



SD STATE FAIR COMMISSION MINUTES



Tuesday, May 18, 2021 • 1 PM CT
Nordby Exhibit Hall, SD State Fairgrounds

Call to Order and Roll Call: Chairman Faron Wahl called the meeting to order. The roll call was called, and a quorum was present.

Members present: Faron Wahl, Dusty Anderson, Justin Bell, Amanda Stade, Jo Beal, Scott Cordts, Tom Harmon, Jamie White, Gary Sharp, Loren Noess, and via conference call, Denise Muntefering and Erin Yost.

Staff members present: Peggy Besch, Candi Briley, and Linda Traver. Others that joined for a brief presentation include: Julie Kropuenske, Jeanette Linke, and intern Haylee Henry.

1. **Approve Agenda - Additions/Changes:** Motion to approve was made by Harmon, seconded by Sharp; motion carried by roll call vote.
2. **Approval of March 16, 2021, Minutes:** Motion to approve was made by Bell, seconded by Noess; motion carried by roll call vote.
3. **Public Comment Period:** There were no public comments.
4. **State Fair Foundation:**
 - a. Motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Sharp; motion carried by roll call vote to appoint the following six SD State Fair Commissioners to serve on the SD State Fair Foundation Board of Directors: Faron Wahl, Justin Bell, Scott Cordts, Loren Noess, Denise Muntefering, and Sherman Gose.
 - b. Motion was made by Anderson, seconded by White; motion carried by roll call vote to accept at large members Barry Mack, Rodney Freeman, and Jim White, leaving two vacancies on the foundation board.
5. **2021 South Dakota State Fair**
 - a. **Staff vacancies:** Filling both full-time and seasonal staff positions has been very challenging. Still looking for two full-time maintenance positions, Horticulture Superintendent, and several gate attendants. Besch commented many businesses in the Huron area and across the state are experiencing similar challenges.
 - b. **Entertainment:** Briley gave an update on grandstand entertainment, as well as free stage and some grounds entertainment.
 - c. **Vending:** Kropuenske gave a status report on vendors, which is filling in nicely. There are currently 204 under contract, with many more pending agreements. She also mentioned she is working on vendors for Wheel Jam which is also going well and is comparable to previous Wheel Jam events.

- d. **Camping /Livestock and Competitive Exhibits:** Linke gave a status report on both camping and competitive exhibits: There are 1,605 camping applications confirmed and 40 plus new camping reservations at Gate 13 and Lot H. Livestock and competitive exhibit books are now posted online and entries have already started coming in a few different areas.
 - e. **Bob Duxbury Award:** Members revisited the Bob Duxbury Award which will be presented at the 2021 SD State Fair. This award is presented to an individual to honor their contribution and years of service and support to the SD State Fair. Bob Duxbury was the first recipient of the award.
6. **Williams & Ree:** The State Fair reserved Williams & Ree for New Year's Eve celebration. More information will be coming as details are finalized.
7. **4-H Update:** Stade reported 4-H is moving forward with plans for State Fair. SDSU has lifted some of the COVID restrictions (now at level "yellow" as it relates to safety. Blue is normal).
8. **Maintenance and Repair Projects:** Besch reported on projects including the Independent Midway asphalt replacement project, Family Living Center overhead door replacement, grandstand east wing repair renovation, replacement of bathroom fixtures campus wide, and 4-H Livestock Complex roof repairs.
9. **Non-Fair Events:** Besch reported on some upcoming events including Wheel Jam and SD BBQ Championships over June 3-6.
10. **Commissioner or Manager Reports or Updates:** Besch mentioned there is a good chance the State Fair will inherit the Beadle County building located directly west of Nordby Exhibit Hall. She also mentioned having a strategic planning session in early October, and the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the DEX, possibly Thursday, September 2 (work in progress).
11. **Next Meeting:** July 20, 2021.
12. **Adjournment:** Motion by Cordts, seconded by Yost, that the meeting be adjourned. Wahl declared the meeting adjourned.