

46th District Agricultural Association
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR
www.socalfair.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2020 • 4:00 P.M
18700 Lake Perris Dr.
Perris CA 92571

Junes Board meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration building. You can also attend the meeting via teleconference by using the below Zoom meeting information.

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4105967704>

Meeting ID: 410 596 7704

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Directors

Nick Bruno-President, Marisa Yeager-Vice President, Ron Magnusson, Jaime Hurtado, Gene Skala, Brad Scott, Tricia Almiron, Cindy Palumbo

Mission Statement

“The Mission of The Southern California Fair & Event Center Is to Provide & Promote Agricultural Activities, Entertainment, Education, Recreation and Service Opportunities for All People in Riverside County”

Public Participation

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comment to the Board and may suggest items to be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Board meeting. While the Board values the participation of the public, the Board president reserves the right to limit the time for public comment to a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker in order to proceed with the agenda. Public comment must be related to fair authority and jurisdiction and their placement on the agenda is within the discretion of the Board.

All meeting notices, agendas and materials considered by the Board during the meeting will be available to the public during the meeting and also on the Southern California Fair website at:

<https://www.socalfair.com/>

Americans With Disabilities Act

All Board meetings must be accessible to the physically disabled. Any person needing a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to attend or participate in any Board or Committee meetings or other Southern California Fair activities may request assistance by contacting Carl Wuersch at (951) 657-4221.

Call to order:

All matters noticed on this agenda, in any category, may be considered for action listed. Any item not so noticed may not be considered. Items listed on this Agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the chairperson.

Meeting Called to order by: Vice President Marisa Yeager at 4:05pm

1) Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendees of this 46th District Agricultural Association Board meeting will be asked to join the Board President in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance if they wish to do so.

2) Roll Call:

The Board of Directors of the 46th District Agricultural Association are asked to introduce themselves to all in attendance.

Present in the Board Room:

Director Magnuson and Director Skala

Present in the Teleconference:

Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Hurtado, Director Scott, and Vice President Yeager.

3) Absent Directors: President Bruno

Motion to excuse absent director was made by: Vice President Yeager

Motion seconded by: Director Magnuson

Motion unanimously approved. Motion carried

All Voting Directors: Vice President Yeager, Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Scott, Director Magnuson, Director Skala, Director Hurtado.

4) Introduction of Audience and Guests:

Audience and guests are requested to introduce themselves to the Board of Directors and other guests under this agenda item.

Present in the Board Room:

Corey Oakley, Davey Helm, Don Kazarian, CEO Wuersch and Christina Rapert

Present in Teleconference:

Lauren Oostdam, Allen Phillips, Sarah Pelle, and Kelly Secord

5) Matters of Public Comment:

Persons in attendance may request to speak on any item not on the agenda or request item to be placed on agenda at next meeting. Speakers presenting matters to the Board will be limited to three (3) minutes. **No public comment**

6) New Business (all items may be considered for Action):

CEO Wuersch: We received two checks from OTB (Off Track Betting). They sent us the checks because they knew our facility was shut down because of COVID19 so they wanted to help. It was not in our contract, so they had to write up a new contract. They sent us one check for Fifty-Seven Thousand and the second check was for eleven thousand, so we ended up putting sixty- eight thousand in the bank. I think this was a one-time thing. We are going to have an extra expense, but it is all part of me cutting back. We are going to change our alarm system. Our alarm system is on phone lines right now that cost us eleven hundred a month just for the phone lines. So now we will spend about three thousand dollars to upgrade it to a radio frequency and it will be on Wi-Fi too so that we can access it on our phones. This will only cost us one hundred and thirty bucks a month.

Vice President Yeager: Can you please follow up with the infrastructure committee and go over everything about this new system.

CEO Wuersch: As of today, our operating account is at one hundred and seventeen thousand, eight hundred and sixty dollars and sixty-three cents.

Director Scott: Just wanted to follow up on the JLA account.

CEO Wuersch: As of now there is six thousand, five hundred and seventy-nine dollars. The reserve is at twenty-three thousand. I think we spoke about it last week Brad.

Director Scott: You said that you would look into the reserve account because there was still the scholarship animal that is separate. So, you are saying that there is twenty-three thousand dollars in the account ear marked for the Junior Livestock Department

CEO Wuersch: Right

Vice President Yeager: Before the next Livestock advisory meeting could we have the CEO, put something in writing stating what is available for the Junior Livestock Department?

