



KENTUCKY STATE FAIR BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KENTUCKY STATE FAIR BOARD RENEWS CONTRACT OF CEO RIPPETOE

LOUISVILLE, KY (March 27, 2014) – The Kentucky State Fair Board unanimously approved this morning to renew the contract of President and CEO Clifford “Rip” Rippetoe.

The new two-year contract takes effect on July 1, which keeps Rippetoe at the helm of the state agency through at least 2016.

The new contract does not raise Rippetoe’s salary. It extends his current salary of \$250,000 annually.

In a statement, Kentucky State Fair Board Chairman Dr. Mark Lynn said, “Our board is pleased with Mr. Rippetoe’s ability to enhance business, improve our financials and increase efficiencies. We feel like he always matches the best interests of the agency with the facilities and resources and we are excited to see where the future leads.”

In 2012, the fair board hired Rippetoe, who owned a Las Vegas-based trade show consulting firm, to an 18-month personal services contract. Rippetoe was previously the general manager of the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City and senior vice president, facility & account relations in Las Vegas for Global Experience Specialists. He also served as executive director and CEO of visitor information services for Utah for the 2002 Olympic Games.

The Kentucky State Fair Board, an agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, operates two of the largest facilities in the state — the Kentucky Exposition Center and the Kentucky International Convention Center.

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About the Kentucky State Fair Board

The Kentucky State Fair Board is comprised of gubernatorial appointments, members of university administrations, representing associations and leaders from around the state. The Board operates two properties, the Kentucky Exposition Center and Kentucky Exposition Center. The Kentucky State Fair Board accounts for \$460 million annually in economic impact for the community and commonwealth.