



MEMORANDUM

Date: March 4, 2014

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Southwestern Fair Commission Recommendation Regarding the Replacement, Appointment or Reappointment of Members**

Following the February 4, 2014 Board of Supervisors discussion of this subject, I asked the Southwestern Fair Commission (SFC) for their recommendations regarding the appointment, replacement, and reappointment of Fair Commission members. These recommendations are attached.

SFC has suggested three options. The first is to allow the Fair Commission to identify and appoint new members as vacancies arise. The second option would be to have the Commission identify and nominate potential members and forward those names to the Board of Supervisors for appointment. The third option would be to expand the Commission to seven members, have the Board of Supervisors continue to appoint five members as presently set by resolution, and have two members appointed by the Pima County Fair Commission.

Please advise if the Board would like to pursue any of these options regarding the appointment, reappointment, and replacement process of Pima County Fair Commission members.

The next term to expire is that of Mr. Marvin Selke, whose term will end June 30, 2014.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Jon Baker, Executive Director, Southwestern Fair Commission
Hank Atha, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Economic Development
Tom Moulton, Director, Economic Development and Tourism



February 20, 2014

C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator
130 W. Congress, Floor 10
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. Huckelberry:

This is in response to your letter dated February 7, 2014, regarding a recommendation for the appointment process to replace or reappoint Fair Commission members. At the February 19 Southwestern Fair Commission board meeting, board members and professional staff present had a lengthy discussion to consider our response.

We are very appreciative of the Board of Supervisors asking for our input on this subject. We feel that it is essential to the Fair Commission's success that we have board members that are active and have experience in professional areas that are key to our operation. In evaluating current and previous board members, those individuals that have contributed the most to the success of the Fair and fairgrounds operations were those who were able to devote considerable time and energy while bringing certain relevant expertise to the board. We strongly believe that the necessary effective board members are those that have expertise in livestock, agriculture, finance, and business management backgrounds. We also recognize that other needs could change over time and that our board would have the current needs clearly in mind when it is time to make a replacement.

Based on our discussion, evaluation of past board member performance, and my observations of other fair boards throughout the country, our first choice would be to allow the Pima County Fair Commission members to identify and appoint new commission members as vacancies arise. This process would be similar to other organizations operating

under county management agreements such as Pima Air and Space Museum and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. We believe that our board and professional staff understand the qualities of the board members needed to best assist fairground operations.

Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors not accept this preferred process, and then we would request that the Board of Supervisors allow the SWFC board to identify the needed qualifications and nominate potential commission board members for Board of Supervisor consideration and approval. This option was the subject of my response to your earlier request.

Finally, if neither of these options should be acceptable and the Board of Supervisors wants to continue the present method of appointment, the SWFC board recommends that two members be added to the Pima County Fair Commission that are appointed by the Pima County Fair Commission. These two members should be for 4 year staggered terms and have qualification or skills necessary to the Southwestern Fair Commissions' mission.

In regards to your question of whether there are any grant or revenue connected requirements regarding membership in order to be eligible for State or other grants that would flow to the County Fair, we don't believe there are.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Baker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jon Baker

Executive Director, Southwestern Fair Commission

Cc: Southwestern Fair Commission Board Members