



RESOLUTION OF THE NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD

The Nebraska State Fair Board

Grand Island, Nebraska

Be it Resolved by the Nebraska State Fair Board on this 27th day of March, 2020:

WHEREAS, Lori K. Cox has honorably served as the Executive Director of the Nebraska State Fair since January 19, 2018;

WHEREAS, due to concerns over Ms. Cox's health, the Nebraska State Fair Board and Ms. Cox mutually agree that Ms. Cox will transfer from her Executive Director position to a senior consulting position effective March 27, 2020, at which time Ms. Cox will no longer perform Executive Director duties, and the Nebraska State Fair will take steps to fill that position and/or the duties of that position.

WHEREAS, while in her position as Executive Director, Ms. Cox discovered and reported serious instances of potential waste, fraud and abuse in financial management and accounting of the Nebraska State Fair, and the Board finds her experience and knowledge helpful and desires that she continue to assist in her consultant position in any investigation as may be requested by the Nebraska State Fair Board and/or relevant investigative authorities, and provide consulting services helpful to the putting on the 2020 fair; and

WHEREAS, the Board thanks Ms. Cox for her accomplishments in managing the Nebraska State Fair in 2018 and 2019, including increasing sponsorships by 53%, having the foresight to purchase rain insurance, creating a crisis management plan which resulted in successfully transporting more than 280,000 patrons to the 2019 fair, initiating a system of presales which has greatly increased revenues and saving the State Fair from deep financial losses, incorporating the Aksarben Stock Show as a part of the State Fair while building an exceptional relationship with the Aksarben Foundation, and for assembling an excellent staff which will continue her exemplary leadership;

Now THEREFORE, and in consideration whereof:

The Board shall (1) Issue a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Cox for her meritorious service as Executive Director of the Nebraska State Fair, and (2) Continue her employment with the Nebraska State Fair as Senior Consultant with the same monthly salary and health insurance benefits through January 18, 2021, as well as accrual of PTO and other benefits as provided in the Employee Handbook, as well as a \$25.00 monthly cell phone stipend.

For and on behalf of the Nebraska State Fair Board

Beth Smith, Chairperson

3-27-2020

Date



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March 27, 2020: Nebraska State Fair Press Release

Today, the Nebraska State Fair Board and Lori Cox mutually reached an agreement wherein due to medical reasons Lori Cox will transition from the position of Executive Director to that of Senior Consultant. Effective immediately, Ms. Cox will no longer perform Executive Director duties. The Nebraska State Fair has a plan in place to address those duties until such time as the position can be filled.

As Senior Consultant, Ms. Cox will continue to be available to provide input and assistance, not only with respect to the ongoing investigation into State Fair finances, but also on other matters upon which the Board believes her experience, knowledge and historical perspective will be invaluable.

The Board is grateful for Ms. Cox's service and willingness to continue in a consulting role and is working diligently to secure the success of the 2020 Nebraska State Fair.

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