



Minutes

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE 17TH DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION WAS HELD ON JULY 16, 2019 AT 4:00 P.M. IN PONDEROSA HALL AT THE NEVADA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS.

Roll Call:

Directors Present: Jeanette Royal, Andrew Trygg, Tom Browning, Shanti Emerson, Jim Franks, Simi Lyss, Barbara McDonald, Arnie Romanello and Steve Steele.

President Royal called the meeting to order and declared a quorum at 4:01 p.m.

Introduction of Guests and Staff:

Patrick Eidman, CEO and Wendy Oaks, Information Officer.

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

No public comment

Consent Calendar

- A. Minutes, Board Meeting – June 18, 2019
- B. Judge Agreements – June/July 2019
- C. Interim Facility Rentals – June/July 2019
- D. Standard Agreements – June/July 2019
- E. Fair Concession/Vendor Contracts – June/July 2019
- F. Draft Horse Classic Concession/Vendor Contracts – June/July 2019
- G. Country Christmas Faire – June/July 2019
- H. Sponsorship Agreements – June/July 2019

Director Emerson requested to pull Item A, June Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion 2019-47: Motion by Director Trygg, seconded by Romanello to approve Consent Calendar Items B – H. Motion carried unanimously, 9-0 (**Yes:** Directors Royal, Trygg, Browning, Emerson, Franks, Lyss, McDonald, Romanello, and Steele).

Director Emerson stated that she provided an Interim Events Committee report at the June Board meeting, but that her report was not reflected in the minutes. Her report included that she had attended the Strawberry Music Festival in May and the Bluegrass Festival June.

Motion 2019-48: Motion by Director Emerson, seconded by Director McDonald to approve the June Board Meeting Minutes (Item A), as corrected. Motion carried 6-0-3 (**Yes:** Directors Royal, Trygg, Emerson, Franks, McDonald, and Romanello. **No:** None. **Abstained:** Browning, Lyss and Steele because they were absent from the June meeting).

Approval of Standard Agreements – Hazardous

Information Officer Oaks presented a summary of the Hazardous Standard Agreements.

Motion 2019-49: Motion by Romanello, seconded by Steele to approve the Hazardous Standard Agreements. Motion carried 8-0-1 (**Yes:** Directors Royal, Browning, Emerson, Franks, Lyss, McDonald, Romanello, and Steele. **No:** None. **Abstained:** Trygg due to a conflict of interest).

Nevada County Fairgrounds Foundation Report

Director Trygg reported on the following:

- The Foundation has approximately \$71,000 on account.
- The Foundation Board is developing a process for vetting new Foundation Board members.
- The Friends of the Foundation, a new type of membership based on volunteer hours, was approved.
- There is still a need for volunteers at Foundation Station, as well as at the bar at the Ag Mechanics dinner.
- The Foundation's bar at the Draft Horse Classic will be held at the KNCO Gazebo.
- The Whitney Pavilion plaque project will be revised to reflect a minimum donation of \$400 to be included on the plaque.
- The Foundation became members of Nevada County Digital Media Center.
- The Scholarship Committee will meet in September.

Finance Committee Report

Director Trygg reported that due to increased revenue and a decrease in expenses, the partial liquidation of the Fairgrounds' CD (as discussed at the March Board meeting) to cover operational costs has not been necessary; however, the Finance Committee has authorized a partial liquidation if needed to cover any expenses for Fair.

CEO Eidman provided a brief overview of operating revenues and expenses.

Motion 2019-50: Motion by Director Browning, seconded by Romanello to approve the June 2019 Financials. Motion carried unanimously, 9-0 (**Yes:** Directors Royal, Trygg, Browning, Emerson, Franks, Lyss, McDonald, Romanello, and Steele).

Capital Improvements Committee Report

No report

Concessions Committee Report

Director McDonald reported that a Concessionaire's meeting was held in June and that it went well.

Draft Horse Classic Committee Report

No report

Forest Management & Improvement Committee Report

No report

Governance Committee Report

No report

Interim Events Committee Report

Director Emerson reported that the Fun Fair Camp was a success and she hopes to see it repeated each year; that WorldFest was wonderful but expressed concerns about the availability and location of First Aid; the Music in the Mountains event was nicely done; and participating in the Fourth of July parade was fun.

