



**15th District Agricultural Association
Kern County Fair and Event Center
Bakersfield, California
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2020**

Call to Order:

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Office of the Kern County Fairgrounds.

Directors Present:

Lucas Espericueta

Jared Britschgi

Ned Dunphy

Blodgie Rodriguez

NaTasha Johnson

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

Public Comment:

None

Consent Calendar:

- a. Review of Minutes of February 18, 2020 regular meeting
- b. Review of 2020 Interim Rental Agreements

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion made by Director Britschgi, seconded by Director Espericueta. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		

Committee Reports

Finance Committee Report- Committee Chair, Lucas Espericueta

The Finance committee met today at 4:30 PM. At this point in time, we have no events. No revenue stream coming in. Swap Meet has been cancelled. We have about 2 ½ months of reserves to go off of. I am advising Mike to go out and seek outside loans for us to work off of. We don't know how long this is going to last, so we need money in the bank to pay the employees that are permanent civil service.

Mike has been instructed to look at all of our contracts, to go over verbiage to make sure we can cancel as close to the fair as possible without having to pay penalties.

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to accept the February financial committee report. Motion made by Director Britschgi, seconded by Director Dunphy. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		

Livestock Committee – Jared Britschgi, Chairperson

Nothing to report at this time

Facilities Meeting – Cesar Chavez, Chairperson

Nothing to report.

Business Development – Ned Dunphy, Chairperson

Nothing to report

KC's Farm – Ned Dunphy & Lucas Espericueta, Co-Chairpersons

We had a meeting last week, with the 3 of us (Mike, Ned and Lucas). At this point we are leaving it up to Mike and his directorship.

Old Business

None

New Business

- a. Review and Discussion for CEO Olcott to secure and draw on a \$200,000 line of credit as needed from the California Fair Services Authority for the 15th District Agricultural Association, Kern County Fair and to report to the Board of Directors when a draw on the line of credit has occurred.

This is a new line of credit, although the funds were never drawn on last year when the same amount of credit was given to us.

Director Dunphy asked Director of Marketing at CDFA, Jeff Cesca about zero interest loans to the fairs to help pay for the salaries of the California State Employee's seeing that we are shutdown by the state. Director Cesca is unsure about a zero percent loans. Director Dunphy is simply asking as a last resort, as he would prefer not to borrow any money, as he would like to get the State of California to pay for the employee salaries in this emergency situation. But if we can't get the State to pay and we are required to borrow money to pay the state employees, then he would like the State of California to explore a zero-interest loan.

Director Rodriguez asked Director Cesca and John Quiroz, branch Chief of Fairs & Expositions for CDFA, if it was unheard of for fairs to borrow a million dollars at a 2% interest rate. Typically, we borrow \$200,000 but this is a different situation where we would need more to stay afloat. Would we be able to borrow that from F&E? Director Cesca states that our situation could be the new normal. He also stated that the F&E fund is not that very robust and there is the AB1499 money, but in order to get that money, you need to abide by the requirements. The Kern County Fair should explore the CFSA option first, but also do an analysis of your lost revenue during this pandemic. Director Cesca will bring up the concern with Arturo Barajas, Asst. Secretary of Agriculture for CDFA. The only concern is, that this is going to affect all of the fairs.

Director Cesca and Mr. Quiroz have all the information on salaries in the annual budgets that are turned into CDFA. Calculations can be made from those budgets based on the employees that are currently being staffed and the STOP (Statement of Operations).

Since Governor Newsom put regulations on social gatherings, we have had to cancel all of our events for the months of March and April, and possibly May and into June. The Kern County Fair shouldn't be penalized since events are how we make money and we currently cannot do that. We are not contesting the decisions that the Governor has had to do, we get that. We just don't want to run out of money based on the decisions that he has had to make. We are a state entity and we need to receive assistance

from the State one way or another. Someone needs to be in Sacramento advocating for the fairs during this time of emergency.

The Kern County Fair receives no money from the State of California, so we are a self-supporting entity. With no events going on, we have no revenue coming in. We are running on our reserves and can only sustain so long.

Director Espericueta would like to amend the motion for CEO Olcott to secure a line of credit for as high as CFSA will allow.

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to accept the amendment as presented to secure a line of credit for as high as CFSA will allow. Motion made by Director Britschgi, seconded by Director Dunphy. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		

- b. Review and Discussion to pay California Department of Food and Agriculture – Department of Human Resources/Legal Division – Legal Fees charged to the 15th District Agricultural Association – Kern County Fair and Event Center.

Director Dunphy suggested we table this until the April Board of Directors meeting.

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to table this payment of CDFA Legal Fees. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Britschgi. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			

Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTesha Johnson	X		

- c. Review and Discussion of the Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy to replace the existing Board approved Sexual Harassment Policy.

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to adopt the Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed by all Directors.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTesha Johnson	X		

Next Regular Board Meeting

Next scheduled board meeting is Monday, April 20, 2020 in the Association Office at 5:00 PM

Manager’s (CEO) Report

- The 2020 Kern County Fair runs 9/23/20 – 10/4/20
- Staff preparing to start contracting, commercial exhibits, grounds acts, entertainment, food concession contracts
- Lucas, Ned and I had a meeting with the Grimm Family Education Foundation. They would like to see a 2-teacher contract for the KC Farm Program. CEO Olcott will start the process.
- Chelsey will now present the 2020 Kern County Fair theme – The Fun starts here!
- Several Events coming up:
 - o No events – March Events have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus

Correspondence

- F2020-01SHP Sexual Harassment Training Requirements

Directors Comments

Director Rodriguez – Thank you to the Board, the staff, and the non-profit board for being here. It means the world to us all to have backing and for us to back you.

Director Espericueta – Never a dull moment

Closed Session

Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of considering: CEO Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code §11126(a)(1)). Motion made by Director Britschgi, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed by all Directors. Time is 6:01 PM


<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		


Chairman Rodriguez requested a motion to reconvene into open session at 6:25 PM. Motion made by Director Espericueta, seconded by Director Britschgi. No action was taken in closed session.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Approved (Yes Vote)</u>	<u>Not Approved (No Vote)</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
David Torres			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
David Lidgett			
Cesar Chavez			
Jared Britschgi	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		

Director Rodriguez requested a motion to adjourn the March 16, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Johnson. Time is 6:30 PM

Certified to be a True Copy

Signed 
 Blodgie Rodriguez
 Title: Chairman of the Board
 Date: March 16, 2020

Signed 
 Michael G Olcott
 Title: Chief Executive Officer
 Date: March 16, 2020