

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

Board Members in Attendance: Mike Sample, Rusty DeSpain, Redgie Justman, Lori Reynolds, Wes DeSpain, Don Fischer, Allen Mitchell, Jimmy Crosby, Wendell DeCross, Tim Kelley, Alberto Peshlakai

Staff in Attendance: Mina Henning, Laura Brooks

Guests: Linda Kor

Excused Board Members: Kelly Favro, Anna Amos

Unexcused Board Members: Sara Hansen, Mike Mellor

- 1. Call to Order:** Rusty called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting July 8, 2009; Special Meeting July 22, 2009; Special Meeting August 5, 2009:** Lori made a motion to approve all the minutes as presented. Wes seconded. Motion carried.
- 3. Call to the Public:** None
- 4. Rodeo Queen Update:** Everything is going good. The pageant will be held in conjunction with Old West Days. Everything is moving along and the girls are doing good. There are four teen queen contestants, two junior teen queen contestants and one little buckaroo queen contestant. There are no queen contestants. The teen queen contestants are not old enough to run for queen. The board can either call back a prior queen or appointment a queen. Lori asked if the board could get a list of prior queens and interview them. The queens have already been through two clinics and done interview practice. Last year's queen cannot be called back because she has moved out of state. Don asked if it would be too difficult to bring in someone new since the clinics have already happened. Mina stated that it would be difficult and would be better if we called back a past queen. Rusty would like to see the board advertise and see if someone will run. If no one responds, then the board can bring back a past queen. The position is open to anyone in the state, not just limited to Navajo county. Lori made a motion to open the queen contest until the 24th of August. Jimmy seconded. Motion carried. Tim will have Cindy Serna advertise the opening.
- 5. President's Report:** Rusty reported that things are moving smoothly. There was a meeting with the county Tuesday that he was not present for. Lori reported that the walk-in is complete. The cinders, millings and drainage have been completed. The cinders in the 4-H area have been brought in. The county will be installing another swamp cooler in the open class building. There is a 5-ton unit that will be installed for next year and will service the rabbits & poultry area, open class building and ticket booth. Steve is getting the plates for the carnival pad. Jimmy will be checking with Jim Mobley to see if he can do the fogging for the mosquitoes. Jimmy will be checking into getting wireless into Martinez Hall. Lisa McKee is working on getting volunteers for help during the fair. Jimmy is allowing county employees to work down here. When the concrete was poured on the midway, the water tanks in the stock pens were also poured. APS donated six 5 gallon buckets of paint and we are already asking for more. APS has contacted Rusty about an excessive amount of railroad ties. We will get 200+. Rusty will work this weekend on getting them.
- 6. Event Director's Report:** Everything is moving along really good. If we register for the IAFE before October 1, we can save \$50 per person. Rusty stated that the IAFE is very beneficial. Between the IAFE and the AFA, we hire all of our entertainment. Mina typically attends both. The IAFE is in Las Vegas and is at the same time as the NFR and the PRCA (where Mina signs the specialty act for the rodeo). Rusty would like to send Mina and a board member. It is November 30 thru December 3. Early Bird Delegate registration is \$289, which covers the registration only. Hotel rooms at Bally's are \$79 per night and at the Paris are \$96. Wendell thinks it is important to send her. Wendell made a motion to send the Event Director to the IAFE and pay for registration and hotel rooms. Mike Sample seconded adding that we should also cover mileage, per diem and travel expenses. Motion was amended and seconded to include the changes. Motion carried. All fair board members need to check their calendars so they can attend. Redgie is more interested in the AFA.

