

**Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, May 26, 2020 5:15 p.m.**

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 the May 26, 2020 Sonoma County Fair Board meeting was held virtually.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Max Mickelsen, President; Marcia Mickelson, Vice President; Teejay Lowe, Treasurer; Wanda Tapia, Secretary; Rob Muelrath, Past President; Cindy Crane, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Michael Margetts, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Heather Borck, Lorna Fox, Paulette Swallow, Jane Engdahl, Greg Duncan, Debbie Townsend, Caroline Titus, Phone numbers: 464 & 382 (not identified)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: 5:15PM

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Wittke Schaffner moved to approve the agenda; Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Max Mickelsen, Teejay Lowe, Wanda Tapia, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Kanani Reynolds, Annette O'Kelley, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner; Noes: 0; Absent: 1

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Items 1-4:

Director Tapia moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the change to the full board minutes to read “Action from Closed Session: President Mickelsen stated that direction was given to the Fair’s negotiator”; Director Herzog seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Max Mickelsen, Teejay Lowe, Wanda Tapia, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Kanani Reynolds, Annette O'Kelley, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner; Noes: 0; Absent: 1

PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

President Mickelsen stated he had nothing new to report.

CEO AND STAFF REPORTS:

CEO Bartling reviewed the Interim Event Schedule and the Interim Financials. She reported on the letter written by legislators to members of Congress asking for financial support for California Fairs. She also gave an update on the \$40 million in the Governor’s May revised budget for Ag Districts.

CEO Bartling and COO Findley-Thorn reported on some events that may be able to happen at the fairgrounds which may include drive-in movies, drive through graduations and drive through experiences for the holidays.

Fair Operations:

Director Wittke Schaffner moved to approve sending a letter to State Legislators, Congressmen, Board of Supervisors and other government leaders requesting funding for the CA Network of Fairs; Director Herzog seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Geraldi, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Competitive Exhibits, Ag & Educational Exhibits – Director Howe

Director Howe gave a report on the May 12, 2020 Committee meeting.

Director Howe moved regarding:

- **New Buyer Animal Purchase that Payment is due the day of the sale; credit card information is required for all new buyers; new buyers opting to pay by check must indicate on green card and provide check to solicitor.**
- **Currently Registered Buyer Animal Purchase (buyer number under 1,000) will be encouraged to pay the day of the sale by providing credit card or check. Payment net 10 days.**
- **Add-On:** Add-ons must be paid at the auction by check, credit card or money order (no cash). No invoice will be generated for any add-on purchases.

Director Liscum seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote:

Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Geraldi, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Director Howe moved that animals sold during the 2020 Sonoma County Fair Junior Livestock Auction must be delivered to the fairgrounds during scheduled delivery times. Failure to deliver animal, may result in exhibitor being banned from showing at the Sonoma County Fair. This decision will be determined by Fair Management. Director Crane seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Geraldi, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Buildings & Grounds – Director Liscum

Director Liscum moved to approve the rate of \$2,700 for the Redwood Gospel Mission's annual event; Director O'Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Geraldi, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Director Liscum moved to approve extending the options for rent consideration to 2021 for the groups that have rescheduled and that the fairgrounds welcomes back; Director Lowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Geraldi, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy

Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Director Liscum moved to approve drive-in graduations at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds; Director Lowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

CEO Bartling stated the Lot D trailer contract is up at the end of June, but anticipates it getting extended.

CEO Bartling reported that the Jockey Club venue is still being explored as a food distribution site.

CEO Bartling stated the carnival lot irrigation status is almost complete and there will be a demo tomorrow.

CEO Bartling said we are getting new information that might allow the Peggy Sue Car Club to hold its drive-in event.

Racing – Director Lowe

Director Lowe moved to authorize CEO Bartling to negotiate with Golden Gate Fields to run our dates for the 2020 Race Meet; Director O'Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

Budget & Finance – Director Lowe

Director Lowe gave a report of the May 26, 2020 Budget & Finance Committee meeting.

Director Lowe moved to approve the draft financial statement through April 2020 as presented; Director Reynolds seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Marcia Mickelson, Teejay Lowe, Rob Muelrath, Wanda Tapia, Tony Gerald, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane, Kevin Howe, Ross Liscum, Annette O'Kelley, Kanani Reynolds, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton, Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Max Mickelsen; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

CLOSED SESSION: The Fair Board of Directors considered the following in closed session at 5:56pm: Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code section 54957.6)

Fair Negotiator: Fair Manager/Chief Executive Officer Rebecca Bartling
Employee Organizations: SEIU and Local 39

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (non-discussion item)

- None

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Director Lowe to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 in memory of John DeJong; Director Gerald seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the April 3, 2020 Special Board Meeting
2. Approval of Minutes from the April 13, 2020 Special Board Meeting
3. Approval of Minutes from the April 15, 2020 Special Board Meeting
4. **Aq & Exhibits Committee Meeting**
Approval of Minutes from the April 3, 2020 Special Committee Meeting