

Verde Valley Fair Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes May 18, 2021

5:30 p.m. - Regular meeting

In attendance: President Pynne Johnson, Vice President Paul Groseta, Secretary Nate Jackson, Treasurer David Mongini, and Director Coleen Gilboy in addition, public Brian Bolton, Jennifer Niederer, Eric Banuelos, Junie Rezzonico, Bre Noguez, McKenzie Banuelos, Jordn' Rezzonico, Junie Rezzonico, Jessica Bolton, Dan Sullivan, Lonnie Ferguson, Brandon Wacker, Joel Rosenberg, Beth Canedy, Mary Valenzuela, Kayla Niederer, and others who did not sign in or we could not read.

Absent: Board member Kami Mulcaire

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm

Call to Public: Mr. Lonnie Ferguson wanted to make a statement – Lack of Communication is everywhere and we need to learn how to speak better – we do not listen to understand, we listen to formulate a decision. In regards to the Database Coordinator here is his opinion – for 11 years he has been back with this fair and 11 years ago a discussion was made to move the entries out of the office to the livestock committee and Mr. Ferguson stated it is a HUGE task for a volunteers but the entries did go to the livestock committee. Mrs. Shanna Mulcaire did it, Mrs. Jennifer Niederer, Mrs. Shelly Zale and Miss Kayla Niederer all ran the entries at one time or another. Mr. Ferguson again stated it was much too large of a task for a volunteer, that it needed to be separate from the livestock committee. It became a paid position via a recommendation from the executive board. Then Mr. Banuelos did the database when he was not on the committee. Later he was elected to the committee. When it was given back to Mr. Banuelos even though he was elected to the livestock committee, Mr. Ferguson felt it was a conflict but after going through this year Mr. Ferguson admitted he was wrong. FACTS: 1) Coming of the most successful year ever, taking out the financial it was the smoothest running fair 2) Mr. Ferguson had angst between Mr. Banuelos and the Database position being one person but Mr. Ferguson feels he was actually wrong and would like to ask where there is actually a conflict of interest. Mr. Ferguson feels that Mr. Banuelos is the right person for the position. 3) If we have to offer the job every year, why do we not have to off the other staff positions every year 4) What is best for the fair – if we take personal feelings out, can someone please tell Mr. Ferguson why Mr. Banuelos is not the best choice. For the long term good of the kids at the fair, Mr Banuelos is the best choice.

Ms. Beth Canedy wanted to Thank everyone for bringing food, she has a lot on her plate right now and it was appreciated that everyone stepped up.

Consent agenda – Mr. Mongini moved to approve the Minutes from March 16, 2021 Regular meeting and April 20, 2021 Regular meeting. Mr. Groseta 2nd the Motion – all in favor

Chairman's Report - *Fair went very well, Thank you to all livestock and volunteers. * Beth Canedy needs to be thanked again for all her work in the past 4 years.

Administration Report - *Beer trailer needs to be returned to Yuma, Ms. Johnson will ask if one of her employees can take it down, otherwise Coleen will take it down. * Coleen surgery schedule was in the packet, at first only asked for 2 days off, but the Dr stated it would be between 2 to 6 weeks, two people are lined up to cover if it does take longer. *Convention Schedule – June 9 and 10 in Phoenix, more details coming.

Financials - Mr. Groseta made the motion to approve the financials. Mr. Mongini seconded the Motion. All in favor.

Committee Report –

Livestock: *Auction and show went really well, *Thank you to Pynne for the trophies that were needed. *Steer wash rack needs to be addressed and the water pressure that supplies it. *Food – THANK YOU to

everyone who supplied the food, it was greatly appreciated! * Auction sales was \$476,603 which was the highest ever and the Add-Ons made it over \$500,000. We have incredible community that supports our kids. *The whole livestock committee was on it, and did an incredible job of working together to make everything happen.

Arena Report: -Did 3 nights of Rodeo at the fair, was crazy but it happened.

