



**15th District Agricultural Association
Kern County Fair and Event Center
Bakersfield, California
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 22, 2022**

Call to Order:

Director Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM in the Association Office.

Directors Present:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy			X
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the excused absences of Director Dunphy and Director Chavez. Motion made by Director Torres, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed by all Directors.

Public Comment:

No public comments

Consent Calendar:

- a. Review of Minutes of January 24, 2022, Regular Meeting
- b. Review of 2022 Rental Agreements.

Mike- Blodgie can we remove the Rental Agreements we do not have any this month until March.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to remove 2022 Rental Agreements. Motion made by Director Torres, seconded by Director Britschgi. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion made by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Torres. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Lucas Espericueta, Chairperson

- a. Review of Financial Report (Discussion/Action by Board)
- b. Review of December 2021 Financials (Discussion/Action by Board)
- c. Review of January 2022 Financials (Discussion/Action by Board)

Lucas- December Financials will sum up all of 2021. The month of December was slow, it brought in \$189,205.16 of Revenue with Expenses of \$300,000, but the full YTD of 2021 is \$7,176,438.86. Our Expenses for 2021 was \$5,925,427.63 for a net profit of \$1,251,011.23 this are all Operating profit. Our profit is mainly a function of our low expenses for the year. For the whole year of 2021 through Non-Operational Funding, grants, PPP we received \$3,921,614.57 for a total combine profit of \$4,981,985.68. This is one of the best profit years operationally and we benefited from all the grants programs while being able to maintain our Swap Meet, have our Fair with a lean workforce to combined for a stellar year. Even though 2021 total Operating Revenue was less than 2019, 2018, 2017 our Expenses were significantly lower than 2019, 2018, 2017. In 2017 we had a good year with a profit of \$927,971.87. in 2018 we had a \$720,675.32 profit. In 2019 we had a \$47,206.27 profit. In 2020 we lost \$1,088,363.60. This year we beat all the other years in just Operating. This I the best year we have had in the last 5

years. I am very proud of what the staff did last year. Our cash position is the highest we've ever had. Our cash position is \$6,095,764.05 compared to prior years where we were usually around \$1,000,000.

Mike- Thank you Lucas.

January 2022 Financials show we had a slow month, and it usually is a slow month. We had Revenue of \$92,968.17 and Expenses of \$187,855.56 which is standard for the month of January. In the past year we would be running at a deficit for the month of January. Our expenses are still far below what they were in 2020, 2019, and 2018. Our cash positions are still above \$6,000,000 our historical past 5 years.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve Financial Report and the December 2021 Financials and January 2022 Financials. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Torres. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Livestock Committee - Jared Britschgi, Chairperson

- a. Review of the 2022 Livestock Catalog-Addendum A. (Discussion/Action by Board)

Britschgi- The registrations are open for the Pacific Coast Livestock Show which takes place on March 26th and 27th. Dawn will discuss the Livestock Catalog.

Dawn- The catalog draft was sent to you all. There were only a couple changes to poultry dates which were an error of my part and that is basically it. The book should be our approved book unless you have any questions?

Lidgett- With the new rules for the pigs, is that in the catalog. Are there any changes we have to do to the catalog due to the new rules of farrowing?

Dawn- Unfortunately we are so early with getting our book out, the State has not even communicated with the plants to tell them what criteria they have to meet. We already are delivering pigs for Imperial the first week of March and we are just delivering them regularly. The State has not done anything to implement the program. What we have decided to do as the State decide what they are going to do, once the kids all enter, I have all of their email addresses from the DNA forms they submit or their entries we can communicate through that as we get more information of what is required. Then the kids can upload it send it to use however we need once we find out more information from the State.

Mike- If later we receive more information, we will go to the Board of Directors to change the rules to comply with the new policies.

Dawn- Yes once we hear back from them.

Lidgett- Have you heard about the new law of not being able to help the calving process unless we have a vet on staff?

