



## **NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD**

Sioux Room, Holiday Inn, North Platte, NE

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**June 13, 2019 – 11 a.m.**

A regular monthly meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Thursday, June 13, 2019, at 11:00 p.m. Public notice of this meeting was published in the June 6 & 7, 2019, issues of the Grand Island Independent newspaper and posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website from June 10, 2019 – June 13, 2019.

Roll call was read with the following members present: Stan Brodine; Dawn Caldwell; Bob Haag; Jeff Kliment; Kathleen Lodl; Doug Lukassen; Chuck Rolf, Secretary (via phone); Kirk Shane, Vice President; Beth Smith; Steve Wehrbein, Jeremy Jensen, and Kent Zeller. Others in attendance were: Lori Cox, Executive Director; Laura Hurley, Executive Assistant; Bill Angell, Director of Livestock Division; Greg Harder, Chief Operations Officer and Aksarben Stock Show Director; Chelsey Jungck; Chief of Entertainment and Events; Patrick Kopke, Chief Financial Officer; Jeremy and Jennifer Knoles, and Marvin Rousey.

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 May 17, 2019 Meeting**

Read and need to be corrected.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Cox reported on marketing and moving into single ticket push. Bundles sold well. Red Dirt and Rock are now 50% sold of investment. Hot Country is at 30%. The Drifters served a cease and desist letter over a legal issue with the family. Romeo Agency legal is handling; our legal counsel is advised. Cody Jinks will perform at a casino in Sioux City, IA on July 27<sup>th</sup> in exchange for a fee reduction of \$49,000. The venue holds 1460 and RFP for talent agency went out June 12<sup>th</sup>. Routing and partnerships are key, as well as better pricing. Sponsorship- \$724,000 cash in; \$408,053 trade in. New fuel sponsor BossFuel should save us more than \$10,000. Fuel bill was \$120,000.

Kopke spoke on the HR Manual updates. Military FMLA will be increased to 12 weeks.

**Shane asked for a motion as to be amended.**

**Motion made by Caldwell to approve the proposed amendment to the HR Manual.**

**Rolf seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

Color and flags have been added to the Main Entry, ready to show at the July meeting. Share with friends the new mantra video. Kopke said we are working through lighting additions and changes.

**Aksarben Report**

Harder welcomed the incoming interns. Thus far, \$12,000 of hair samples with all 14 states represented are in. Aksarben team is working on sponsorships and have wrapped the cargo trailer in signage. Trailer is available to showcase at events.

**Financial Report**

Kopke reported that cash flow is slowing, common for spring. He handed out a concert trends vs. actuals. The 2020 preliminary budget will be presented in July, as well as the 2018 audit. Kopke reported total current assets of \$2,888,251; total current liabilities \$1,166,639; total current operating revenues \$753,003; total current operating expenses \$1,390,762.

**Shane asked for a motion to approve Financials.**

**Motion made by Lukkasen to approve the Financial Report.**

**Jensen seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Committee Reports**

a. Facility Planning

Harder asked for ideas on a potential Swine Barn meeting with a consultant. Roof issues plague the Nebraska Building, deep cleaning and water damage to the 4-H building must be addressed. We are working on further solutions toward tie-out lighting affecting one neighbor.

b. Finance

Kopke reported financials were previously covered.

c. Public Affairs and Outreach

Lukassen discussed ticket outlets for the western part of the state. They are making sure county fairs post NSF banners.

d. Livestock

Shane reported positive work toward the Swine Barn plans and next steps with the swine consultant.

e. Events

Wehrbein gave an update on the reception/reunion for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Grand Island. Opening Ceremony plans are set for 5 p.m. with 9:30 p.m. fireworks.

f. Executive

This committee did not meet.

**1868 Foundation**

No update

**Other Business**

We will send a thank you to David Fudge and the Nebraskaland Days Rodeo for the hospitality extended to us during our visit.

**Executive Session**

**Lukassen moved to enter executive session.**

**Jensen seconded the motion.**

**Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion made by Haag to exit executive session.**

**Brodine seconded the motion.**

**Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjourn**

**Motion made by Lukassen to adjourn.**

**Haag seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Time adjourned: 12:30 p.m.**