CEO Wuersch: Yes, I can do that.

Vice President Yeager: So, the action item, the CEO will provide a breakdown of the balance in the JLA account within that balance the animal auction and the scholarship will be listed and then what the balance is.

a) **Financial Information: Financials**

- Financials
- Statement of Net Position
- Summary of Operations
- Budget Update/Cash Budget Projections

Motion to approve the financials was made by Director Hurtado

Motion seconded by Director Skala

Motion unanimously approved. Motion carried

All Voting Directors: Vice President Yeager, Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Scott, Director Magnuson, Director Skala, Director Hurtado.

b) **APEX**

CEO Wuersch: I met with the renters committee Tricia was out of town, so I met with Brad and Nick and we talked about giving APEX a thirty-day notice of contract cancellation. They recommended that we move forward.

Director Scott: We did recommend that but with the caveat that we would get correspondence from them finding out if they had any future events. Did you get that?

CEO Wuersch: I do have their answers.

Director Scott: Ok the committee will need to see that so we can move forward.

CEO Wuersch: They only have day to day track rentals, and they might have a tentative race scheduled for next month that is not booked yet.

Director Scott: Is that post or pre the thirty days?

CEO Wuersch: Pre the thirty days.

Vice President Yeager: Carl what are you asking the action to be?

CEO Wuersch: To have the go ahead to send out the letter.

Motion to approve the thirty-day notice to be sent out was made by Director Almiron

Motion Seconded by Director Palumbo

Motion unanimously approved. Motion carried

All Voting Directors: Vice President Yeager, Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Scott, Director Magnuson, Director Skala, Director Hurtado.

c) **Helm's and Son's**

CEO Wuersch: This is a proposal from Helm's and Sons. We have both Davey and Corey here that can talk more about it.

Corey: We put a proposal together that was sent out to everyone, but what we would like to do is that we would like to move our entire operation here. So, we would be rent paying tenants, but we would also like to do is develop an asset for you in the form of an RV park. This park can be utilized not only during fair time but throughout the year for interim events and other events that are going on at the lake or at the fairgrounds. So, intent today is to start with an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and start the discussion of a long-term contract so that we can begin the work. This works for us right now because of the situation we are in. It does not work for us in January or February or next year, it works for us now because we have some resources, able bodies, and time. As a former Fair manager, I understand the process and we would like to get started as soon as we can. I know we will need to work with CCA and get them the plans for what changes will be made to that area and we could have those done in the next twenty-one days. Right now, we would be looking at setting up some modular and some existing containers that we already have. We do not have the intention of building a big building in that area. We do anticipate creating a revenue for the Fairgrounds in the form of an RV park.

Director Almiron: When you talk about an RV park there are a lot of different types of parks. Is this something that you are thinking people will come for a week, two weeks, or thirty days? Is there going to be a time limit on how long someone can stay?

Corey: I believe there are some laws and regulations that you can set for how long someone can stay. Most fairgrounds that have a RV park are on temporary basis for the people that stay.

Director Scott: Historically, this is not a new idea that has been presented to the fairgrounds. Back in 2000 we were in same area working on the idea of a RV park. We had everything we needed. CCA may still have the plans that were done because we had everything ready to move forward on the RV park. Unfortunately, that is when the financial crisis hit, and we could no longer move forward. So, I just want everyone to know that this idea has been talked about before we just never had the finances to do it until now. So, the renters committee did on concept go forward with this but there are a lot of little logistics that were not discussed at the time because we are just talking about the concept. There are a lot of details that will need to be discussed like management, responsibility, to how long someone can stay.

Vice President Yeager: I will get with CCA to get historical information from 2000 so the rental committee can start to review it. So, the motion is to have the CEO and the infrastructure committee to continue to work with Helm's and Sons on their proposal and then to bring back a report for next month.

Motion was made by: Director Magnuson

Motion seconded by: Director Skala

Motion unanimously approved. Motion carried

All Voting Directors: Vice President Yeager, Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Scott, Director Magnuson, Director Skala, Director Hurtado.

Sarah: Just about the concerns about the RV park and staying. There are State policies that you guys can use in developing RV park guidelines that were released by legal last year.

