



NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD

Nebraska State Fair*501 E Fonner Park Rd, Ste 200*PO Box 1387*Grand Island, NE*68803-1387*308-382-1620

MEETING MINUTES March 11, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Friday, March 11, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. Public notice of this meeting was published in the February 28 & 29, 2016 issues of the Grand Island Independent newspaper and posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website from February 24 – March 11, 2016.

Roll call was read with the following members present: Mark Fahleson; Bob Haag; Jeff Kliment; Doug Lukassen; Lowell Minert, Treasurer; Chuck Rolf, Vice President; Marvin Rousey, Secretary; Kirk Shane; Steve Wehrbein and Kent Zeller. Others in attendance were: Joseph McDermott, Executive Director; Kelly O'Brien, Administrative Assistant; Bill Angell, Livestock Superintendent; Sandy Spiehs, Livestock Assistant; Shaun Schleif, Marketing & Sponsorship Director; Ross Struss, Marketing & Sponsorship Assistant; Chelsey Jungck, Events & Entertainment Director; Kelsey Brozek, Events & Entertainment Assistant; Jaime Parr, Facility Director; Scott Yound, Maintenance Director; Jason Fry, Maintenance Assistant; Lindsey Koepke, 1868 Foundation Executive Director; Steve White, NTV; Robert Pore, the Independent and Jane Gustufson of NE Game & Parks.

Rolf 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 February 12, 2016

There being no corrections:

**Motion made by Fahleson to approve the minutes of February 12, 2016 as printed.
Lukassen seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

February Financial Report

McDermott reported total current assets of \$1,841,290; payables at \$45,217; total direct revenue at \$172,454 and direct expenses \$270,456.

**Motion made by Minert to approve the February Financial Report.
Haag seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Director's Report

McDermott reported the weekend of March 4-6, 2016, most of Staff along with Board Members Kliment, Wehrbein and Rolf attended the Zone 5 Conference held in Kansas City, MO. There were 250+ in attendance. There were a lot of great topics as well as good networking. Next year Zone 5 Conference will be in Peoria, IL.

McDermott shared there are several NAFM Spring District meetings coming up with the first one being this coming Sunday, March 13. Nebraska State Fair has always been in attendance at these meetings. McDermott invited all board members to attend if they can.

McDermott mentioned April 12 is the second annual Volunteer Milestone Recognition Banquet hosted by the Nebraska State Fair and the GI Chamber of Commerce. This is a chance for the Nebraska State Fair to honor volunteers who have exceeded the expectation (50+ hours) to help make the Nebraska State Fair a success.

Game & Parks Update

Jane Gustafson from NE Game & Parks shared an update with the board members of what they can expect for 2016. For 2016 they are adding a play sculpture - they call it a tree house even though it's not actually built in a tree. Working on the outdoor stream to possibly make a splash area. They are excited and think all will be enjoyed by the fair guests.

Financial Contribution to Pennies for Progress

This item was removed from the agenda.

Committee Reports

- a. Facility Planning
 1. Rolf gave an update on the Outdoor Arena
 - Will start to see more activity in the east entertainment area at the Outdoor Arena.
 - Footings will be poured this week for the Grand Stand.
 2. In the Facility Planning Committee meeting they discussed some of the Capital Improvements.
- b. Finance
 1. Auditors will be in the office in April. The Finance Committee will meet following the audit and will bring to the full board for approval.
- c. Public Affairs and Outreach
 1. Fahleson – Nothing to report
- d. Livestock Committee
 1. Shane reported the Livestock Committee went over some of the livestock schedule. The show schedule is about complete.
 2. Reviewed the dog policy.

3. Shane shared as a reminder, the Blow and Go show is for 4H & FFA only.
 - Does not apply to open class.
 - Have received good response regarding the Blow and Go show.
 4. Security cameras for the barns. Still discussing. No definite answer yet.
 5. The committee reviewed the Livestock Rules & Regulations.
- e. Events
1. Wehrbein shared the events committee have been on a couple of tours at Stuhr Museum the past couple of months.
 - Joe Black from Stuhr Museum has been very helpful.
 - Joe suggests that we come up with a purpose of our display.
 - Need to decide what exhibits down in the lobby area to leave up, move around or take down.
 2. The committee talked about the Opening Ceremony and the milestone partners.
 3. County Fair Day will be moved up to the first Saturday of the fair in 2016.
- f. Executive
- Nothing to report.

Future Nebraska State Fair Board Meeting Dates, Locations and Other Events

- a. April 8 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room/Races at Fonner Park
- b. April 12 – Volunteer Milestone Recognition Banquet, Raising Nebraska
- c. May 13 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- d. June 3 – Board meeting, TBD, Lincoln/Cattlemen’s Ball
- e. July 8 – Board meeting, The Leadership Center, Aurora
- f. August 13 – Blue Ribbon Roll Out, Heartland Event Center
- g. August 26 thru September 5 – Nebraska State Fair
- h. October 7 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- i. November 11 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- j. December 8 – Board & Staff Christmas Dinner, Riverside Golf Club
- k. December 9 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room

Foundation update

Koepke reported the Foundation continues to raise funds for the Outdoor Arena. They are at 60% of their goal. Up about \$30K from last month. If you have a relative, friend, neighbor or business partner that would like to contribute towards the Outdoor Arena fundraising campaign, please send them Koepke’s way. Will be doing a dedication of the Outdoor Arena on May 19th.

Koepke will be accompanying Parr to the NAFM District 2 Spring meeting on March 13 to remind them what the Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation is about.

Other Business

None

Executive Session

**Motion made by Fahleson to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of Litigation.
Haag seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.
Time: 1:35 p.m.**

**Motion made by Fahleson to exit Executive Session.
Rousey seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.
Time: 2:04 p.m.**

Adjourn

**Motion made by Fahleson to adjourn.
Shane seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Time adjourned: 2:06 p.m.**