



**15<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association  
Kern County Fair and Event Center  
Bakersfield, California**

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, June 29, 2020**

**Call to Order:**

Chairwoman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM via zoom teleconference.

**Directors Present:**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Excused</u></b>
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 requests a motion to approve the absence of Director Chavez & Director Torres. Motion made by Director Britschgi, seconded by Director Dunphy. Motion passed by all Directors.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Consent Calendar:**

None

## **Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee** - Lucas Espericueta, Chairperson

None

**Livestock Committee** - Jared Britschgi, Chairperson

Director Britschgi commented that we would discuss Livestock under the old and new business items.

**Facilities Committee** - Cesar Chavez, Chairperson

No meeting this month

**Business Development Committee** - Ned Dunphy, Chairperson

No meeting this month

**KC's Farm Committee** - Ned Dunphy and Lucas Espericueta

No meeting this month

## **New Business**

- a. Review and Discussion of the 2020 Livestock Show and Sale. Consideration of what type of Livestock Show and how it will run in order to conform to Governor Newsom's Resilience Roadmap as well as conforming to directives and guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the local Kern County Health Department. **See Addendum A & B**

Dawn Stornetta, Livestock Supervisor – The addendum that is being displayed on the screen is what was sent out to all leaders in the 4-H & FFA community. Those individuals have this information and were asked to send in questions regarding it. There were a few comments, but no questions. We are here tonight to answer questions and discuss how this will all work. We have been given Guidelines by CDFA and that is Addendum B. There will be more information sent out once it is all voted on as far as logistics and the how-to's. This just outlines the basic information. CDFA recognizes some but not all species for market shows. We will have to get some approval from CDFA to allow those other species to show virtually. The biggest things will be the fact that we will offer a virtual show and auction or there may be some exhibitors that will only want to show because they have a private buyer. If it is voted on to go virtual, we will try to keep it as familiar as the fair rules. The dates and rules will be as close to the fair rules as possible. We want to give the kids the most experience as possible and not limit them. The kids will only be able to sell 1 animal, Grand and Reserve must sell. If they show more than 1 animal, they must declare which will sell and they will declare that at the entry of their animal. All animals are terminal. There will be no live pickup of any animals, except for the Dairy Replacement Heifers. And that is a rule set forth by CDFA. After the show and sale, the animals will be dropped off at the fair where there will be a vet who will vet check them, KCF tag will be checked, weighed for the processor, and approved market ready or not market ready. Now let's get into the questions.

Director Dunphy – Will the vet check be held before the show and sale happens?

Dawn – No, the way CDFA has it set up is because the auction is done before we receive the animals, the kids have to target their animals for the fairs weight guidelines. If we move earlier, then the weight won't be met. If we go later, then the animal will go over weight. We will receive animals the day after the last auction. The vet will check the animal and if the vet doesn't accept it, the buyer will be contacted and the animal will go home with the kid and the sale of that animal is VOID.

Director Espericueta – How often does it happen where the animal is not market ready?

Director Britschgi – How long after the auction ends, do they have to do the add-ons?

Dawn – They have until the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. This will help support the kids if they didn't get what they were hoping to in the auction sale.

Director Britschgi – And all of the dates that are presented, fall in line with what's in the book?

Dawn – The weigh-in and photos no because this is all new, but the judging of the show and sale is very close to what the fair dates would be. The sale dates are exactly the same.

Director Lidgett – Is there a way to have the Grand or Reserve Grands to go to the auction block and show up there for the auction? Even if it's just by themselves and have it posted on Facebook Live to excite more buyers.

Dawn – That would be great but ultimately that is a question for Governor Newsom because he is the one who will tell us that we can or can't have people on the grounds in a mass gathering. But right now, the 4-H will not allow any of the kids to participate in a show that is not approved by CDFA and a letter from County Public Health stating that you have permission to have people on the grounds because the 4-H takes responsibility for them liability wise which means that if one of them gets COVID they can sue the 4-H and the 4-H is not taking any responsibility for that. So the only way that we can have them on the block is if CDFA approves it and we get a letter from County Public Health.

CEO Olcott – The way the county is going in the number of cases, there is no way we will be able to get a letter from the County Public Health. The only way we can have them on the grounds is during the time of the collection of animals and that is a staggered schedule.

Dawn – Yeah, the Governor is shutting us down in the opposite direction

Director Espericueta – What is the actual show going to look like? You submit your videos and you just sit around and wait for the results? View live? How does it work?

