

NAVAJO COUNTY FAIR, Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes May 12, 2009

Board Members in Attendance: Mike Sample, Rusty DeSpain, Redgie Justman, Kelly Favro, Lori Reynolds, Wes DeSpain, Allen Mitchell, Jimmy Crosby, Tim Kelley, Mike Mellor
Staff in Attendance: Mina Henning, Laura Brooks
Guests: Alberto Peshlakai, Lena Lee, Shannon Newman, Paul Barger, Kyan Yazzie, Sherrie Sherwood, Jolene, Marie Paul, Jameson Carlson
Excused Board Members: Don Fischer, Sara Hansen, Anna Amos
Unexcused Board Members: Wendell DeCross

1. **Call to Order:** Rusty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – Regular Meeting April 8, 2009; Work Session April 14, 2009 – Redgie made a motion to accept both sets of minutes as presented. Allen seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Call to the Public:** None
4. **Rodeo Queen Update:** The queens are doing a good job. They are gearing up for this year’s pageant.
5. **President’s Report:** Lost Dutchman Days letter to Rusty: “Rusty, Thanks a big bunch. Your crew was a tremendous help. LDD gave away a little over \$75,000 to the youth organizations of A.J. Enclosed is \$750.00 for your kids programs and we will see you in September if not before. Gary” Rusty presented the check to the Little Buckaroo Rodeo.
 - a. **Facility Requests:**
 - i. NABRA – Lisa Johnson is requesting the use of the large arena for NABRA barrel races. The dates of the request are August 28 (night race), August 29 (day race), September 4 (night race) and September 26 (day race). Our billing cycle with APS is currently running from the 27th of one month to the 27th of the next month. So both of the night races should be billed during the same cycle as the fair. Turning the lights on for the first time is the major cost, the hourly charge is minimal. Rusty stated that Lisa does a considerable amount and in return she receives a special rate of \$50 per day. Rusty recommends continuing with the same charge. Mike Mellor made a motion to accept the facility request and charge \$50 per event. Allen seconded. Motion carried.
 - ii. 4-H Wranglers – The 4-H Wrangler Club is requesting the use of either the open class building or the commercial building for a doll, bear and collectible show/fundraiser July 2 – 5. There is a conflict on the 4th as there will be a wedding reception in the commercial building. Rusty recommends approving the request in the open class building with the stipulation that they are done by 4:00 p.m. on the 4th. Mike Sample made a motion to approve the request with the stipulation that the event is over by 4:00 p.m. on July 4. Mike Mellor seconded. Motion carried
 - iii. Winslow Indian Health Care Center Health Promotion Program is requesting the use of the entire grounds to hold a 3K/5K fun run/walk for the community of Holbrook on July 28. Rusty recommends approve the request and requiring a \$50 cleaning deposit. Mike Mellor made a motion to approve the facility request with a \$50 cleaning deposit. Mike Sample seconded. Motion carried.
6. **Event Director’s Report:** Mina is working on sponsors for the fair. If anyone has any items that need to be included in the fairbook, get it to Mina this week. Fair books will be ready for distribution on July 3rd. Mina needs the information for each committee by Friday. Mike Mellor wanted to make sure that the fair board would be allowed to proof the book. Yes.
7. **Secretary/Accountant’s:**

- a. **Expenditures** – Wes made a motion to accept the expenditures as presented. Mike Mellor seconded. Motion carried.

