

**CACHE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
JUNE 20, 2023**

The Cache County Fairgrounds Advisory Board met in a regular session on June 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Cache County Event Center, 490 South 500 West, Logan, Utah 84321

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members in Attendance:

David Zook, Chair – County Executive
David Erickson – County Council
Sandi Goodlander – County Council
Mark Hurd – County Council
Lane Parker – County Fair Manager
LaMont Poulsen – County Rodeo Manager

Advisory Members in Attendance:

Shawn Milne – Economic Development
Bart Esplin – Fairgrounds Manager
Ron Bjorkman – CCEC Marketing Director
Casadee Hudson – CCEC Assistant Mark. Direct
Julie Hollist-Terrill – CV Visitors Bureau
Bartt Nelson – Cache County IT Director
Dirk Anderson – Chief Deputy County Executive

Voting Members Absent:

Justin Clawson – USU Extension Agent
Cameron Jensen – County Finance Director

Advisory Members Absent:

Dane Murray – Interim County Attorney

Also in Attendance:

Janeen Allen – Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

David Zook called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: A motion was made by Lane Parker and seconded by Mark Hurd to approve the minutes of April 11, 2023 as written. The vote in favor was 4-0. (David Erickson, Mark Hurd, Justin Clawson and Cameron Jensen absent for vote)

9:04 am – David Erickson arrived

9:05 am – Mark Hurd arrived

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

1. Event Center Sound Improvements

Esplin said they hired an acoustical engineer to do sound testing in the event center. The echo is five seconds in the large area. Human speech is particularly effected. She has given a recommendation and Esplin has received a proposal from a company to put sound panels all around the event center walls.

Esplin asked interior design by Milieu to see if they could make it more fitting for the center. The base product would be around \$36,000. He asked board members if they would like to pay more to make the panels more aesthetic.

There was discussion about different materials and their effectiveness.
The sample material is called tectum.

Zook suggested making it look agricultural to fit the original purpose and theme of the event center. Making the color neutral would fit that purpose.

Casadee Hudson showed samples of possible choices for the look of the panels.

Esplin and Bjorkman said that it's a fact they have lost events because of the poor sound quality. Even with the improvements, it may take some time to win them back.

Board members agreed to have the natural panels installed as soon as possible.

2. Horse Stall Fees

Esplin said the current rent fees for horse stalls hasn't changed for a long time. The costs vary depending on what needs the renter requires. He would like to move the rate from \$80 to \$120 and eventually \$150. There are 40 stalls to rent with some renters renting multiple stalls. Renters are given a stall to put their hay in. He would like to charge \$30 for that previous free service.

Poulsen said there are stalls that need to be rebuilt. They are in bad shape.

Zook asked if they are year-round renters and if they use fairgrounds facilities. Esplin said yes and no. Most use the facilities. Some have nowhere else to put their horses. Zook asked if they were here mainly because of the cheaper price and/or for the amenities of the fairgrounds facilities. Esplin said they are here for both cheaper rent and for the amenities. Parker said stalls are super hard to find and people are willing to pay more for the privacy of these stalls. Esplin said there is a wide variety of people renting stalls.

Zook asked for clarification that he wants to raise the fee from \$80 to \$120 for a year and then increase to \$150 next year. Also to establish a fee of \$30 for the outside stalls which is currently free. Esplin confirmed that was correct.

ACTION: A motion was made by Sandi Goodlander and seconded by Lane Parker to increase the horse stall rental fees as presented. The vote in favor was 6-0. (Justin Clawson and Cameron Jensen absent for vote)

3. Event Center Report – Ron Bjorkman

Ron Bjorkman reported that there have been many events since the last meeting including:

- Spring Home Show
- FFA State Job Fair
- English Learning Center
- AKC

- National Insulator Association Convention (this was the first event ever booked for the Event Center, but because of the pandemic and other reasons was never held. It finally took place this year and was well attended by people representing every state. They loved the Event Center and want to have a regional event here in the future).
- Summerfest
- 25 meetings using the meeting rooms
- 3 quincenearas'
- MS 150 (this week)
- Cruise-In (next weekend)
- County Fair and Rodeo (coming in August)

Bjorkman introduced Casadee Hudson who is replacing Cassidy Nemelka who left for a job with the university. Poulsen said that the new Casadee had not missed a step coming in a taking care of the rodeo and ticket sales.

4. Fairgrounds Report – Bart Esplin

Esplin said they were awarded everything they asked for in RAPZ funds.

Projects from last year they are still working on:

- Sound panels
- Well and water rights – Esplin said he is required to get a well permit now. Northwest Fields Canal company is giving some pushback on this. Southwest Fields Canal Company has already signed off on it. Northwest Canal Company is also willing to sell shares in their canal at a discounted cost. Poulsen said to go ahead and drill the well based on the approval from Southwest Fields Canal Company.

David Erickson said that it would be good still to consider purchasing the water rights at such a good price for future well relocations if needed.

Esplin will go ahead and dig the well and start pumping out of it and will continue working with the canal companies on water rights.

5. Open Items

- Poulsen said that the crow's nest may have mold. We need to be looking at it and getting it taken care of. Esplin wants to remove drywall and replace with sprayfoam insulation as a capital project.
- Esplin met with Mayor Daines who is concerned about Sage Hall playing music until 1:30 a.m. Sage Hall will not play music that late. Other cultural events have the same issues. Other issues brought up are regarding parking especially with larger events. Mayor Daines is understanding, but concerned for her constituents in the neighborhood. Esplin said most events are not allowed if they violate this rule.
- Bartt Nelson: all mesh wifi will need to be renewed. We need to start looking at infrastructure dynamics as we look forward to the wifi refresh coming up.
- Esplin – CVE will be boosting the signal in the area

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

TBD in September 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cache County Event Center

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.