



**15th District Agricultural Association
Kern County Fair and Event Center
Bakersfield, California**

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2025**

Call to Order:

Chairman Britschgi called the meeting to order at 5:06PM 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
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

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

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

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Consent Calendar:

- a. Review of Minutes of March 17, 2025, Regular Meeting
- b. Review of 2025 Interim Rental Agreements
- c. Review of 2025 Standard Agreements

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve items a through c in the Consent Calendar. Motion made by Director Espericueta, seconded by Director Johnson. Motion passed.

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

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Lucas Espericueta, Chairperson

- a. Review of Financial Report (*Discussion/Action by Board*)
- b. Review of March 2025 Financials (*Discussion/Action by the Board*)

Director Espericueta – If you go to Tab 3, you will find the memo of the month of March 31st. On the balance sheet we have \$2,600,000 in cash position with \$235,000 of Liabilities. Tab 4 is the earnings for March. We brought in \$342,000, and \$204,000 was non-fair rental revenue. Expenses were \$371,000, so we netted -\$29,000. Next Tab is my favorite year to date going back to 2021. You can see our revenue is the highest it’s ever been, second to last year. \$675,000 for the entire year. We have expenses of over a million dollars. With a net loss of \$431,000. We are still above our cash position that we were in 2021.

CEO Olcott- In the Administration Expenses category you have insurance costs that were enacted last July that increased \$15,000 more a month, that number is part of January through June of this year. We also have an increase in the audit cost to perform two consecutive audits to get caught up now that we have the GASB numbers to finish 2022 and 2023. It was a big surprise to Patricia and I that the auditors are requiring GASB 87, which is for leases. We have never had to figure this into our audits until now.

Director Espericueta – It’s basically a law now that you must list on your balance sheet when you are leasing a property, future payments, and future expenses on assets and liabilities, contractual obligations on a lease. You must include those in the assets.

CEO Olcott – So the only asset we have is the lease for the cell tower. We have two cell tower leases. The cell towers are \$50,000 each a year.

Director Espericueta – That’s an income not an expense?

CEO Olcott – Correct, its only income no expense.

Director Espericueta – Explain what GASB stands for.

CEO Olcott – Governmental Accounting Standard Board, and for GASB 68 if you go to your balance sheet. You will see on the liability GASB 68 is all the liability. If everyone were to be let go and had to get rid of the entire fairgrounds then the obligation is listed there what would be owed for the employees’ pension expenses.

Director Espericueta – That’s the same concept of a lease hold. Where you are in a contract to pay this lease. Just like we are in contract to pay the pension of all the workers.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve the Financial Report, and the March 2025 Financials. 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Roja-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

Livestock Committee - Blodgie Rodriguez, Chairperson

CEO Olcott – The State Rules Committee has approved a backup animal. See Addendum A Tab 7. We have been approved for a Dairy and Poultry Show before the Fair Starts on September 6th and 7th. See Tab 8 with the approval from the State Vet. It will be a modified show, and the staff are excited that we are allowed to have the show. Hoping to have the Upside Academy Kids paint again. We would have to change the time to paint to a weekend in August with the Dairy & Poultry Show being moved up a couple of weeks before the Fair.

Facilities/ Business Development Committee - NaTasha Johnson, Chairperson

Director Johnson – Last week CCA came down to look at the leaking pipes in Building #1 and Mike’s staff advised him they were in bad shape. He is waiting to find out what the cost will be and then bring it to the Board for review.

Mike had the maintenance staff repurpose the wood from the Sheep Barn panels and we can step outside to see what they have done. Mike bought a planer for around \$500.00 to repurpose the old wood.

Mike is requesting to go to Legislative Day at the Capitol. Also, requesting to sign letters for salary structure for all CEOs to be revised with CDFA approval and also to increase the sales tax to 5% paid to the fairs for sales incurred on the Fairgrounds.

The painters have started Harvest Hall. Jesus and Angel are doing carpenter projects and busy with all the events. The Livestock crew is busy with repairs in Livestock and upkeep with swap meet. Landscaping is keeping up with events clean up, watering and pruning/mowing. Event crew is busy with events especially National Street Rod Association this week. One of our largest events.

KC’s Farm Committee - Ned Dunphy, and Lucas Espericueta, Chairperson

Director Dunphy – Planters have the new barrier material in place. We are just waiting for new dirt from The Wonderful Company and then we will start planting. Weeds have all been sprayed and dying out. They will start planting the small planters tomorrow once they have finished cleaning up from the events and getting everything lined up for this week’s event. KC Farm Classes – The spring classes began with 4H and public signing up. Check the website for the upcoming classes to sign up.

