

Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, April 23, 2019 5:30 p.m.
1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Rob Muelrath, President; Max Mickelsen, Vice President; Doug Beretta, Tony Gerald, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Bev Palm, Wanda Tapia, Lisa Wittke Schaffner

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Marcia Mickelson, Treasurer; Teejay Lowe, Secretary; Marilyn Herzog, Past President; Lisa Carreño, Cindy Crane

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Lorna Fox, Cliff Sanders, Heather Borck, Jane Engdahl, Michael Margetts, Greg Duncan

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Liscum

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Beretta moved to approve the agenda; Director O'Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Items 1-7:

Director Wittke Schaffner moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

President Muelrath stated that he is working on the Cattle Drive and a possible sponsor for the event. He said that we will be able to set up the pens the night prior to the Cattle Drive.

CEO AND STAFF REPORTS:

CEO Bartling presented the Upcoming Interim Event Schedule and the March Interim Financials. **No action taken.**

CEO Bartling stated she is still in negotiations with Verizon for a cell tower at the Fairgrounds.

CEO Bartling gave an update on the discussions regarding Broadband at the Fairgrounds for emergency services use.

CEO Bartling gave an update on FEMA trailers. She stated that there were 22 occupied FEMA trailers.

CEO Bartling reported on a Arthur and Catherine Kunde endowment scholarship.

CEO Bartling gave a report on her trip to Antelope Valley Fairgrounds and how they run the bingo games there.

Fair Operations – Director Wittke Schaffner, Chair:

Director Wittke Schaffner gave a report of the April 9, 2019 Fair Operations Committee meeting.

Director Liscum moved to approve (name withheld until person is notified) for a Blue Ribbon Award; Director Gerald seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director O’Kelley moved to approve (name withheld until person is notified) for a Blue Ribbon Award; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture & Educational Exhibits Committee Report – Director O’Kelley, Chair:

Director O’Kelley gave a report of the April 9, 2019 Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee meeting.

Director O’Kelley moved to cancel the Sonoma County Poultry shows in 2019; Director Beretta seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Buildings & Grounds Committee Report – Director Liscum:

Director Liscum gave a report of the April 11, 2019 Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting.

Director Liscum moved to approve the CEO to continue discussions with Pumpkin Nights for their possible October event; Director O’Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed 9 yes, 1 no, and 5 absent.

Director Liscum stated that the surplus of the Aston Barn property is no longer being looked at by the Board of Supervisors.

Director gave an update on the South Carnival lot work and said that it is filling in nicely.

Racing Committee Report – Director Mickelsen:

Director Mickelsen gave a report of the April 11, 2019 Racing Committee meeting.

Director Mickelsen gave an update on racing at Santa Anita Racetrack and asked that all contact regarding this topic be deferred to CEO Bartling.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve a contract with Stacey Lapham for the 2019 Race meet in the amount of \$40,000; Director Wittke Schaffner seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve adding the Sonoma Marin Fair Board of Directors to the 2019 Credential Policy List; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Budget & Finance Committee Report – Director Mickelsen:

Director Mickelsen gave a report of the April 23, 2019 Budget & Finance Committee meeting.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve the Draft Financial Statements through March 2019; Director Wittke Schaffner seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve the contract with Gold Rush Mining & Refining Company in the amount of \$26,000 for the 2019 Fair; Director Tapia seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve a 2019 contract with Wolfe Communication in the amount of \$33,700; Director Geraldi seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director Mickelsen moved to approve the revisions to the Draft Financial Statement through December 31, 2018; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report – President Muelrath:

President Muelrath gave a report of the April 23, 2019 Executive Committee meeting. He stated that the TOT funding the Fair and Harvest Fair received in the past from TOT funds will not be available. A letter was sent to all of the Board of Supervisors stating the Fairground's contribution to the County in regards to the people that are brought into the area for events held at the fairgrounds and money was requested from each supervisor to make up for this loss of funds.

Report on Harvest Fair Committee meeting – Heather Borck:

Exhibits Coordinator Borck gave a report of the April 10, 2019 Harvest Fair meeting. She stated the Awards Dinner will be held on September 29 at the Luther Burbank Center.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CHANGING THE FULL BOARD MEETING TO 5:15:

Board members discussed moving the time of the Full Board meeting up 15 minutes. Director Liscum moved to adjust the Full Board meeting to 5:15PM; Director Palm seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Sponsorships

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Wittke Schaffner moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:23PM; Director Palm seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the March 26, 2019 Board Meeting
2. **Executive Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the March 26, 2019 Committee Meeting
3. **Fair Operations Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the April 9, 2019 Committee Meeting
4. **Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the April 9, 2019 Committee Meeting

5. **Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2019 Committee Meeting
6. **Racing Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2019 Committee Meeting
7. **Budget & Finance Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the March 26, 2019 Committee Meeting