

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** City of Seguin Mayor and Council

**From:** Jack Jones, Director of Parks & Recreation

**Through:** Steve Parker, City Manager  
Rick Cortes, Deputy City Manager

**Subject:** Resolution by the City Council of the City of Seguin, Texas waiving all fees, with the exception of public safety fees, associated for the upcoming 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Guadalupe County Fair & PRCA Rodeo on behalf of the Guadalupe County Agricultural and Livestock Fair Association; and declaring an effective date.

**Date:** September 21, 2021

The 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Guadalupe County Fair & PRCA Rodeo is scheduled to be held at the Seguin Events Complex that includes the Fairgrounds and the Seguin Coliseum October 7-10, 2021. On September 16, 2021, the Guadalupe County Agricultural and Livestock Fair Association (GALFA) submitted the attached letter requesting an abatement or reduction in the Coliseum rental fees for the upcoming County Fair. The reasons noted in the letter are financial burdens related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Non-deposit related fees due for rental of the Coliseum and any extras such as bleachers and trashcans needed for the County Fair total \$6,085. This is not inclusive of paid security Police Officers or EMS as these fees are paid directly to public safety personnel during the County Fair.

Thus far, the GALFA has paid non-deposit related fees of \$2,450. The remaining amount currently due is \$3,635. Required refundable deposits already paid by the GALFA include \$1,000 for the carnival, \$1,000 for the Coliseum, and \$500 for the Fairgrounds in accordance with Agreement for The Use of The Seguin Events Complex for The Purpose of Operating and Conducting the Guadalupe County Fair that was executed on January 4, 2016. This long-term Agreement with the City allows the GALFA use of the Fairgrounds facilities only free of charge for the County Fair. It's worth noting that volunteers from the GALFA recently constructed a new announcers stand as a permanent addition to the Rodeo Arena that can be used by others after the County Fair. If the City contracted to do this work, it is estimated that the cost would be approximately \$6,000.

Even though the Guadalupe County Youth Livestock and Homemakers Show has relocated to the Marion Country Church and the La Vernia Chamber of Commerce January 18-22, 2022, the City will extend this offer of a fee waiver (\$4,000 in accordance with the Agreement for The Use of The Seguin Events Complex for The Purpose of Operating and Conducting the Guadalupe County Youth Livestock and Homemakers Show) to the Youth Show in hopes of getting them to come back to the Seguin Events Complex. It appears that the Youth Show is committed to having their show at these two separate locations for the second year in a row. According to their website, the annual Auction Sale is scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. at a place to be determined later. The Auction Sale is too large to be held in Marion or La Vernia, so there may be an opportunity to extend the fee waiver for rental of the Coliseum (\$1,800).

Another consideration is the upcoming Buck Fever special event that is scheduled to be held at the Seguin Events Complex October 20-21, 2021. Buck Fever has paid non-deposit related facility rental fees of \$3,825, and they are paid in full.

Normally, staff does not support the waiving of fees for special events for anyone including non-profits, 501C3s, fundraisers, etc., as this would have a significant budgetary implication for both City revenues and expenses if everything related to special events were no charge for City services. Given the financial challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the City's ability to recoup those costs through the American Rescue Fund (ARF), it is reasonable for staff to support the request of the GALFA to waive all non-deposit related fees, with the exception of public safety fees, associated with the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Guadalupe County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. It is the staff recommendation that this is a one-time waiving of fees listed above given the financial challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.