



Press Release

Park County Fair Restructures, Readies For The Future

Powell, Wyoming, October 14, 2011 — The Park County Fair Board is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Jennifer Lohrenz to the newly created position of Fair Director. Lohrenz, a native to Park County, has an extensive background in operations management and process coordination spanning over a twenty year career in the financial industry. Her financial and operations background coupled with experience in public administration, having served two state legislatures and the United States Senate gives the Fair new perspective. Lohrenz was hired by the Fair in late July 2010 as office manager and played a prominent role in organizing the 2011 Fair. "Jennifer has shown us her dedication," said Debbie Kelly, Fair Board Secretary. "She is uniquely qualified for this new role."

"We have undergone a lot of changes this year. We have a chance to move in a different direction and want to work to make our great fair even better," Kelly added.

Facility and grounds management, grounds keeping and custodial responsibilities were shifted to the County Building and Grounds Department in September. The shift has allowed the Fair Board to re-structure existing positions and redefine roles affording a more focused administration of the Fair as well as fairgrounds management. "With a massive electrical upgrade over the next few years and the prospect of a new building, the grounds are changing. We need to take a new approach and do things a bit different than we have in the past," said Fair Board Vice-President, Robby Newkirk.

The Fair Director will be key in coordinating grounds management efforts and ensuring the Fair's needs are met as well as those of off-season grounds usage. "The County already had a presence on the grounds providing major maintenance, so the transition to full maintenance just seems natural," said Abby Shuler, Fair Board Treasurer.

Buildings and Grounds crews have begun working on grounds clean up and other major projects. The crew has cleared out old stockpiles of unused equipment and other materials and is now busy adding a third horse arena as well as working on plans for improvements to the ground's two camping areas. "Already we can see a major improvement in appearance," said Linda Brazelton, who joined the Board in July.

"The crew got to work immediately putting together a priority list and have several ideas to improve the grounds cosmetically and structurally," said Mike Garza, Park County Buildings and Grounds Manager. The department plans to base its Powell operations from the fairgrounds.

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