Dawn – The videos are submitted and then they are sent to the judge. The judge will review them then the judge will submit the results and the reasons and the top 3 animals per class. Then we can post the class results of each specie, breed, etc. The exhibitors cannot watch it live but they will get to see the information that the judge provides. The only template that allows you to watch it live is through Walton Webcasting which is a great platform. Although it's a little bit different because they don't place the whole class. They only place the top 4 and dump the rest. Not all the kids get recognized or placed. And also, the judge, the animals and exhibitors would have to be in Indiana because they do this from their studio. They don't do it on a sight and we obviously can't all go out to Indiana and we can't all be together for a show. So, we will do a video of the judge and his reasons and recognize the kids. I would like to get some sort of a zoom call with the kids and the judge so everyone can see the kid's reactions.

Director Rodriguez – Can exhibitors participate in the show without declaring for auction? Also, if they don't declare for auction, can they still submit add-ons?

Dawn – Yes, there is an option to participate in the show and not sell. Same as if it were an in person show. You can always scratch out of the auction. If an animal isn't in the auction, it cannot receive add-ons. Only animals that are sold can receive add-on donations.

Director Lidgett – Can we utilize the Friends of the Fair to get add-ons that don't want to send their animals to slaughter?

Dawn – That would be up to the Friends of the Fair. That would go through them, and not us.

CEO Olcott – The friends of the fair do not want to do this at this time.

Dawn – There is a question on the chat – Do they have to wear their uniform? Yes, they still must wear their uniform due to the fact that this we are a state agency and we follow state rules. So, yes, they must be in full show uniform.

Dawn – What are the weight for the virtual show? This is going to be tough but the exhibitors, leaders and parents will have to be trusted with those weights to declare them on their own. Judges will be able to tell that your animal is lighter or heavier than declared and it's clearly in the wrong class. The weights will be sent in by exhibitors, and the staff will also weigh them when they arrive on grounds after the show and sale. The animals will have to have made weight when they are dropped off. These weights are required by the processing plants. If the animal doesn't make weight that is set by the fair in the rule book, then it will be disqualified and goes home and the buyer will be refunded or not billed. Classes will still be broken by weight. Classes broken by breeds will still be done so. Either the judge or a different individual will be calling breeds from the videos submitted. We are trying to keep classes as close to the book as possible.

Dawn – How can the fair make sure the rules aren't being broken? Example: professional fitters, etc. To be honest, we can't. There is no way to prohibit fitters, there is no solution. There are always some people out there that will break the rules. You can't catch everyone. Let's focus on the kids who won't break the rules. The judges know that this is a different kind of time. The good judges will know.

Dawn – Will kids with disabilities get a longer time allowance to show their animal or will it still be the 60 seconds?

The server can only allow the 60 seconds and because we have so many exhibitors, we need to stick to that time allowance. You can maybe modify the video or get a different angle because of the child's disability. The judge will see the disability and they will understand the challenge.

Director Dunphy – The video they are submitting, it doesn't have to be one continuous 60 seconds, it can be edited?

Dawn – No, it has to be one continuous video and take. It cannot be edited. It's not an easy video to do, but it's the best that we can do for the kids with the situation that we are dealt with. It may take up to 20 times to do this video, and it may be tougher than actually being in the ring at fair, but this is what we have to do to help get these animals sold for the kids.

Director Britschgi – This is strictly market animals, correct? No Leather Lead, no showmanship, no Bred & Fed?

Dawn – CDFA has limited us to auction animals only. Market Sheep, Market Beef, Market Goats, Replacement Heifers, Rabbit meat pens & Fryers, and chicken meat pens and turkeys.

Dawn – There is a question regarding the dairy show. What is to happen if they calve early? Will we need a vet certificate?

There's a special exception for them. We need to make sure the bred beef heifers and dairy springers are pregnant. We always have a vet check at the fairgrounds to make sure they are bred. So we are going to have to have the kids vet certify them and send in the certificate to make sure we aren't sifting any animals that aren't bred. I need to have a conversation with the team chair to see what his thoughts are. To see if they calve before the videos are submitted, then they would be ineligible to sell. If they

calve after the videos are submitted, then they would be eligible to show. That's about the only way we could do it. That's pretty much the same way it is done at the fair.

Dawn – Will breeding animals still have a virtual show?

Unfortunately, not

Dawn – Will 4-H and Independents be judged separately?

It will be the same way as it is in the book, which is 4-H and independents below high school age together & FFA and Independents above high school age together.

Dawn – Will animals be able to be picked up live?

No, per CDFA's regulations, everything must go on the truck to be harvested.

Dawn – Is the livestock office open?

No, due to the shelter in place.

Dawn – All the forms can be dropped off into the mail slot on the administration office on P Street.

Dawn – The horse show is considered a breeding show, so that is cancelled as well. Only a show for auction animals.

