

Utah State Fair Board Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2023

Via Zoom:

Craig Butters
Wade Garrett
Paula Martin
Paul Morris
Jennifer Seelig
Senator Scott Sandall joined 8:45
Nick Tarbet (public)

In Person:

Lillian Bayles
Jared Buhler
David Lewis
Ted Lewis joined 8:40

Staff:

Larry Mullenax
Zane Webster joined 8:48
Jacee Lancaster joined 9:35

1. **Call to order:** Dave Lewis called meeting to order 8:34 roll call taken quorum was present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** December and February meeting minutes for approval. Lillian Bayles made the motion seconded by Jared Buhler all were in favor none opposed motion carries December and February minutes approved.
3. Zane was introduced in person to the Board and gave a brief overview of what he has been working on since he joined the team.
Paula head of the Fair Committee will be meeting with Zane on Monday for the first committee meeting since Zane started.
4. **Action items from last meeting minutes:** A committee was formed to address performance measures for the Executive Directors Lillian Bayles will head that committee with others joining her on that committee.
Also aligning our HR initiatives with what the State offers with training etc. and ongoing support. Holli is working on that and will have a summary for the next Board Meeting

5. **Public comment:** Nick Tarbet in attendance just listening in today.
6. **Financial Report:** Allan reports that revenue is up 50K over last year. We are in a good place. Doing a good job of controlling our expenses. Really strong financial position currently. The audit is moving forward we expect no findings.

Also Larry brought up with the audit coming up that we have formed an IT committee that will be working on making sure that our IT is secure for the protection of the company.

Peridium was discussed last Board Meeting and we will adopt the State guidelines on the current peridium costs.

7. **SB 187:** Is on the Governor's desk waiting for signature. Larry thanks those that helped get that passed. Paul Morris, Scott Sandall and others that were involved. Local Legislators that supported the passing of this bill Senator Escamilla, Representative Hollins, Representative Mike Schultz, Representative Romero and all other that were helpful in this process. Paul Morris made his final comments on S.B 187
8. **S.B. 138:** Senator Scott Sandall commented on the bill that was passed on fraudulent ticket modifications. He gave a brief description on what that bill entails.
9. **Legislative Committee:** Jen also would like to thank all that helped in the S.B. 187 process. Jennifer Seelig would like to talk about meeting with the Salt Lake Transportation Department. Year or so ago it was learned that the City Transportation Division wanting to do some work on 10th west with the road access there. And the concerns we as the Fairpark with the changes that have been discussed. Wade brings up concerns as well with the changes that have been discussed. Larry brings up the point on how they have come up with the data that has been reported. Stop signs have been added to help with the speed of cars. Data is not complete with all the construction that is happening in the area. If moved to a one lane road the backup would impact the neighborhood greatly.
Ted commented that it is unbelievable that the transportation people that should be the experts in this area. That they don't understand what it takes to turn a truck or that reducing from 2 lanes to 1 makes sense.
Jennifer also commented on how backed up it does get during Fair time and other big events. And what does need to happen to coexist.
Nick Tarbet is not representing the city at this meeting, but he does work for the city and can take these concerns to the city and get a meeting where we can voice our concerns.
The State will now pay for the Days of '47 Rodeo rent and other direct costs to put on the Rodeo.
10. **Livestock Committee:** Jared Buhler reported that we will have 2 video screens inside the sale and 1 remote screen that other Fairgoers will be able to watch. Also, online bidding will also be new this year. With the help from Statewide Auction. We will be using a new registration process this year and we chose to go with Showworks that will help streamline the process.

It was also discussed to make the hog show an exhibit only and use the money that was used for awards to make a good exhibit. Make it more interactive, public voting etc.

Ted commented on how excited he is to see the changes that are being made in the Livestock Dept.

The Commissioner was asked about the poultry, or any bird show and it was suggested that it be cancelled again this year to protect the birds.

Also checking with the dairy producer to see if we can get the trailer to return to the Fair.

11. **Rodeo Committee:** Wade mentioned that a rodeo committee was loosely put together last year and he would like to officially get that committee organized. Jim Russell, Lillian Bayles, Jared Buhler, Wade Garret and, Jacee Lancaster will sit on that committee and was approved by Dave Lewis.

The Stock contractor that we have used in the past has recently been sold. There was an RFP sent out and we have chosen Summit Pro Rodeo on a one-year contract.

Jacee joined the meeting and explained how they came to the choice for the stock contractor.

Jacee and Zane attended the FFA Convention and helped judge 2 of the contests. They had a lot of good contacts for volunteers etc. to help with our Fair.

12. **Executive Review:** With the statute change we have learned that the IRS is about a year out issuing new certificates for nonprofit organization we are checking with the lawyers to make sure we can continue to operate as we are until we can receive the new certification.

The legal matter with the vendor that hit his head during the Fair is continuing.

The Tony Hawk event has been moved from Aug to June we do not have an open week for them that they would be here alone so there is a strong possibility that event may not move forward.

Still working on finishing the Hive contract the tickets have gone on sale but we still do not have a signed contract.

13. **Other Business:** Dave mentioned the IAFE convention this year being in Salt Lake making sure that the Board was aware of the dates and that they all plan to attend November 26-29 2023

It was also brought up the Ribs & Rodeo and inviting key people to attend that dinner during the Days of '47 Rodeo

14. **Meeting Adjourned:** Dave made the motion to adjourn. Ted Lewis, so moved Lillian Bayles seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 10:02