

Monday, October 21, 2019

6:30 PM CONVENE

Present: Alyse Webber, Chairman; Eddie Coulter, Vice Chairman; Pat Ehret, and Wendy Wagner, Board Members; Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager

Absent: Jeff Greenlee, Board Member; Michael Millward, Ex-Officio Board Member

Guests: Jeff Erikson, Kidz Fun Zone Owner; Roy Rost, County Commissioner

6:30 PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Alyse Webber called the meeting to order.

6:30 PM APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Pat Ehret made a motion to approve the October 21, 2019 Fair Board Agenda. Eddie Coulter seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

6:31 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Eddie Coulter made a motion to approve the August 26, 2019 Fair Board Minutes. Pat Ehret seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

Pat Ehret made a motion to approve the September 16, 2019 Fair Board Minutes. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

6:31 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared for public comment.

6:31 PM Kid's Fun Zone/Jeff Erikson

Jeff introduced himself as the Kidz Fun Zone owner. He is from Great Falls and has been in the carnival/bounce house business for about 8 years, he has about 12 rides and wants to continue growing. He's been on the same route for years with really small Fairs but he wants to get into larger Fairs so he can continue purchasing rides. He currently provides for Plentywood, Scobey, Dodson, Glasgow, Deer Lodge, etc. Jeff let the Board know that we are better for his route and that's why he's so interested in coming. He said the only times he's had to stop a ride is due to wind, otherwise his rides are in extremely good condition. Wendy asked what type of rides Jeff would bring. Jeff listed off and showed pictures of all the rides he can currently bring and also shared the rides he plans to purchase. Shyla asked if he would be splitting up his rides with any other carnival. Jeff said no, everything would be coming to us. Pat asked for pricing for everything. Jeff quoted \$18,000 (\$10,000 deposit) with them controlling wristband and game pricing. If he went over \$30,000 in sales (including the \$18,000) then he would give back 25% to the county. He discussed the age/weight requirements on the rides. Shyla asked what Jeff would charge for wristbands. Jeff thought \$20 a day and that's separate from laser tag, battle balls, and the games. Alyse asked about including laser tag. Jeff said \$25 a day. Wendy asked what it would be to include the battle balls. Jeff didn't suggest that because the lines would become unmanageable since they are so popular. He said he would charge \$3 for 1, \$5 for 2. Roy asked why the deposit. Jeff said he's purchasing more rides that's why he asks for that much. Shyla asked if we wanted to cap our wristbands at \$20 including laser tag. Jeff thinks he would ask for \$20,000. He would keep the first \$10,000. Alyse said she would like to add in a clause reimbursing us in some way if rides break down or don't show up. Jeff said he is really flexible with his contract so Shyla can draw up what she is thinking. Shyla said that carnivals in the past have requested cash payments, she wanted to know if Jeff would need that because that's something the County really shouldn't be doing. Jeff said no, a check to the business is what expected. The Board thanked Jeff for coming and that they would get an answer to him very soon.

7:26pm Jeff left the meeting.

7:26 PM Extension Report

Shyla shared with the Board where she thinks the cement pad and scale should go inside the Barn. The Board agreed. Michael typed out an email to the Board describing what scale he is wanting to purchase.

7:34 PM Manager's Report

Shyla presented her Manager's Report for review.

7:41 PM OLD BUSINESS

Manager's Maternity Leave Preparation

Shyla let the Board know that she was approved to have an office assistant, Traci Bruha, come in for 2 hours a day while she is on maternity leave. The Commission also approved Floyd Ehret coming in December, January, and February. He will take month breaks in November and March. The Board agreed this would work well. Shyla said that Alyse is Traci and Floyd's direct supervisor so she will sign off on timesheets and will be the contact for any changes in schedule. Shyla said she will send a letter out to all stallers and arena users. She asked if Alyse and Eddie are ok with being "secondary contacts" in the letter. They both agreed. Shyla said she'd like to bump our December meeting up so she can attend. They might have to do the January meeting without her but that she would like to make the rest.

