

NAVAJO COUNTY FAIR, Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes January 13, 2010

**Board Members in Attendance:** Alberto Peshlakai, Anna Amos, Don Fischer, Jimmy Crosby, Kelly Favro, Lori Reynolds, Mike Mellor, Mike Sample, Redgie Justman, Rusty DeSpain, Tim Kelley

**Staff in Attendance:** Mina Henning, Jose Villarreal, Laura Brooks

**Guests:** Tyrell Wiltbank, Angela Keene, Mark Reynolds, Bob Keene, Charalie Perkins, Shelby Perkins, Linda Kor, Steve Slade, Valerie Slade, Ivah Jeffers-Sample, Kim Chavez, Jayson Williams, Doneeka Williams, Jim Mobley, Suzy Mobley, William Oliver, Bud Constant, Jolene Thomas, Marvel Paul, Helen Paul, Jameson Carlson, resident of 610 W Arizona

**Excused Board Members:** Allen Mitchell, Wendell DeCross, Wes DeSpain

**Unexcused Board Members:** Sara Hansen

1. **Call to Order:** Rusty DeSpain called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2009:** Lori made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Anna seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Committee Year End Reports:**
  - a. **4-H Report:** Will move this report to Jr. Livestock.
  - b. **Cantina Report:** Lori reported that the Cantina did good. They made a profit even though beer sales were down. The reported profit was about \$15,000. There was a new ANSUL system along with a new hood installed this year. Suzie's old building will be turned into storage for the Cantina. Overall the Cantina did well.
  - c. **Demolition Derby Report:** Allen is excused.
  - d. **Jr. Livestock Report:** Jimmy reported that there were lots of new things that worked well. Lots of compliments were received. There are a few things that need to be adjusted including some scheduling conflicts. The community supported the livestock auction well. There were no real complaints and everything was very successful. Rusty thanked Jimmy for an excellent job.
  - e. **Little Buckaroo Report:** Kelly stated that the Little Buckaroo was up in contestants again. Everyone enjoyed the performance and there were many compliments on the Saturday night rodeo performance ride off.
  - f. **Open Class Report:** Redgie reported that everything went very well and ran smooth. They were up in entries. She also reported that she has an awesome committee that works really hard are ready for 2010. Rusty thanked Redgie and stated that her and her committee do an excellent job.
  - g. **Open Class Livestock Report:** Sara is absent.
  - h. **Ranch Rodeo Report:** Kelly reported that they finally got 5 teams at the end and did not have to cancel the event. Sponsorships were hard to get. The public enjoyed the event and she has a good crew for both the Ranch Rodeo and the Little Buckaroo. **Ranch Horse Competition Report:** Mike Mellor reported that there were a few bumps. They were down contestants. He thanked the committee for helping with the event. He has ideas for changes for next year to help it work better.
  - i. **Rodeo Report:** Mina reported that there were 627 contestants at the rodeo and they made Rodeo of the Year again. Everything went really good.
  - j. **Rodeo Queen Report:** Mina stated that the queens did a great job. The past queens did an awesome job and the new ones are doing good.
  - k. **Small Stock Report:** Rusty stated that Wes and Bob handled this area and are doing an excellent job. The newly built rabbits & poultry area is getting small so Jose is working on expanding the area.

I. **Vendor Report:** Mike Sample reported that Martinez Hall filled up and he was having to turn vendors away. There were not a lot of food vendors, but those that were here went away happy. He has started receiving phone calls from some vendors who were here last year and are interested in coming back.

m. **Misc. Reports:**

- i. **Streets/Sanitation:** Don reported that everything went really well. There were a couple incidents where people ran thru the barricades, but that is normal. We received lots of new signage this year that really helped to direct traffic. We will need some new signage this year as well.
- ii. **Opening Ceremonies:** Mike Mellor reported that it went real well. Joni took charge and put everything in place and did a wonderful job.
- iii. **Alberto:** Alberto has enjoyed being a part of the board for the last 6 months and tried to be involved as much as possible. It was good to be behind the scenes. It takes lots of work and he commended each and every board member.
- iv. **Anna:** Anna stated that it went good for her first fair. It was crazy at first, but she had been warned. She helped with flags for the rodeo for the second year. The flags were more organized this year. The rodeo was awesome.
- v. **Tim:** Tim has been on the board for two years and the event keeps getting bigger, better and nicer. He commended the crews, volunteers and everyone involved.

