

Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, July 23 2019 5:15 p.m.
1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Rob Muelrath, President; Max Mickelsen, Vice President; Marcia Mickelson, Treasurer; Teejay Lowe, Secretary; Lisa Carreño, Cindy Crane Tony Gerald, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Bev Palm, Wanda Tapia, Lisa Wittke Schaffner

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Marilyn Herzog, Past President;, Doug Beretta, Kevin Howe

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Lorna Fox, Heather Borck, Stacy Lapham, Michael Margetts, Greg Duncan

CALL TO ORDER: 5:15p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: Director Palm

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Wittke-Schaffner moved to approve the agenda with one correction, Budget & Finance Committee report should be dated July 23,2019; Director Lowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Items 1-4:

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

PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

President Muelrath reported that on July 21 he and Director O'Kelley met with longtime Sonoma County Fair Auctioneer, Tony Brazil, on Sunday. Tony will retire on Saturday, August 3 during the Market Lamb Auction. All board members are asked to be present, staff will send out a reminder. He also reported that Hat Day and Flower Show Preview tickets are available for purchase. He continued his report indicating that the Cattle Drive will take place Sunday, August 4. Sonoma County Farm Bureau is assisting with coordination on the street, board members are encouraged to come and enjoy the event.

President Muelrath appointed Directors Carreño, O'Kelley, Liscum, Wittke Schaffner and Herzog to the nominating committee.

CEO AND STAFF REPORTS:

CEO Bartling distributed the correspondence binder.

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

CEO Bartling reported that the Sonoma County Fair will received the Leadership in Agriculture award by the Santa Rosa Metro Chamber at the Love of the Land event on July 11th. A location for the award to be displayed is being determined.

CEO Bartling reported that there are no FEMA trailers left at the RV Park.

An update on the Free Expression Zone policy was given during the Fair Operations report.

CEO Bartling distributed Director badges that can be used once a day for admittance into the fair and can also be work during interim events for identification as a board member.

The August Board meeting will take place August 27 as originally scheduled. **No action taken.**

Fair Operations – Director Wittke Schaffner, Chair:

Director Wittke Schaffner gave a report of the July 9 Fair Operations committee. She also reported that the Free Expression Zone Policy has been updated by County Counsel. **Director Liscum moved to accept the updated Free Expression Zone Policy; Director Lowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.**

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

Director Mickelson gave a report of the July 9, 2019 Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee meeting as Chair O’Kelley was not present at the meeting.

Director Mickelson moved that milk dumped down the drain will result in the exhibitor being fined \$1,000 per occurrence and any unpaid fines will prohibit future entries; seconded by Director Crane. Motion passed unanimously.

CEO Bartling explained that CDFA has recommended that no one, including exhibitors eat in the barns. After some discussion, **Director Lowe moved that a policy indicating food should not be eaten in the barns be created, implemented and reasonably enforced; seconded by Director Liscum. Motion passed unanimously.**

Director O’Kelley reminded Board members for \$100 contribution for the JLA.

Buildings & Grounds Committee Report – Director Liscum:

No meeting in July.

Racing Committee Report – Director Mickelsen:

No meeting in July.

CEO Bartling gave the June Jockey Club report.

Budget & Finance Committee Report – Director Mickelson:

Director Mickelson gave a report of the July 23, 2019 Budget & Finance Committee meeting.

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

Director Mickelson moved to approve the 2018 Independent Auditors Report, Director Lowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Director Mickelson moved to award a contract to AMR in the amount NTE \$39,000 for 2019 invoices; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report – President Muelrath:

No meeting in July.

Report on Harvest Fair Committee meeting – Director Crane:

Director Crane reported tickets will go on sale August 1 and that the board approved a slight ticket price increase for 2019. The Amateur and Professional Wine competitions are up and running as is the professional food competitions. The Professional Wine judging will take place September 17 and 18. Awards Night has been set for September 29 at LBC. Director Crane distributed ticket order forms.

Discussion and possible action regarding Fair Foundation MOU and Mission Statement:

Director Liscum reported that the Fair Foundation has been working to update their mission statement. **Director Wittke Schaffner moved to approve the updated Sonoma County Fair and Fair Foundation MOU with the correction that section 14 indicating completion of a written financial “review” should read “report”, Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Wittke Schaffner moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:36PM; Director Geraldini seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the June 25, 2019 Board Meeting
2. **Fair Operations Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2019 Committee Meeting
3. **Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2019 Committee Meeting
4. **Budget & Finance Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the June 25, 2019 Committee Meeting