Dawn- We have a vet for the fair at all times we just call them, and that vet is a Dairy Specialist Vet, and these are the only animals we should have on grounds that would be calving at that time. Bear Mountain Vet has us covered the entire time, and their vet is part of a dairy committee that goes and checks all the heifers.

Lidgett- Thank you.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the 2022 Livestock Catalog- Addendum A. Motion made by Director Lidgett, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Facilities Committee - Cesar Chavez, Chairperson

Mike- I've talked to the California Construction of Authority, and they are working on the electrical and getting ready to go out to bid for the Livestock area. We are still working on building #4 getting ready to lay the floor in the building after they paint. Things are moving nicely in that building. We got the water pipe from Rain for Rent off the SVOG funding. Eddie is ecstatic about that pipe because it doesn't leak it is working absolutely beautiful right now. They are all excited about the new equipment that is coming. The tractor will be used in the arena, on the grounds with a new aerator and mower deck so we don't repair it constantly. As we get closer, we are going to work on the Sheep Barns to redo that barn with cement floors, and pins. We are going to find out how much the pins are to do a fundraiser and hopefully get the pens paid.

Blodgie- Mike has the Non-profit locked in a date for a fundraiser?

Mike- Not yet we are working on that.

Blodgie- I want to be on the committee

Lidgett- I looked at the pigs washing stations and the grates have not been changed yet.

Mike- They will not be changed before Pacific Coast but will be changed by Fair.

Blodgie- Have we gotten our forklifts yet?

Mike- Yes, we have both of the forklifts and a Bob Cat coming. Maintenance Staff are excited about the Bob Cat because they can get in and out of the livestock area with shavings much easier. I'm in the process of looking for Kabotas so we can also pull the trash trains during fair time. We are also looking for more golf carts for staff to use that has a bin to carry their tools. Electric is what is going to be required in 2024 or 2025 so we are not sure what to get at this point.

Blodgie- Can't we do both?

Dunphy- If we are required to have it in a couple of years why would we buy gas now?

Mike- We are not required to change it out. We are required to buy new at that time. When that comes up all new purchases will be electric. Everything else is grandfathered in.

Dunphy- Okay.

Business Development Committee - Ned Dunphy, Chairperson

Dunphy- Nothing to report although I would like for Mike to set up a time when we can meet on what it is we want to accomplish.

Mike- Okay.

Lucas- The Farm Bureau is looking to partner with the fair and we are in negotiations. We sat down last week, and we are trying to do a donation and do some stuff, career fairs and other things.

Mike- Yes, we are working with the CEO of the Farm Bureau to have assistance either with career day during fair or an AG day off fair. Like they would put on in 2017 up in BC.

Blodgie- Awesome, that is really good!

KC's Farm Committee - Ned Dunphy and Lucas Espericueta

Mike- I spoke with RJ from the Edible School Yard, and they are having a meeting today and they are going to get with me because we are ready to get started back with the farm. Of course, with schools it is still an issue having field trips. I am sure we will work towards having something in place towards fall. Hopefully if the governor and the schools open up, the kids can have fieldtrips and have the Edible School Yard teaching component and the cooking experience. I will report more once we actually have our meeting.

Dunphy- As originally planned.

Mike- Yes.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

Review of 2022 Kern County Fair Operating Hours (Discussion/Action by Board)

Mike- We are a much later fair in the evening. For example, Monday through Thursday instead of opening at 3 o'clock we are asking to open at 4 o'clock and instead of closing at 10 o'clock stay open till 11 o'clock. It is hotter here. At 3 o'clock we do not have the attendance. From 4 to 5 we have 57 % more attendance than from 3 to 4. The only effect it's going to shift the sales to be higher with concessions and vendors because we are not opening at 3 o'clock.

Blodgie- Mike we are always extending past 10 o'clock anyway and its going to be right in line with what we are already doing.