7) Consent Calendar:

All matters listed are considered by the Board of Directors to be routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no discussion of these items prior to the vote unless members of the board, staff or public request specific items to be discussed separately and/or removed from this section.

a) Approval of June Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes and to remove the wording for approval of absent directors from June minute was made by Director Almiron

Motion Seconded by: Director Palumbo

Motion unanimously approved. Motion carried

All Voting Directors: Vice President Yeager, Director Almiron, Director Palumbo, Director Scott, Director Magnuson, Director Skala, Director Hurtado.

b) RENTAL AGREEMENTS 2020 – None at this time

8) CORRESPONDENCE

- **F&E letter E-mailed to Board members**

9) INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Update on Loan Balances:

Current on Loans Balances

- **COMMUNITY BUILDING** **\$139,691.67**
- **ADMIN OFFICE** **\$43,235.13**

10) CEO Report:

CEO Wuersch: The State inspector came out to the Derby Room. He was very impressed and approved it. We are just waiting on the fire inspection. They already have their liquor license.

Vice President Yeager: Any update on opening day?

CEO Wuersch: If we had everything done by next week, we would need to follow the CDC guidelines and it would only be patio seating. I would say two to three weeks.

Director Almiron: Who holds the liquor license for them?

CEO Wuersch: I don't remember what it says on the window. I think it is Derby Room East.

Director Almiron: Do you know what type of license they hold?

CEO Wuersch: I believe it is an on-site in-house license.

Director Almiron: Could you find out for sure and send me an E-mail so that I have all that information for my records please?

CEO Wuersch: Yes, I will get that information for you.

Vice President: I want to ask Director Palumbo to work with the marketing committee to promote our current leases and our new leases and partners and to thank them also welcome our new partnership with Helms and Sons. Also work with the Derby room on when to announce their opening. I think it would be a good idea to get our other renters out to the opening as well to show support. We should also send out a press release to the local businesses about the opening of the Derby room.

CEO Wuersch: On the DWR project. They got their date to start and for the final. I haven't received any updates and I have tried to reach out to my contact and what I found out was the DGS person that was running it left so it just sat. So, I got with Sarah and John sent a letter to DGS. I finally got an answer and I am working with a new lady that came from DWR and now works for DGS. We are trying to get a phone conference with myself, Tricia, Jaimie, the lady from DGS and John so we can get the value of our land. In the last letter I received they want to go out to bid by the end of this year and then in 2024 the job would be final. COVID19 update we are still in the same position. They are still doing testing Tuesday through Saturday.

Director Palumbo: How many people are they testing?

CEO Wuersch: Before the 4th of July 100 to 200 people and now it is getting backed up almost to Evans, so I don't know what the numbers are now.

Vice President Yeager: How is the Governor's action effect what we have going on at the Fairgrounds?

CEO Wuersch: All the outdoor activities have stayed the same. It is affecting more of the inside activities that we would have had.

- Monthly Update
- COVID 19 Impact
- Event updates
- CCA Monthly Update

11) DIRECTORS COMMENTS (only comments/not discussions):

Director Skala: I wanted to talk about the Livestock auction. I know they gave us three different options. Barn Bash has stepped forward and they would like to help finance they have some money and they will also be sending out letters to their own sponsors to help raise more money to try to be able to do the whole show. With things the way they are we don't know if we will be able to do a full show. What we would like to do is a full show with on-line auction and it would only be for breeding animals. If things are still bad, then we would do the third option that is all online.

Director Scott: The livestock committee did meet, and we did talk about the three options and they are all still on the table. A decision won't be made until we get closer to the auction date. I just wanted to make it clear that what Gene was saying about Barn Bash was that they would help, and they said they would help solicit money and donations. I just want to clarify that because I thought what I heard Gene say was that they were going to cover it. Covering it and helping are two different things. So, for the record I want to make it clear going forward that Barn Bash is going to help is that right Gene?

Director Skala: Yes, that is correct.

Director Palumbo: How soon can we make a decision because we are going to need to let the kids know we are going to need to market it based on the decision we make. I know it is ever changing. I just think it will be more beneficial to make a more conservative decision and move forward so we can get more kids involved. By waiting longer and closer to the deadline it becomes so up in the air that people are just not going to participate. I think it would be best to just make a decision soon and move forward.

