



## **NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD**

Nebraska State Fair \* PO Box 1387 \* Grand Island, NE \* 68802-1387 \* 308-382-1620

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**December 8, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Board room in the Nebraska Building located at Fonner Park, Grand Island NE**

A regular monthly meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Friday, December 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. Public notice of this meeting was published in the November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, issues of the Grand Island Independent newspaper and posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website from November 20<sup>th</sup> thru December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Roll call was read with the following members present: Stan Brodine; Bob Haag; Harry Hoch, Treasurer; Denny Hoffman; Chris Kircher, Chairperson; Jeff Kliment; Kathleen Lodl; Doug Lukassen; Chuck Rolf, Secretary; Kirk Shane, Vice Chairperson; Beth Smith; Steve Wehrbein and Kent Zeller. Others in attendance were: Joseph McDermott, Executive Director; Kelly O'Brien, Administrative Assistant; Jace Robinson, Marketing Assistant; Chelsey Jungck, Events & Entertainment Director; Selena Aguilar, Entertainment Assistant; Kayla Crowder, Events Assistant; Jaime Parr, Facility Director; Janna Kuklis, Facility Assistant; Lindsey Koepke, 1868 Foundation Executive Director; Robert Pore, the Independent.

Kircher 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 October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>:**

There being no corrections:

**Motion made by Rolf to approve the minutes of October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup> as printed. Shane seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

#### **November Financial Report**

McDermott reported total current assets of \$2,131,641; total current liabilities at \$142,850; total direct revenue at \$5,212,834 and total direct expenses at \$7,620,587.

**Motion made by Lukassen to approve the November Financial report. Haag seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

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

McDermott reported he and staff have been working on the 2018 Budget. McDermott hopes to send it out to the board in a couple of weeks.

McDermott also mentioned staff is working on the 2018 Capital Purchase list.

### **IAFE Report – Chelsey, Jaime, Scott & Bill**

Kircher gave a brief report on the IAFE Annual Convention in Las Vegas and mentioned it was good to see how engaged the staff is with the organization.

Jungck, Parr and Yound all thanked the board members for the opportunity to go to the IAFE Annual Convention and gave a brief report on their trip.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **a. Facility Planning**

Rolf – committee did not meet. Yound has checked on the cost to raise the floor in the storage room of the VIP loft. It will cost approximately \$1,200 to make the floor level in VIP Loft storage room.

#### **b. Finance**

Hoch – committee did not meet. Nothing to report.

#### **c. Public Affairs and Outreach**

Lukassen – committee did not meet. Nothing to report

#### **d. Livestock**

Shane – reported the committee met and discussed the drug policy. Shane suggested they all read the hand out that Zeller provided them.

Shane mentioned they also talked about adding more stalls in the Sheep barn. Spiffing up Champion Row. Doing more dirt work in the tie-outs and exhibitor parking.

They also discussed the High School Rodeo.

There is a Horse Department meeting coming up on Saturday, December 16.

#### **e. Events**

Wehrbein – reported the committee met. Right now they are just tossing around ideas.

#### **f. Executive**

Kircher reported the committee met. They discussed the search for the Executive Director and some Sponsorships.

### **Future Nebraska State Fair Board Meeting Dates and Locations**

- a. January 19 – Board meeting, Ramada Inn, Kearney NE
- b. January 19-20 – NAFM Convention, Ramada Inn, Kearney NE
- c. February 9 or 23 – Board meeting/Lunch with Senators, Lincoln NE

**McDermott noted the February board meeting is either on February 9 or 23. Walt Radcliffe has put us on the Legislative calendar, but not sure yet if they are in session on February 9. O'Brien will keep in touch with Radcliffe regarding the date. Smith has offered to find a location in Lincoln to hold the board meeting.**

- d. March 9 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- e. April 13 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- f. May 11 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- g. June 8 – Board meeting, TBD
- h. July 13 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- i. August 24 – September 3 – “149<sup>th</sup> Nebraska State Fair”
- j. October 12 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- k. November 9 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room
- l. December 6 – Nebraska State Fair/1868 Foundation Christmas Dinner, Riverside
- m. December 7 – Board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Board room

### **Foundation Updates**

Koepke thanked the board for including the 1868 Foundation in the Christmas dinner last night. They love it. It make the Foundation more excited to go out and solicit funds.

Koepke reported the 1868 Foundation submitted a check to the Nebraska State Fair in the amount of \$75K in October for partial payment on the Outdoor Arena. The Foundation will submit their final payment in January 2018.

2017 has been a good year. The foundation is busy. The membership renewals are going out.

Koepke shared the Foundation has talked about doing a Nebraska State Fair license plate as part of their statewide expansion. The plates are \$70. We have to have 250 commitments to purchasing the license plate before the state will start producing them. Koepke clarified on the sale of the license plate, none of the money comes back to the Nebraska State Fair or Foundation. Feel it would be a good state wide public relations campaign.

### **Other Business**

Rolf mentioned while in Las Vegas, he saw several people wearing Red blazers. With the Nebraska State Fair staff attending various public functions, he feels the staff should all have State Fair apparel to wear and represent the Nebraska State Fair. Rolf would like the Nebraska State Fair state to check into it.

### **Executive Session – Personnel**

**Motion made by Rolf to enter into Executive Session.**

**Seconded by Brodine. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Time: 10:50 a.m.**

**Motion made by Lukassen to exit Executive Session.**

**Seconded by Wehrbein. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Time: 11:26 a.m.**

**Motion made by Hoffman to allow Executive Committee to act on/sign all NE State Fair agreements until a new Executive Director is in place.**

**Seconded by Kliment. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion made by Rolf granting Hoch and Kircher the ability to be signatories on the bank account and other documents necessary to do business and remove McDermott effective January 1, 2018.**

**Seconded by Haag. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjourn**

**Motion made by Lukassen to adjourn.**

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

**Time: 11:38 a.m.**