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

- a. Review and Discussion for Lilia Kenneally and Patricia Sweis to attend the CDFA Training “Nuts and Bolts” from April 21 to April 23, 2025, in Auburn, California at the Gold Country Fairgrounds.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve Lilia Kenneally and Patricia Sweis to attend the CDFA Training “Nuts and Bolts” from April 21 to April 23, 2025, in Auburn, California at the Gold Country Fairgrounds. Motion made by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Torres. Motion passed by all Directors.

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

David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

- b. Review and Discussion to have a night during the annual Fair to honor a Private Business or Public Institution that has been supportive of the Fairgrounds.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve to have a night during the annual Fair to honor a Private Business or Public Institution that has been supportive of the Fairgrounds. Motion made by Director Torres, 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

- c. Review and Discussion regarding NEW State Livestock Rule that allows for a backup animal. See Addendum A:

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve to have a night during the annual Fair to honor a Private Business or Public Institution that has been supportive of the Fairgrounds. Motion made by Director Torres, 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

- d. Review and Discussion of AB258 to support increasing the percentage of the total gross receipts generated at fairs for sales and tax purposes, from ¾ of 1% to 5%.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve to AB258 to support increasing the percentage of the total gross receipts generated at fairs for sales and tax purposes, from ¾ of 1% to 5%. Motion made by Director Torres, 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

- e. Review and Discussion of SB493 which seeks to modernize and enhance the compensation framework for Secretary-Managers (CEO) of District Agricultural Associations (Fairgrounds). It sets salary ranges that the Board of Directors would be able to set CEO salaries based on the financial position of each fairground.
- f. Review and Discussion for CEO Olcott to attend Legislation Day at the State Capitol on behalf of the Kern County Fair and our member organization CERRVF (California Emergency Response Resiliency Venues and Fairgrounds). Tuesday April 29th returning Thursday May 1, 2025.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve E and F. Motion made by Director Torres, 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez			
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez			
Norma Rojas-Mora	X		
David Torres	X		

Next Regular Board Meeting

- a. Next scheduled board meeting is **Monday, May 19, 2025**, at 5:00 PM.

CEO Reports

- a. 2025 Kern County Fair
- b. 2025 Fairground Projects

CEO Olcott – Year-Round Events, we have NSRA on 4/25-27, Relay for Life 5/3-4, Pygmy Goat Show 5/3-4, KC Farm Teacup Flower Workshop 5/8, Spring Fest Butler Carnival 5/8-11, Bulky Waiste 5/10, PAL Boxing 5/17, AGM Kid Fest 5/17, Aztec Image Car Show 5/18, Menudo Festival 5/24, and Bakersfield Anime 5/31-6/1.

Fairground and Facilities: Harvest Hall will be the next building to be painted outside which will complete all major buildings being painted. Painting projects will continue in order to maintain pipes, picnic tables, rusted surfaces, etc.

We have moved the Special Friends Day to the second Thursday for safety reasons as animals arrive on the first Thursday. Additionally, this will give our special friends a better opportunity to see all the animals without traffic and load-in. We are booking acts on the secondary stages. Accepting vendor applications for the buildings and grounds. Accepting entertainment applications to play for free on the stages.

Correspondence

No correspondence

Other information: (Informational)

CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 11126(e)(2), the Board is authorized to meet in Closed Session for the purpose of conferring with and receiving advice from legal counsel regarding pending litigation.

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve to go into Closed Session at 5:52 PM. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Rojas-Mora. Motion passed by all Directors

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

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Britschgi requested a motion to approve to reconvene in Open Session at 5:56 PM.
 Motion made by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Torres. Motion passed by all Directors.


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

No action to report in closed session.

Directors Comments

- Jared Britschgi- No Comment
- Cesar Chavez- No Comment
- Ned Dunphy- No Comment
- Lucas Espericueta- No Comment
- NaTasha Johnson- No Comment
- David Lidgett- No Comment
- Blodgie Rodriguez- No Comment
- Norma Rojas-Mora - No Comment
- David Torres- No Comment

Certified to be a True Copy

Signed 
 Jared Britschgi
 Title: Chairman of the Board
 Date: April 21, 2025

Signed 
 Michael G Olcott
 Title: Chief Executive Officer
 Date: April 21, 2025