

Minutes of Wednesday, February 19th, 2025
El Paso County Fair Board Meeting

- Board Members:** Kate Johnson, Michael Publicker, Michael Miller, Jeff Lapsansky, Amanda Hensen, Grant Harris, Ed Dills,
- Associate Members:** Felicia Publicker, Wade Canaday,
- Staff:** Theresa Odello, Andschana Aljets, Skye Bogle, Dana Nordstrom, Jennifer Loewen,
- Guests:** Patty Woodward, Sheila Canaday, Patty Woodard, Commissioner Geitner
- Excused Absence:** Amy Jo Fields, Adam Baker, Emily Green, Jonathan Vabrec

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kate Johnson at 6:33p.m. We welcomed everyone and introduced ourselves.

Agenda Items & Meeting Minutes

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

Public Comments

- Patty Woodward announced the Jr. Livestock Committee Golf Scrabble Fundraiser happening on June 14th.

Board and Staff Comments

- None

Action Items:

4.A. Theresa Odello presented the 2025 4-H/FFA Award for endorsement. Grant Harris made a motion to endorse the 2025 4-H/FFA Award, 2nd by Jeff Lapsansky, the motion carried with approval.

4.B. Theresa Odello presented the Volunteer Service Award for endorsement. Jeff Lapsansky made a motion to endorse, 2nd by Michael Miller, motion carried with approval.

4.C. Andschana Aljets presented the 2025 Fair Marketing Plan & Budget for endorsement. The marketing committee has reviewed and recommended this plan. Jeff Lapsansky made the motion to approve the amended agreement, 2nd by Ed Dills, the motion carried with approval.

4.D. Theresa Odello presented information on the Committee Appointments.

4.E. Skye Bogle presented information from the 2025 Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs and shared the value of going to the conference and what new ideas were brought back to enhance the El Paso County Fair & Events Center.

4.F. Andschana Aljets presented information about the 2025 International Association of Fairs & Expos. She shared the insights she learned from the various presentations and how the takeaways will help grow the El Paso County Fair & Events Center.

4.G. Jennifer Loewen presented the 2025 Tabletop Premium Book for endorsement. Grant Harris made the motion to endorse, 2nd by Mel Trafton, the motion carried with approval.

Committee Reports

5.A. Facilities & Grounds – Grant Harris presented the grounds committee update, including all action items are in progress, but no March meeting was held due to other work commitments.

5.B. Programming Committee – Andschana presented the updates from the Programming Committee. The current focus is daily fair programming and starting on 2026 Fair ideas.

5.C. Vendor Committee – Skye Bogle presented the updates from the Vendor committee. The focus is finalizing outdoor vendor layout, and pricing the reusable vendor passes.

5.D. Sponsorship Committee – Dana reported on the Sponsorship committee updates. We are now 109% of our goal.

5.D. Marketing & Queen – Kate Johnson presented the Marketing and Queen update, including all action items are in progress and reported on the Queen schedule for March.

5.E. Theresa Odello presented updates from the Executive committee, including the review for the Boots in the Park: Skate into Spring, which will be the Fair fundraiser.

Miscellaneous Reports

6.A. Skye Bogle shared the Facility Use/Non-Fair programming report, highlighting the recent Bellm Tradeshow and Banquet. She also discussed the upcoming Game Expo, FFCLA Cornhole Fundraiser, and the new Homesteading Group which meets every 3rd Monday in Swink.

6.B. 4H/CSU Ext. report was represented by Jennifer Loewen. Action items are in process and upcoming Ag Fest will bring the opportunity for several schools to bring out kids to learn about Ag.

6.C. Theresa Odello had a few staff comments. Every committee that has 3 or more voting members will know how their committee meeting Agendas posted on sunshine law and are available to the public. The second comment was to gather more volunteers for the upcoming Game Expo. The last comment was a reminder to the Fair Advisory Board that unanimous endorsement is not required, but for board members to vote their opinion, even if it differs from the majority.

Next Meeting: Fair Advisory Board meeting, April 16th, 6:30pm – Swink Hall
Kate Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.