4. **President's Year-End Report:** Rusty stated that everyone just gave the report that he would give. He has heard from everyone how they need to change to make the events better. We are moving forward. The past is the past and it can't be changed. Let's look to the future even if it is not necessarily bright. Hopefully we can secure funding. This is a strong board that can do anything. Rusty thanked everyone for their hard work and stated that they all deserved a pat on the back.

5. **Event Director's Year-End Report:** Mina reported that all went good. The entertainment was well received. Everyone had fun and enjoyed the fair.

6. **Secretary/Accountant's Year-End Report:** No report.

7. **Election of Navajo County Fair Board of Directors:** Rusty read the following from the Navajo County Fair, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws:

Article IV – Nomination, Voting and Election of Directors to the Board of Directors

Section 1 *To be a Voting Member of the Corporation for the purposes of electing Directors to the Board of Directors, and/or to serve as a Director on the Board of Directors, a person must be:*  
*a. Eighteen (18) years of age or older, AND, a Bona-Fide residents of Navajo County, (Bona-Fide means any person who has resided in Navajo County for a period of not less than six (6) months).*

*b. Indicate attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation by writing their name and address on the roster provided, OR, be approved as a Voting Member by the Board of Directors after making written application.*

Section 2 *Directors shall be nominated and elected at the Annual Meeting. Directors who are elected at the Annual Meeting shall take office at the first regularly scheduled meeting after the Annual Meeting.*

Section 3 *Nominations shall be accepted verbally or in writing prior to nominations being officially closed, by the presiding Board Officer.*

Section 4 *Directors shall be elected by majority vote of the Voting Members present.*

Section 5 *Voting rights, for Voting Members, shall apply only during the Annual Meeting in which Section 1 applies.*

Article V – The Board of Directors

Section 1 *The Board of Directors shall consist of fifteen (15) Directors.*

Section 2 *Five (5) Directors shall be elected each year for a three (3) year term.*

Section 3 *In the event a Director resigns or is terminated, his successor will be elected only to fill the remainder of that Directors term.*

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1 Annual Meeting – *The Annual Meeting shall be held during the month of January. The Board of Directors will determine the date, time, and location of the Annual Meeting. Notice as to date, time, and location of the Annual Meeting shall be published at least one (1) time in a newspaper in each Navajo County District, at least 20 days prior to the date of the meeting.*

Rusty then opened the floor to anyone interested in becoming a board member. **Jayson Williams** stated that he and his wife had just moved here. He is not sure that he is ready to be on the board but would like to volunteer. He is a mechanic and his shop is across the street from CarQuest. He has lots of time and would like to get to know the community. **Angela Keene** has volunteered in Open Class for the last five years and prior to that she was a judge for Apache County. She currently works for Navajo County and serves on their personnel commission. **William Oliver** works for Lowe’s. He has spoken with the management at Lowe’s and they are wanting to bring Lowe’s and other companies on as sponsors of the fair. They are also wanting to reach out into their community. Rusty then opened the floor to those on the board who are wishing to run for re-election. **Redgie Justman** stated that this was her third year on the board and during her term she has been over Open Class. She helped out before that. She stated that the fair gets in your blood and you take pride in what you do. **Kelly Favro** stated that she came into the meeting with the intention of not serving again. She has served for 15 years and, like Redgie, it is in her blood. She is here to do it again. **Alberto Peshlakai** thanked the general public for attending the meeting. He is a resident of the Indian Wells Community just north of Holbrook. He works for Navajo County in the Public Works Department. He is also the Secretary/Treasurer for the Indian Wells Chapter. He filled the remainder of Kenny Larson’s term for the last six months. He has gotten to know the board and would like to continue on the board so that the knowledge that he receives he can use to better the Southwest Navajo Nation Fair. **Lori Reynolds** stated that she has been on the board for three years and she would like to run again. She runs the Cantina and is the Vice-President. She is very opinionated and has done lots of good things. **Mike Sample** stated that this was his third year on the board. He has handled the vendors for 2 years and has enjoyed the experience. The vendors are tough but he doesn’t mind and enjoys it. He has some changes that he would like to implement this year. Nominations were opened.