8. New Business

- a. **Navajo County Junior Livestock Outstanding Senior Scholarship Program** – Sherrie Sherwood asked the board for a donation to the scholarship program. The program requirements are that you are a graduating senior moving on to higher education, have shown for 5 years at the Navajo County Fair, belong to 4-H or FFA or a breed association and write an essay stating how showing animals has changed your life. Their goal is to give away a \$1,000 scholarship. Mike Sample made a motion to donate \$250 to the Navajo County Junior Livestock Outstanding Senior Scholarship Program. Kelly seconded. Motion carried.
- b. **Concession Stands** – Mike received a letter from Mr. Barger stating that the Lion's Club could not continue to lease the concession stand due to manpower issues. They would like to see the Bread of Life Mission rent it. Mike did mention to them that we may do a vendor application instead of a long term lease. Rusty stated that the Lion's Club is the last grandfathered long term lease on the fairgrounds. Rusty does not believe that it is in the best interest of the fairboard to enter any more long term leases. The building is below grade. Mike Mellor agrees that the fair board should not enter a long term lease. Shannon Newman asked whether the equipment would have to be removed if there was no long-term lease. Mike Mellor stated that it would. Jimmy asked what the value of the equipment was and maybe the fair board could take ownership of it and release the building and equipment as necessary. Rusty stated that he did not feel that the fair board should get into the business of leasing concession stands. Rusty stated that the decision was up to the fair board but he did not believe they should enter a long term lease, but that a year to year lease was okay. Mike Sample stated that he felt they should do a vendor application and if someone else wanted to rent the building throughout the year the Bread of Life Mission should remove their stuff. Rusty stated that the electric meter would need to be put into their name and he is more likely to recommend a vendor application giving Bread of Life first option and if they did not want to, then open it up to other people. Rusty stated that as long as the building was not needed then he did not feel they would need to move the equipment as long as they carried insurance on their belongings and understood that the fairgrounds was not responsible. Shannon understands that the fair board is not liable. Mike Mellor made a motion to enter an annual lease with Bread of Life Mission with the understanding that it will be an annual lease, they are responsible for all equipment inside, the building can be leased to someone else except during the fair and the electric meter will be put into the Missions name. The lease should be negotiated and submitted back to the board for approval at the next meeting. Allen seconded. Motion carried.
- c. **Election of Board Member to fill vacancy** – Rusty stated that this is to fill the vacancy left by Kenny Larson's resignation. Rusty opened the floor. Alberto Peshlakai stated that in January he attempted to get on the board. In January he read his letter of intent so tonight he will be reading the Resolution from the Indian Wells Chapter. He resides in Indian Wells and is currently the secretary for the Indian Wells Chapter. He can provide a lot to the fair board. He can obtain sponsorships from the Navajo Nation's 13 Chapters. Rusty stated that there is one interested individual for the position. Jimmy made a motion to accept Alberto Peshlakai as a board member. Kelly seconded. Motion carried. (Voting were Mike Sample, Jimmy, Wes, Redgie, Kelly, Allen, Mike Mellor and Lori) Rusty stated that according to the by-laws Alberto will officially take office June 10 at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Rusty advised Alberto to get with Mina in the mean time.
- d. **Discussion/Possible Action RE: Executive Committee** – Laura read Mike Sample's letter in which he resigned his position as Board President effective April 29, 2009 at 11:59 p.m. Rusty stated that the first thing to do is to accept the letter, if it is still Mike's intent. Mike Sample spoke briefly stating that he was not interested in being president. Wes made a motion to accept the letter of

resignation. Mike Mellor seconded. Motion carried. Rusty has assumed the position of president. Rusty stated that he will be acting president for as long as necessary to see the fairgrounds grow and prosper. Laura read the applicable sections from the By-Laws. Rusty recommends accepting the resignation tonight and re-filling the position June 10. Mike Sample suggested waiting until the next meeting due to the lack of attendance at the meeting. Mike Mellor made a motion to fill the President vacancy at the June 10 meeting. Wes seconded. Motion carried.

- e. **2009 Fair** – Rusty stated that he would like to see lists for each events for items needed so that Mina can work on getting sponsors and/or donations for them. Rusty would like for each event to turn in a budget with a 5-10% cutback.
 - i. **Cantina** – Lori reported that Joel will be providing the same sponsorship this year as last year's. He is in need of the information for the posters. Mina will get that information to Lori. The walk-in unit we be about \$4,000.
 - ii. **Open Class** – Redgie reported that her committee met about 3 weeks ago and they are trying to keep things to a minimum this year. They would like to have lighting installed in the white cabinets, possibly rope lighting, and a new peg board stand.
 - iii. **Kelly** – reported that one buckle has been sold for the Ranch Rodeo.
 - iv. **Tim** – reported that if anyone needs anything to let him know.
 - v. **Allen** – reported that he is scheduling a meeting
 - vi. **Mike** – will get with Rusty to discuss opening ceremonies. Redgie suggested contacting Joni for help.
 - vii. **Wes** – he will need the normal consumable this year (feed, sawdust, etc.). He will work on getting donations. He also reported that APS has been very good about donating materials.
 - viii. **Mike Sample** – Mike says that Wendell has agreed to do vendors but he will help him.
 - ix. **Jimmy** – reported that tagging is coming up soon. Wes inquired about what is needed to finish the hog pens. Rusty stated that they needed to get with Clay & Sara.

Lori mentioned the Tough Enough To Wear Pink Fire Truck coming to our fair. They sell t-shirts. Mina talked to them last year but they were not available. Lori will contact them about attending on the 19th. Mike Mellor asked how the deal with City Council was going. Mike Sample stated that it was denied at the last council meeting.

9. Old Business:

- a. **Discussion/Possible Action RE: Special Event License** – Rusty recommended that this be on the agenda because he believes it is not in the best interest of the board to cancel the liquor license for single events. We could be jeopardizing our license and it is not worth it. Rusty feels that we should only cancel our license and obtain a special event license for the fair. After a discussion, Mike Mellor made a motion to let the current event have a special event license but to use discretion when suggesting it in the future. Allen seconded. Motion carried.

10. **Executive Session:** None

11. **Post Executive Session:** None

12. **Upcoming Meetings:** June 10, 2009

13. **Adjournment:** Wes made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Kelly seconded. Motion carried.