



July 14,2020

Mr. Chairman and members of the Kansas State Fair Board:

Recent events have led me to make the difficult decision to resign as General Manager of the Kansas State Fair. Though an exact date is uncertain, it will be within the month dependent upon finalizing details that can hopefully mitigate the impact of not having the 2020 Fair. The impact that Covid-19 has had and will continue to have on the Kansas State Fair will be significant. It is my intent that in serving as the first casualty, it hopefully will lessen the impact on our other employees.

It will be a welcome surprise if the Fair is able to weather this storm without some furloughs or even a reduction in force. Having the highest placed administrator surviving, while front line essential employees bear the brunt, is something I will not do.

David and I have visited about the potential impact on employees since early spring and it is my belief, he is up to the task of getting the Fair through this difficult time. We are in communication with the Budget office so they can fully understand the financial situation as we know it today and provide assistance. Until we know which Grandstand acts are returning and how many refunds will need to be made, the financial picture will be unclear.

Protecting the future of the Fair should be the highest priority, recognizing that this Fair is its employees. It has been my great privilege to be given this opportunity to work with an absolutely great staff that love their jobs, work well together and are not afraid to think outside the box. That is what it will take to get past this, and we need to do all we can to protect the Kansas State Fair's most valuable asset, our employees.

Robin Jennison