attending.
 - Lutz cookout 200 attending.
 - Assisting new Marketing Director Ray Massie.

Foundation update by Lindsey Koepke

- She expressed thanks to Governor Ricketts for recommending \$25 Million
- Appropriations committee reduced budget to \$20 Million
- Working on the annual donor renewals
- 300 annual donors

Deputy Executive Director Report – Jamie Parr

- Review of payables with staff at weekly meetings.

- Working through Strategic Plan – Mission and Core Value statements in weekly staff meetings.
- She introduced the New Business Administrator Tammy Baker
- Interviewing applicants for the Volunteer Coordinator position.
- She showed photos and spoke of the importance Statehood Day at the Capital is to all ages.

Executive Director Report – Bill Ogg

- He mentioned of how important the Audit is and should not to take it for granted. He thanked AMGI and BKD for the work getting the Audit completed.
- Importance to do RFP's it is good business.

Other Business

Future Nebraska State Fair Board Meeting Dates and Locations

- April 15th, 2022, in Grand Island, NE

Bob asked for any other business. There was no further business.

Adjournment

Motion made by Tom Dinsdale to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Kevin Jorgensen.

Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of March 18, 2022

Nebraska State Fair Approved:

Date: April 15th, 2022

By:



Tom Schellpeper, Board Secretary