Livestock Committee Report

CEO Eidman reviewed a letter to the Board prepared by Kathryn and Richard White, requesting a variance on the entry deadline for market lambs at the 2019 Fair for their son, Jared White, based on confusion regarding which classes were required to be entered in order to show. Directors Steele and Franks stated that the Livestock Committee had discussed the request and were recommending that the variance be approved. There was general Board discussion about the request.

Motion 2019-51: Motion by Director Trygg, seconded by Lyss to allow a variance of the entry deadline for market lambs at the 2019 Fair for Jared White. Motion approved, 7-2 (**Yes:** Directors Browning, Franks, Lyss, Romanello, Royal, Steele and Trygg. **No:** Emerson and McDonald).

Correspondence

CEO Eidman shared the following:

- A letter from CDFA: 2019 Fairground Shelter Assessment. A Fairground Shelter Assessment is being performed by the California Department of Social Services along with other partnering agencies.
- A letter from CDFA: SB5 Facility Improvement Projects. The Nevada County Fairgrounds' projects were not selected for the first round of the Board Measure funding.
- Letter from CalPERS: Pension Contribution Rates from FY 2019-20. Effective July 2019, employee and employer contribution rates increased.
- Letter from Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Foundation: Appreciation Letter
- Letter from Jayden Fayth Yokum: Buyer's Letter.

Contract with the Nevada County Sheriff's Office for Fair Security

CEO Eidman presented the contract for the Nevada County Sheriff's Department.

Motion 2019-52: Motion by Director Emerson, seconded by Director Lyss to approve the Nevada County Sheriff's Department's contract. Motion carried unanimously, 8-0-1 (**Yes:** Directors Royal, Browning, Emerson, Franks, Lyss, McDonald, Romanello, and Steele. **No:** None. **Abstained:** Trygg, due to a conflict of interest).

2019 Nevada County Fair – August 7 – 11, 2019

CEO Eidman provided the following updates:

- Ticket sales are roughly the same as last year's sales at this time.
- A few outside vendor spaces are still available at Fair.
- Ag Mechanics auction entries are up significantly and rabbit meat pen entries are up. Still exhibit entries close on July 22.
- Following an E. coli outbreak at a Fair in San Diego, California Fair Services Authority and Western Fairs Association have created Preventative Measure Protocols as a guide to remind fairs of best practices related to contact between fair guests, exhibitors, staff and animals at Fairs. The Nevada County Fair team is working on a preventative action plan, including more hand washing stations on the grounds during Fair, more signage about washing hands and not having food in the barns, more stroller parking areas, and public announcements about hand washing.
- Community Involvement Day is July 29. Twelve organizations will be participating.
- The JLA Buyer's Dinner is August 2, 2019.
- Opening ceremony is August 7, 2019.

The Board discussed possible ideas for director tours during the Fair, including a Treat Street tour and a behind-the-scenes tour of Butler Amusements. CEO Eidman also shared criteria for awards of excellence and Director's Awards. CEO Eidman discussed new parking passes for the Fair, reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is on August 6 at the Administration Office Patio, and invited the Board to the breakfast meetings held each morning at 7 am on the patio.

Draft Horse Classic – September 19 – 22, 2019

CEO Eidman reported that Draft Horse exhibitor entries continue to arrive, tickets sales are down slightly from 2018, and that an additional act would be contracted for between class entertainment.

CEO Report

CEO Eidman reported on the following:

- There is a CDFA Board Training workshop on July 25, as well as a WFA Open House that evening.
- The AB1499 funding hearing was informative, though questions remain about how the funding will be allocated and several regulatory issues remain unresolved.
- The exterior lighting upgrade project is complete, but the Fairgrounds is still waiting for a modified loan agreement with PG&E.
- The auditors are still in progress on the 2017/2018 audits, but both are nearing completion.
- The panels ordered for the donor-funded small horse arena project are anticipated to arrive and be installed before Fair.
- Sponsorship update, and kudos to Craig Hoddy for all his hard work.

Director's Comments

- Director Browning thanked the Board for the get-well card
- Director Romanello suggested the Board revisit late entry options for livestock exhibitors
- Director Steele reported that longtime livestock exhibitor and Fair supporter, April Reese, passed away

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on Tuesday, July 16, at 6:12 p.m.

Patrick Eidman, Chief Executive Officer

Jeanette Royal, President of the Board