7:47 PM NEW BUSINESS

Fairgrounds Camping/Parking Charges

Shyla talked about the fact that we had long term campers for the first time. As it currently stands, we only have nightly fees set up. Therefore, she has to keep a close eye on the camper's payments, and she doesn't know how she feels about this turning into a landlord situation. Alyse said that we don't want that. Eddie said that with the pipelines coming through it's only going to get worse. Shyla wants to know the Board's opinion on what to do about it, if we put limitations on it and if so, what does that look like. The Board thinks this might be a Commissioner decision. She said at the same time, we have long term campers and we don't currently charge. This sets us up to allow all long-term parking and dry camping. Eddie suggested allowing the parking as long as they stop in to tell Shyla who they are and how she can get ahold of them if she needs them to move. Alyse said they could put together a contract for parkers too. Wendy said to make a meeting with Commission to discuss what they want us to do, then we can put together any pricing or contracts from there.

Montana High School Finals Rodeo

Shyla said that she's going to get all Circuit Finals promotional stuff together before she leaves. Shyla said that if anyone wants her to make accommodations before she goes she can. Eddie and Jeff said they would like to attend. Shyla will get their hotel, they will be responsible for going into the Courthouse and getting reimbursed for their travel and meals.

Eddie Coulter made a motion to pay the fee to have a display set up in the hospitality room. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

Shyla asked about the carnival idea. Alyse doesn't think we need to since we will have one at Fair. The Board agrees. Shyla asked the Board to think about an alternate activity since the dances aren't working out. Shyla talked about our current website company being bought out, but that she plans on integrating it into the website we already have.

2020 Fallon County Fair

Pat said Pippi is no longer available because Chinook changed their dates and she confirmed with them. Alyse brought up the PRCA Per Diem Fees. Eddie thought we weren't paying because we paid hotels. Alyse said we have to pay the per diem fees because it's a PRCA policy. Eddie said we don't have to pay hotel, but its one incentive to get high quality judges. Alyse said that was fine, we just needed to know what we are paying. Eddie said he could talk to someone about it at convention. Shyla let the Board know about Street Beat's price change. The Board is good with the price increase and the motion still stands. Shyla said we have the Bubble Tower/Stilts and Street Beat confirmed for 2020. Shyla shared glass blower's pricing list.

Pat Ehret made a motion to try and get glass blowers. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

Wendy asked if we wanted to keep the parade at 10:00am. Alyse thought it helped the food vendors. The Board agrees to leave it at 10:00am. Shyla asked about the Theme "There's No Place Like Home". The Board liked it. Alyse asked about the Talent Show. Roy thought it's tough to have a show with no screening or tryouts. Alyse said it's something to think about if we want to do something different. Shyla likes the idea of keeping it local, but trying something else. Pat wants tigers. There was discussion on this. Shyla let Patricia know we would like to hire Johnson Brothers for our 2020 production. The Board discussed Night Show bid options and made a short list to start. Shyla said we need to set pricing of tickets for our bid. The Board agreed to keep it at \$15 for upper level seating, \$25 for lower level seating, and \$35 for standing pit tickets. Alyse asked what we think about Jeff Erikson's proposal. Eddie thinks we offer him more, let him keep all revenue from the games and battle balls, then we get full control of wristband prices. Roy thinks we offer him \$26,000 and if he won't accept that to go up to \$28,000 but no more.

Wendy Wagner made a motion to hire Kids Fun Zone up to \$28,000 with a \$10,000 deposit and all games/battle ball revenue. Pat Ehret seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

Pat talked about a new carnival out of Huntington Beach, CA who has 35 rides. He's booked for 2020 but is considering us for 2021.

Conventions

Asked if anyone else was wanting to go to convention besides Eddie and Wendy. No one else is able to. Alyse asked about the bull fighting idea. Eddie said he hadn't gotten any pricing yet but that he'd look into it. Wendy thinks that would pair well with the Jousting.

9:04 PM ADJOURN

Pat Ehret made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wendy Wagner seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried.

ADJOURN:
s/Alyse Webber, Chairman

ATTEST:
s/Shyla Hadley, Fairgrounds Manager