7. **Secretary/Accountant's:** Suzie's will not be renting the building this year. They are interested in giving the equipment that remains in the building to the fair grounds. Rusty asked the board whether or not they would be interested. The board agrees to see if the equipment works and bring back to the board at the next meeting.
 - a. **Expenditures:** Lori stated that Jim Mobley has been working on the golf carts. Rusty asked that Golf Cart Repair be listed separately on expenditures. Leslie Williams was not given back his deposit due to the conditions in which the fairgrounds were left. Wendell inquired as to who Calvin Williams was? Rusty stated that he is temporary labor and his wages come out of the temporary wages in the \$80,000 that the county gives us. Wendell made a motion to accept the expenditures as presented. Jimmy seconded. Motion carried.
8. **New Business:** in the future, if a board member requests that an item be put on the agenda, list the board members name next to the item.
 - a. **Facility Rental** (Rusty DeSpain) – This is the same item discussed at the last meeting. The reason that this was put on the agenda, was not discussed. Our arena fees need to be changed. The cost of upkeep and lights is underpriced. It is not in the boards best interest to continue to rent it to people. It costs more to put on the events that we are receiving. The current costs are \$250/day; \$450/night and \$650 day & night; \$200 deposit. It takes Jose 2 days to prep the arena. We are not currently being charged for water, but our water usage is being monitored. We currently pay \$6.50 per month for the water meter. The current day fee is not adequate. There should be a flat fee no matter what, whether the lights are used or not. If the days go into nights, then the fees should change. The board needs to add a cleaning deposit clarification into the agreement. The arena is not the only thing that is being rented out. They are also receiving the roping chute (\$1,000 to replace), the water troughs, pipe corrals, gates, announcer stand, sound system, bathrooms, etc. \$250 is not a sufficient charge. If we are holding an event and we can't pay for the facility, then the event is not worth it. Tim stated that we should charge a flat rate whether it is day or night. Then charge \$250 to turn on the lights. Rusty recommends a \$500 flat fee, day or night usage. This would cover the use of the lights. We would still need flexibility. Wendell asked if the \$500 was for a 24 hour period or a 12 hour period. It would be \$500, night included. Wendell does not understand the amount, but is okay with raising it. Rusty stated that \$500 was very reasonable. Several option presented were (1) \$500 day, \$600 night and \$750 day & night; (2) \$500 fee which includes four hours of lights; (3) \$500 for the facility and \$300 for lights. Snowflake/Taylor charge WMHA, NABRA, etc \$50. Mike Sample recommended calling Mohave and Gila counties. Wendell suggested tabling until the next meeting and have staff compare. Wendell made a motion to table until the next meeting and instruct staff to contact other arenas on their fees. Jimmy seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. **Board Member Shirts** (Don Fischer) – Don wore a shirt to the last meeting and had many compliments. It would be nice for the board and staff to have shirts. The cost of shirts would be: T-shirts with chromoblast \$12.00 for less than 50 or \$10.00 for more than 50; Polos with chromoblast would be \$14 for less than 50 or \$12 for more than 50; embroidered shirts would be \$18 for less than \$50 and \$16.50 for more than 50. Redgie stated that the open class department is looking into getting them. Styles can be mixed to get the discount. Rusty stated that it would be nice for the entire board to be at opening ceremonies with their shirts. Wendell asked if we would have a specific color. Security wears black and our volunteer shirts are red. The board voted to have gray shirts. Wendell made a motion to go with gray polo shirts, one per board member for a total of 15 shirts. Wes seconded. Motion carried.
9. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Old West Days** – Old West Days is moving forward. The insurance will be purchased through Navajo County Fair, but the City is paying for it. The City will also be covering the insurance for the

fireworks. Tim has concerns with power at the stage. He will also be getting with Mina on the queen contestant speeches and what times that they will happen.

b. 2009 Fair –

- i. **Redgie** – Everything is going good. Don made sneeze guards. The plexi-glass for those was donated. The quilt for the raffle was donated. State Fair items will be accepted on September 20 and 21. State Fair will pick the items up on September 29. All the volunteers and judges are lined up.
- ii. **Lori** – The beer booth is done, it just needs painted. The walk-in is done. Lori is taking volunteers for Friday and Saturday nights. Joel will get with Tucson regarding the posters.
- iii. **Alberto** – Sixteen letters have been mailed out to the Chapter Houses. He is looking for sponsors from the tribe, but their fiscal year does not start until September 1.
- iv. **Tim** – Oaskar is happy because they will not have to dump the toters this year. But the City is donating the 30 yard dumpster.
- v. **Allen** – Everything is doing alright. Allen has a good friend that is good on the bobcat to fill the dead time in the arena. Allen would like to have a 50/50 raffle for the JV baseball program in Snowflake. Rusty stated that the board would need to give Allen permission for this. Jimmy made a motion to allow the demolition derby to do a 50/50 raffle and be able to donate to JV baseball program. Wes seconded. Motion carried. Rusty stated that it would be a good idea to give the donation to the JV team during halftime in the arena. Allen stated that he appreciates Rusty, Mina and Laura for all their help.
- vi. **Rusty** – John Zimmerman with the Health department would like us to prep for the swine flu. They are concerned about the pigs contracting it from the people. He will let us know when he has more information. There will be a parade in conjunction with Old West Days on the 29th at 10:00 a.m. Rusty would like for the board to advertise the fair. Rusty and the staff will organize. There was a rodeo meeting last night. There will be a full chain of events. Guardian Air will land both nights. The performance will be dedicated to a soldier who died in Iraq. There will be bag pipes, a full screen tv, bomb, etc. Everything is coming together.
- vii. **Ranch Horse** – Mina has left messages for Mike, she is still trying to get ahold of him.
- viii. **Wes** – Everything is going good. Rusty will call Dan regarding the coolers.
- ix. **Mike Sample** – Everything is going good. There are 12 food vendors and 7 for Martinez Hall. The Veteran's Submarine and Ambulance can fill any empty slots.
- x. **Wendell** – Everyone that he has talked to cannot work 10-10 all 5 days.
- xi. **Jimmy** – Pictures will be taken of the sellers as they leave the sale ring. They will possibly use the rodeo photographer. The photos will be digitized with a backdrop.
- xii. **Don** – Still waiting on the signs.

10. Executive Session: None

11. Post Executive Session: None

12. Upcoming Meetings – August 19, 2009; August 26, 2009; September 2, 2009; September 9, 2009

13. Adjournment: Wendell made a motion to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Don seconded. Motion carried.