Mike- Right, so its just the matter of changing the hours. I cannot change them the Board has to change them. But it would only be Monday – Thursday.

Dunphy- That looks to be a no brainer.

Blodgie- Exactly

Lidgett- I there a way we can make an exception for Senior Day and keep it at the same time?

Mike- Senior Day and all of those events will stay the same.

Blodgie- They are not affected by this at all.

Mike- This is the general operating/opening time. Instead of 3 o'clock it would be 4 o'clock.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the 2022 Kern County Fair Operating Hours. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Lidgett. Motion passed by all Directors

Next Regular Board Meeting

Next scheduled board meeting is Monday, March 21, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

CEO Reports

- a. Funding Update
- b. Fairgrounds and Facilities Updates

Mike- I talked to Michael Flores the Under Secretary-to-Secretary Ross and there will not be any funding coming from the Governor at this time in his budget unless he revises it in his May Budget. I've been asking our advocacy group up in Sacramento to please look at that \$400,000 bill that is owing on our books. Maybe with the Governor's excess of funding he could take that off of our books and pay for it out of that funding. All of us have been asking for that.

Dunphy- And what was that loan for again remind me?

Mike- Governor Brown had borrowed money from the retirement and then he put it back on the fairs and everybody else that they owed this amount of money to refund the retirement.

Dunphy- Oh that they took.

Mike- That they took and spent. So, I do not understand why if he took it out why would we still owe it if the State has excess money.

Blodgie- Well not to mention we are not funded by the State, but yet we are responsible to pay it back to the state.

Mike- Right.

Dunphy- Yes, they took the money and used it.

Mike- Yes.

Blodgie- Yes, out of retirement of all agencies

Mike- Right, all agencies have to pay it back which doesn't make sense especially when we are not funded by the Governor.

Dunphy- Especially since we had \$79 billion surplus last year and \$40 billion this year, they should pay it.

Mike- Yes, I agree.

Correspondence

Nothing to report.

Other information

Nothing to report.

Directors Comments

Ned Dunphy- Great job everybody!

David Lidgett- Being able to go to WFA I was able to attend the class Learning About AG, and that was amazing and actually sent me something in the mail and already gave it to two different school districts so they can teach Agriculture. It is amazing what that program gives in knowledge to the kids. Second, I appreciate all the people that came up to me and said, "the fair was so much fun this year and did a great job". That's not me that's the staff thank you so much for all of your hard work.

David Torres- The Kern County Fair and the Board lost a great friend on Saturday morning, the passing of Beverly Camp. All of here are privileged to have known Beverly. Our condolences to her.

Lucas Espericueta-The Farm Bureau is hosting AG Day in the City in the Fairgrounds for the 10th time, where thousands of kids from all over the county come to learn about AG in conjunction to their school program. That event is March 21st. It's a great partnership.

Jared Britschgi- No Comment

NaTasha Johnson- Well said David.

Blodgie Rodriguez- I would like to take this time to wish Chelsey Roberts a Happy Birthday she turned 21 today, so if we could sing her a happy birthday.

CLOSED SESSION:

a. Personnel

The Board is authorized to meet in Closed Session for the purpose of considering: Personnel Matters (Gov. Code 11126(a))

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the Board to meet in closed Session for the purpose of considering: Personnel Matters (Gov. Code 11126(a)) at 5:45PM. Motion made by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Britschgi. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X

Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

RECOVENE INTO OPEN SESSIONS:


Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve to reconvene in Open Session at 5:49 PM. Motion made by Director Torres, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed by all Directors.


<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			X
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

No action to report in closed session

Director Rodriguez adjourned the February 22, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting at 5:50PM.

Certified to be a True Copy

Signed 
Blodgie Rodriguez
Title: Chairman of the Board
Date: February 22, 2022

Signed 
Michael G Olcott
Title: Chief Executive Officer
Date: February 22, 2022