RV Camping Spots – At June meeting hope to have an update

Shop - Working on 2 more bids

Rentals –None cancelled, but new ones are slow coming in.

Old Business

A) 2021 Fair Update – WOW - In the packet is the information regarding Gate, Bars, Food Vendors, ATM and Auction – the gate was up 27% on paying tickets alone, bars were up \$20,000 and food vendors saw a large increase as well. Youth exhibitor checks were signed tonight - We need to add a deadline for the Add-On's we got another one today, board members will come in and sign another check. We will add a deadline date of the Friday after fair for Add-on's we want our kids to get the most, but people know who they are giving to if they do not buy at auction, so they need to send those checks in.

New Business

A) Election of Livestock Committee

- 1) **Introduction of candidates:** * Jessica Bolton – 2nd year on livestock committee, enjoyed having an in person fair for 2021 and can not wait to help on the 2022 fair. *Joel Rosenberg – has two kids that show, enjoys helping, is a firefighter and wants to help any way he can. * Mary Valenzuela – Been here forever, was on executive board and loves to give back. * Brandon Wacker – retired fire fighter has coached little league for many years. Has helped at fairgrounds whenever Coleen calls and just wants to help where he can – he has been here for a while and will be here for a long time more. *Kayla Niederer – involved since she graduated, showed at this fair for years. Was on livestock committee before and would like to get back on to help again.
- 2) **Tally of Ballots** – Jennifer Niederer, Eric Banuelos and David Mongini tallied the votes
- 3) **Results of Voting** – Jessica Bolton, Veronica “Roni” Kennedy, Linda Harrison and Kayla Niederer were elected. Thank you to everyone who was nominated and who voted.

B) Security Company – Rate Increase – the security company has not had a raise in 5 years – the past 3 years they have seen an increase in minimum wage and need to adjust our fees – Mr. Groseta made the Motion to approve a rate increase from \$18 to \$20 dollars an hour. Mr. Mongini 2nd the Motion. All in favor

C) Rental Rates Adjusted - Since the security rate has been increased, we need to increase the cost to the renters. Mr. Groseta made the motion to increase the rate charged to the renters to reflect the \$2 an hour rate increase per person per event. Mr. Mongini 2nd the motion and all were in favor.

D) Well Issues – Fixes – During fair the well had issues, Mr. Pomeroy helped get the water running again, he stated we need to put metal behind the fan so that the cooling fan can do its job – Coleen authorized the expense so that the repair could be done faster and more damage would not be done to the motor. Wednesday, May 12, there was a leak behind the arena ticket booths – MRI asked if we could do it Thursday morning, VVF dug it up and was way more than VVF could tackle, MRI sent employees over and decided it needed to have an excavator, Friday MRI had Mike Mulcaire come do the repairs – when the repairs were done, the pump would not start again. MRI was able to get a pump on Saturday and the well is back up. While repairs were going on, the valves were left open so

there would not be a build up of pressure, when they fixed the pump (at the well area) and the water was flowing, nobody saw the valves by the arena that were on. 3 hours later the open valves were found and closed. The board would like to see if there needs to be some changes to the well so that we do not have a reduction of pressure when we need water.

E) Grant – The lobbyist for The Arizona Fair Association called and asked for a project that we have had to put off and would like to do, but all information was needed in 30 minutes. Coleen requested a \$2 million new show barn. We have not heard anything about the grant since, but we got our request in.

F) Sophomore – Senior in College scholarship – It is that time of the year again for kids to apply for our college level scholarship – we will send it to the applicants we have in our file, but all students in college can apply.

X. Future Agenda Items: PTO/Sick changes from Mr. Jackson, By-Law Changes if any, Database contract, Well, Budget and Capital Improvements.

Possible Executive Session – Went into Executive Session at 7:46, came out at 9:08 – No discussion at this time.

Adjournment – 9:09 pm Mr. Groseta made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Mongini seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.