Director Almiron: I agree with Director Palumbo we can't wait for the Governor to tell us its ok. He has to make decisions for a bunch of counties, and he is treating each one differently. If we want the livestock show to be good, we need to make a decision really soon so that we can market it.

CEO Wuersch: Sarah can you give us some insight as to what other fairs are doing. Would you guys let us have a full show on our grounds if we observe the social distancing and all the guidelines?

Sarah: Right now, there are draft guidelines on how to do a partial in person process. The showmanship is out for almost all of the fairs that I have worked with.

Director Scott: We as a Board need to make the final decision but at the same time we need to fall back on the advisory committees as well. We need to also talk to the livestock department and the schools that are involved.

Kelly: We have been communicating with the leaders, parents, advisors, and the independent exhibitors. They know where we are at and we have put surveys out so we have an idea what our numbers would look like.

Vice President Yeager: Thank you Director Philips for joining us from the 45th DAA. Thank you, members of the public. Thank you, Helms and Sons, thank you, Donny for being here and your consistency in attending the meetings. Thank you, Carl and staff for doing the best you can.

Director Skala: After the meeting today and everything we talked about its nice to see things will start happening again. We are far from over I just think it's really great that we have the RV park coming in and the Money that is coming in. All of this good news makes it feel good to come to a meeting again.

Director Magnuson: I know Carl and his limited staff and volunteers they are getting a lot done. Hopefully with new partners coming on we can cut some of that down. I'm looking forward to the end of summer.

Director Scott: I think it's very important to have the Livestock on the agenda because as of right now it's the only thing we have planned for the fair right now. Thank you, Barn Bash, for the help and as Carl said we have twenty-three thousand in the bank for the livestock program, but we will still need to do some fund raising as well. So, anyone that can solicit and get the word out it would be very much appreciated they can talk to the Barn Bash committee they have the right forms. I know we don't have any events going on, but I would like to hear something about the Food fest we had going on the last two weekends.

CEO Wuersch: I sent out an E-mail letting everyone know that we are putting it on hold until further notice. We need to see things cool off with the CDC we also need to get some new food vendors because three of them are waiting to go to Orange County, so they shut down to get ready for that. So that left Dale and Cie by them self's, so we decided to shut it down for now.

Director Scott: I know that it took place two weekends, so I just wanted an overall feedback.

CEO Wuersch: Dale and Cie sent me over their tapes and they made about thirty-two hundred dollars. I haven't gotten the other vendors tapes yet. I think another setback for us is that on Saturdays there is a line for the COVID19 testing as well. But it is something that we want to continue. I have talked to Cindy and our marketing company. We are hoping that we can re-start it once the Derby Room opens. They want to help out with it and promote it as partners.

Director Palumbo: It is really good to see everyone. As far as the marketing we will market livestock and we will address APEX leaving and who's on the property and welcome Helms and Sons. As for the RV park I think it is fantastic. If there is anything else that the Board or the public has any suggestions on things that need to be marketed please reach out to Carl or myself but as for right now I think we need to focus on Livestock. The sooner we make a decision the better we can market it.

Director Almiron: I think moving forward with the agendas would it be possible to send the board a draft of the agenda before it goes public? That way if we think of something that can go on it or if something gets left off, we can make those corrections.

CEO Wuersch: I will send you an E-mail about what we are going to try to do with Sarah and Christina so that it makes it better.

12)CEO COMMENTS:

I have been working for a month now on trying to get a hand crew out here from Cal Fire. They have been up working at the lake cleaning. Mike Redman from the BMX has a student there and he is trying to help us get a crew. It would be 12 to 20 guys for just a little over one hundred dollars a day. If anyone knows of any crews or groups that would want to come out and do some work let me know. Donny has helped he has a guy that comes out a couple days a week. Aaron over at the motor cross lent me a motor grader and that helps get some of the weeds.

Director Almiron: If you can get a Cal Fire crew for 100 dollars a week, I would say to definitely make that work. I don't know if they are doing anything right now because of COVID19 but every Board of Supervisors office has youth advisory commission called YAK. Its High school students that get hours for volunteering.

Vice President Yeager: Have you reached out to the city of Perris to see if they have any programs?

CEO Wuersch: I am going to call.

13)ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Vice President Yeager at 5:27pm

IMPORTANT DATES: Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:00 pm unless otherwise specified:

- August 19, 2020
- September 16,2020
- October TBD
- November 18, 2020
- December 16, 2020

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