Members Present: Faron Wahl, Jo Beal, Denise Muntefering, Justin Bell, Scott Cordts, Amanda Stade, Judy Stevens, Dusty Anderson, and Kevin Hofer.

Members Absent: Jamie White, Erin Yost, and Sherman Gose.

Department Staff Present: Peggy Besch, Candi Briley, and Katie Eslick.

Others Present: Bob Mercer.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Faron Wahl called the meeting to order. The roll call was called, and a quorum was present.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Cordts made a motion; seconded by Muntefering to approve the agenda; motion carried by roll call vote.
3. **Approval of April 16, 2024, Minutes:** Motion was made by Anderson; seconded by Cordts, to approve the minutes from April 16, 2024; motion carried by roll call vote.
4. **Public Comment Period:** None.
5. **SHED Update:** Besch stated there have been several meetings with the design team, including fundraising committee members and sheep exhibitors. The design team has done much work to reduce costs to the project to get within the budget range. The basic design and footprint have not changed. Fundraising efforts continue. The project will go out for bids soon.
6. **2024 SD State Fair:** 
   1. Wednesday Overview: With Wednesday being the first official day of the fair, Briley ran through some of the highlights including entertainment, and special events. Gates will open at 7 AM and buildings will open 9 AM. Wednesday offers a discounted gate admission with $2 off adult tickets ($8) and $1 off youth ($4). The carnival will open at 3 PM and will offer $2 rides. Open Class Beef shows also begin on Wednesday.
   2. Outside Cattle Ties: These will be moved to Lot D located across the street from the DEX on the east side of Nevada Avenue. The fair will be hiring a “Cattle Crossing Guard” who will be present during designated hours to aid with traffic control.
   3. Lot 8 Parking: Vendor parking will be moved to this lot.
   4. Vendor Renewals: 281 vendor contracts have gone out to-date with the majority returned.
   5. Food Court: The food court is full.
   6. Competitive Exhibits: All of the exhibitor handbooks are online. There are well over 800 static exhibits already entered. Horizons Hall and Art exhibits deadline is July 31. Horticulture extended its deadline to August 9 to allow for greater produce growing season.
   7. Camping: There are still camping spaces available at Lot H and Gate 13. These are dry camping only with no water or electricity. Generators are allowed.
   8. Entertainment: Briley gave an update on grandstand entertainment, some of the free stages, roaming acts, and contests.
   9. Bob Duxbury Award: The Bob Duxbury Award began in 2006 as a way to annually honor a dedicated Friend of the Fair who has given years of service and dedicated support to the SD State Fair. Bob Duxbury was the first recipient of the award. Since 2006, other recipients have included a former Secretary of Agriculture, long-time employees, exhibitors, and State Fair Commissioners. A ballot was distributed for commissioners to vote. The award is traditionally a surprise to the recipient.
   10. Football at the Fair: The SDSU versus Oklahoma State football game will be live-streamed in the Beer Garden on Saturday, August 31, at 1 PM. First Dakota National Bank sponsors this event.
   11. Sponsorships and Promotions: Briley gave an update on some new sponsors and promotions. Peaceful Pines is sponsoring Monday with a “Peaceful Pines Grand Family Adventure Day”.
   12. Registered Royal Champion Boer Goat Show: There was a group working to put this show together but it did not come to fruition. Perhaps next year.
   13. Avian Influenza: Besch stated that in response to the recent H5N1 cases in dairy herds, the SD Animal Industry Board recommended the State Fair adopt new testing requirements to prevent the spread of H5N1 in dairy cattle. Exhibitors bringing dairy cattle to the State Fair will be required to test for H5N1 in all lactating dairy cattle within seven days of their arrival at the fair. It was recommended that if exhibitors have questions, they reach out to their veterinarian or the Animal Industry Board.
   14. SHED Ribbon Cutting: Will be held on Thursday, August 29, 2 PM at the 4-H Beef Exhibits Building.
   15. America250: In preparation of the America250 celebration in 2026, the SD America250 Commission is working with communities and organizations across the state to plan activities.
       1. The SD Society of Daughters of the American Revolution is bringing a traveling exhibit called ‘The American Revolutionary Experience’ where people can learn about the impact of the Revolutionary War on ordinary lives.
       2. Participants to this year’s fair can take part in the ‘Walk 250 Miles by 2026’ campaign. Visitors can:
          * Walk 2.5 miles daily to win souvenirs.
          * Walk 25,000 steps in one day for a chance to win two tickets to a 2025 concert of their choice.
   16. AED: The SD State Fair Foundation was awarded a grant from the Heartland Region United Way to purchase two AEDs.
7. **4-H Update:** Stade reported on the following:

* Registration deadline is August 13.
* Display exhibits judging will be held on Tuesday, August 27 at 1 PM.
* The volunteer meal has changed from Wednesday to Tuesday, August 27.
* There will not be a “Rabbit Hopping” event.

1. **Non-Fair Time Activities**:
   1. Wheel Jam/SD BBQ Championships: Held June 6 - June-9; the event was a great success with strong attendance and participation.
   2. DEXtravaganza: Held June 13; featured Thomas Rhett concert. Was a tremendous success. Great reviews from all who attended.
   3. Other: Eslick gave an update on DEX activities for the next coming months including SD Summer Spotlight, barrel racing, team roping, and a couple of rodeos.
2. **Maintenance and Repairs:** 
   1. Recreational Avenue: Water and sewer replacement is underway and should be complete by the end of July weather permitting.
   2. DEX Sidewalk: The sidewalk project is currently underway and should be complete the end of next week, weather permitting.
   3. Horse Stall Repairs: This project is complete.
   4. Campground Water: The engineering and design of installation of water at the campgrounds is underway with the initial focus on the campground NW of the fairgrounds (19 acres). These funds would come from ARPA funds.
   5. Dakotaland Museum: The roof of the museum will get replaced either later this fall or spring/summer 2025.
   6. Energy Audit: The State Fair was awarded some funds from a grant through the SD State Energy Plan to update some lighting to LEDs in some buildings. Waiting for final confirmation on which buildings.
   7. Wine Pavilion/Tap Haus: Concrete has been poured in front of the main entrance on the west side of the building with plans of pouring concrete between the two buildings for ease of pedestrian traffic flow, as well as a small patio area on the east side of the building.
3. **Commissioner or Manager Reports:** None.
4. **Executive Session:** None.
5. **Next Meeting:** August 28, 9 AM
6. **Adjourned.**