Don Fischer nominated Redgie Justman

Anna Amos nominated Kelly Favro

Tim Kelley nominated Lori Reynolds

Jolene Thomas nominated Alberto Peshlakai

Redgie Justman nominated Angela Keene

Kelly Favro nominated Mike Sample

Mina Henning nominated William Oliver

Rusty DeSpain nominated Jayson Williams

Mike Mellor made a motion to close nominations. Lori seconded. Motion carried. Ballots were then passed out, collected and tallied. The results are as follows:

Redgie Justman	27
Mike Sample	26
Kelly Favro	25
Alberto Peshlakai	19
Angela Keene	19
William Oliver	19
Lori Reynolds	17
Jayson Williams	6

Redgie Justman, Mike Sample and Kelly Favro received 3-year terms. There was then a tie-breaker vote between Alberto Peshlakai, Angela Keene, and William Oliver for the 2 remaining terms. Ballots were then passed out, collected and tallied. The results are as follows:

Angela Keene	25
Alberto Peshlakai	20
William Oliver	19

Angela Keene and Alberto Peshlakai received 3-year terms. Rusty reminded those that ran and did not receive positions that this is a volunteer organization and there are plenty of areas that need help. You do not have to be on the board to be a volunteer or head an area. He guaranteed that there will be positions that become available throughout the year.

- 8. Election of Officers:** Rusty stated that only the board can vote for officers. Rusty then read the following from the Navajo County Fair, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws:

Article IX – Election, Removal and Resignation of Officers

*Section 1 Officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. Officers who are elected at the Annual Meeting shall take office at the first regularly scheduled meeting after the Annual Meeting.*

*Section 2 Officers shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until their successors have been elected and qualified.*

*Section 3 To be eligible to be elected to the Executive Committee, nominees must have served on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for one (1) year immediately preceding the election.*

*Section 4 Any Officer may be removed from the Executive Committee by a majority vote of the Directors in attendance at any Regular, or Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.*

*Section 5 Vacancies of Officers on the Executive Committee shall be filled at the next Regular meeting, following the resignation or termination of an Officer. Nominations shall come from the Board of Directors. Officers will be elected from the list of nominees by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.*

Mike Mellor made a motion to open nominations for President. Mike Sample seconded. Motion carried.

Lori nominated Rusty.	Rusty declined.
Kelly nominated Mike Sample.	Mike Sample declined.
Mike Sample nominated Anna.	Anna declined.
Rusty nominated Don.	Don declined.
Anna nominated Jimmy.	Jimmy declined.
Lori nominated Tim.	Tim declined.
Tim nominated Mike Mellor.	
Mike Sample nominated Kelly.	Kelly declined.
Anna nominated Mike Sample.	Mike Sample declined.
Lori nominated Mike Mellor.	
Anna nominated Redgie.	Redgie declined.

Don made a motion to close nominations and approve the election of Mike Mellor as president. Anna seconded. Motion carried.

Rusty stated that it is very hard to step aside and let things proceed but he has to. There are changes that the fairboard is facing and changes that have been made. He is not discouraging anyone but with Mike Mellor having schedule conflicts, the Vice-President has to be counted on. The Secretary and Treasurer cannot sit idle and will need to step up and look over the financials and handle meetings and minutes. Nominations were opened for Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Lori nominated Don for Vice-President.	Anna 2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Kelly nominated Mike Sample for Vice-President.	
Rusty nominated Anna for Treasurer.	Lori 2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Mike Sample nominated Kelly for Secretary.	Kelly declined.
Tim Kelley nominated Redgie for Secretary.	Redgie declined.

Anna nominated Jimmy for Secretary.

Kelly nominated Tim for Secretary.

Tim declined.

Jimmy nominated Sara for Secretary. Sara could not be reached to either confirm or deny the nomination.  
Lori made a motion to close nominations. Anna seconded. Motion carried. Ballots were passed out, collected and tallied. The results were as follows:

Mike 7

Don 3

Mike Sample was elected Vice-President, Anna was elected Treasurer and Jimmy was elected Secretary

**9. Next Meeting Date:** The president will notify the board of the next meeting date with the agenda.

**10. Adjournment:** Anna made a motion to adjourn at 8:10. Don seconded. Motion carried.