Director Rodriguez – How are weights done for the animals in the virtual show?

Dawn – We can set a percentage, which will allow people to be within a certain weight. What I am suggesting and what CDFA is suggesting, you declare the weight that it is at the time of entry, so it can be in the correct show class. However, when it arrives to the fair to be shipped off, it needs to be in the fair's weight range for the processor to accept it.

Dawn – There's a question on here about a decision to cancel the fair and have a virtual show?

No, that's what we are discussing.

Dawn – Entry fees will be refunded if we choose to do virtual.

Dawn – Yes, Dairy are considered a breeding animal, but they do auction. So, they are an exception.

Dawn – Everything has to have a KCF Tag and be DNA'd in the time that is set in the Livestock Catalog. We are still following State Rules.

Dawn – Yes, Champions do sell. If I take 2 pigs, 2 lambs and 2 goats. If I declare my pig to sell, but my lamb gets champion, I must sell my lamb and not my pig.

Director Rodriguez – Can you elaborate on the exhibitor with disabilities? Will the judge know if the child has disabilities?

Dawn – We are working with a group in Kern County and they've outlined the dos and don'ts of the things to do. It was asked about special exceptions for the special disabilities and some parents like it or don't like it. We were advised by the disabilities group here in Kern County to treat the child the same as everybody else or we are in violation.

Director Rodriguez – How do we maintain the email list?

Facility Marketing Representative, Chelsey Roberts – The meeting agenda is always on the fair website 10 days prior to the Board Meeting per Bagley-Keene Act and it was also sent out to all of the 4-H leaders and the FFA Advisors.

Dawn – All of this information that is presented to you is strictly information in the hopes that the Board will make a decision to either proceed with virtual or wait it out in the hopes that we can have an in person show. The community seems to be split 50/50. Half want the Board to make a decision and the other half are hoping that we will be able to have a live show. Not everyone will be happy. It's better to make a decision for the kids so they know what to expect.

Director Espericueta – What are our options if we choose to go with the virtual route and then later on it looks like we can have something? What options do we have? Can we have a virtual sale but then do something live?

CEO Olcott – The Governor's statement today, he has no way for us to get into stage 4, which is the stage for us to have any events here at the fairgrounds. The likelihood is about 99.9% sure there will not be a live auction here at the fairgrounds.

Director Dunphy – I can't imagine at this point we could have a live show, Kern County is leading the way with numbers spiking with COVID. There has been a question mentioned here a couple times regarding refunds.

Dawn – We have talked about it a couple times, but it can't happen until there is a vote to proceed with a virtual show. Once it is decided to go virtual, then refunds will be issued.

Director Rodriguez – Refunds will take place once a vote has been made. It will be refunded back to the card in which the entry was made. It will take 5-7 days for the money to appear back on the statement.

Dawn – Those individuals that are already entered, I will reach out to them to make sure they still want to participate in the virtual show. If they do not want to participate, then that money will also be refunded.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the decision to take the 2020 Livestock Show and Sale to a virtual platform. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Lidgett. Motion passed by all Directors.

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

**Old Business**

- a. Review and Discussion to reinstate the Poultry show for the 2020 Kern County Fair since “The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture have announced an end to the Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND) quarantine.” See **Addendum C** – CDFA News Release and **Addendum D** – New Poultry Divisions

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion. Director Espericueta moved to reinstate the poultry show (market only) virtually for the 2020 Fair, seconded by Director Lidgett. 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	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

- b. Review and Discussion concerning the Kern County Fair Rabbit Show, the Sanctioned American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) show and the Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease that has been discovered to be in California. See **Addendum E**

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion. Director Espericueta moved to reinstate the rabbit show (market only) virtually for the 2020 Fair, seconded by Director Lidgett. 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	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett			
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres	X		

**Next Regular Board Meeting**

Next scheduled board meeting is Monday, July 20, 2020 at 5:00 PM in the Association Office and via zoom meeting.

**CEO Report**

Nothing to report at this time

**Correspondence**

None

**Directors Comments**

**Chairwoman Rodriguez** – No comment

**Director Dunphy** – No comment

**Director Lidgett** – Thank you Dawn for your hard work.

**Director Chavez** –

**Director Torres** –

**Director Espericueta** – Thank you Dawn

**Director Britschgi** – No comment


**Director Johnson** –


Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to adjourn the June 29, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. 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	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Time is 6:08 PM.

Certified to be a True Copy

Signed   
 Blodgie Rodriguez  
 Title: Chairwoman of the Board  
 Date: June 29, 2020

Signed   
 Michael G Olcott  
 Title: Chief Executive Officer  
 Date: June 29, 2020