

Spring Clean Up Need Extends to Fairgrounds and Raceway

Monday, 04 May 2009

{audio}/images/stories/mp3/090504.fairgrounds_cleanup.mp3{/audio}

Erik Wander/KMXT

Over the course of many years, the Kodiak Fairgrounds and Raceway area has accumulated a substantial amount of scrap steel, junk vehicles and junk equipment. The Kodiak Rodeo and State Fairgrounds and the Kodiak Racing Association are now seeking the borough's support in cleaning it up.

Speaking at Thursday's Kodiak Island Borough Assembly work session, Kodiak Rodeo and State Fair president Dave Killeen, presented assembly members with a proposal seeking borough funding to cover land fill and scrap yard fees. Killeen said the tons of debris have built up over a period of nearly 30 years. He also said KRFS and KRA board members plan to commit volunteers to the actual cleanup and removal efforts.

-- (Killeen 1 33 sec. "Over the course of 30 years ... and the cleanup basically.")

Assemblywoman Chris Lynch commended Killeen for his survey of all the scrap equipment on the grounds, and said the borough should consider the proposal, especially since the request is for funding merely for land fill and scrap yard fees. Lynch also pointed out that Killeen has a plan for dealing with the issue in the future.

-- (Lynch 1 20 sec. "I think it's great that ... a story or two to each piece.")

Killeen said nobody knows how some of the older items got there in the first place, and others were needed for various events, but their useful life is at an end. He said

the two boards intend to modify use rules at the facilities, thereby limiting future accumulation of scrap material and equipment.

-- (Killeen 2 38
sec. "We have basically four
users ... of dollars to get rid of it.")

Included in
Killeen's survey of items for disposal are some 10,000 pounds of equipment and materials from the Kodiak Fairgrounds, including a tanker trailer, dump truck box and miscellaneous scrap steel and an estimated 47,500 pounds from the Kodiak Raceway, including several abandoned cars and trucks. Borough assembly members were open to the proposal, but questioned how much it would cost them, information Killeen didn't provide in his proposal.

I'm
Erik Wander.

###