

**Minutes of Wednesday, August 20, 2025
El Paso County Fair Board Meeting**

Board Members: Michael Publicker, Grant Harris, Felicia Publicker, Michael Miller, Amanda Hensen, Jeff Lapsansky,
Associate Members: Teresa Lamonthe, Matt Zeiger
Staff: Theresa Odello, Andschana Aljets, Adam Baker, Dana Nordstrom, Jennifer Loewen, Maire Duncan
Guests: Joshua Seiter, Patty Woodward
Excused Absences: Amy Jo Fields, Kate Johnson, Emily Green, Jonathan Vrabec, Wade Canaday, Ed Dills, Angela Greene, Mel Trafton

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Michael Publicker at 6:32p.m. We welcomed everyone and let them introduce themselves.

Agenda Items & Meeting Minutes

Grant Harris made a motion to approve the May 2025 Meeting Minutes, 2nd by Mike Miller, the motion carried with approval.

Public Comments

Board and Staff Comments

- None

Action Items:

4.A. Office Seiter presented on the security actions of the 2025 El Paso County Fair. Highlighted successes included a small number of incidents, parking patrol, and the visibility of Sheriff Officers & Posse. Daily staff list was also successful. Office Seiter shared some of their internal action items for next year, including setting up contact with overnight security, having marked units on the grounds when Mo-Com isn't available, and the coordination of the Razors. Staff expressed their appreciation of all of the planning and communication ahead of time and the success of the week.

4.B. Dana Nordstrom presented the Partner Summary report, highlighting the successful marketing and sponsor fulfillment initiatives of the 2025 El Paso County Fair.

4.C. Andschana Aljets presented the information to determine the Fair dates for 2026. An added challenge would be the overlap of the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo during the 2nd half of Fair week. Discussion centered around the possible challenges of Veterinarian coverage, Livestock Sale schedule, Sheriff coverage, and programming challenges. However, different days would mean the loss of the Carnival and potential serious consequences for attendance and revenue. Jeff indicated that expectations

should be set that the overlap may affect attendance and revenue even with the Carnival. Andschana explained that adjustments are being made to the programming schedule to load Ag events onto the opening weekend, and auto events into the 2nd weekend to adjust for programming, stock, and participant availability. After discussion, Grant Harris made a motion to endorse the 2026 Fair dates of July 11-18, seconded by Mike Miller. Motion carried.

4.D. Andschana reviewed the G&S Shows data and experience as our Carnival and requested the endorsement to have them return in 2026. Jeff Lapansky made the motion to endorse, seconded by Grant Harris, the motion carried.

4.E. Theresa reviewed the process for re-application for expiring Board member terms, and application of new Board members. 4 current voting members are at the end of their first term and should reapply. Amanda Hensen indicated that she would not be seeking reappointment.

Committee Reports

None.

Miscellaneous Reports

6.A. Andschana Aljets presented the Facility Use information, highlighting the return of the Auto Races and the upcoming Fall Demo Derby.

6.B. 4H/CSU Ext. report was presented by Jennifer Loewen. Of the 100 tabletop entries taken to State, 91 placed. At the time of the meeting, Livestock was still actively participating at State.

Next Meeting: Fair Advisory Board meeting, September 17th, 6:30pm – Swink Hall
Michael Publicker adjourned the meeting at 7:54pm.