



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

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, August 16, 2021**

**Call to Order:**

Director Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:08 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	(late)		

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve to excuse Director Johnson and Director Lidgett. Motion made by Director Espericueta, seconded by Director Britschgi. Motion passed by all Directors.

**Public Comment:**

No public comments

**Consent Calendar:**

- a. Review of Minutes of July 19, 2021
- b. 2021 Standard Agreements
- c. 2021 Concessions Agreements
- d. 2021 Commercial Agreements
- e. 2021 Sponsorship Agreements

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the consent calendar. Motion made by Director Chavez, 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 July 2021 Financials (Discussion/Action by Board)

Lucas- Our cash position is currently at \$2.5 million as of July 31<sup>st</sup> compared to \$605,000 last year. Our expenses are high, which put us in the red significantly this month compared to about breaking even other months. There are high cash out lays or fair expenses and such. This is to be expected. Payables are minimal. Tab 5 first column for the month of July, we have total revenue of \$173,000. Swap meet is doing great bringing \$20,000 a week. There is big attendance of people coming through swap meet. Our expenses are higher than usual. The expenses are at \$228,000 we have a net in the red at \$54,000. We are doing good in cash position historically. The expenses are at half the cost of those past years. Hats off to our hard-working staff for operating in this environment.

Mike- Years 2017,2018,2019 the total operating expenses were in the \$2 million. The out lays that we would have at this time with full staff, and expenses going into fair. All cost is at half the cost of those years presently.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve Finance Committee Report and the July 2021 Financials. Motion made by Director Torres, seconded by Director Dunphy. 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

Britschgi- All market animals have closed. Breeding animals are left which close in a week. We have 1064 exhibitors and 1486 entries. Last year we were down 50%. This year we are down also from 2019. Our numbers are 350 Swine, 195 goats, 272 sheep, and 167 horses. This is expected due to the environment. We have had minimal issues. Everybody is excited to get this going. Dawn already has ideas in case we have to do a modified show, hoping to have everything be as it is intended.

Mike- Poultry and rabbits are also left. We still have the big numbers from poultry. Steers are about even as prior years. In 2019 we would have almost 800 in the swine barn. In case the Governor decides to have a different type of fair or no fair, we are prepared for that.

**Facilities Committee** - Cesar Chavez, Chairperson

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Mike- We ordered plants; they came from Oxnard again. Public will see a nice looking farm full of beautiful plants. I would like to request a Sept 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, in case of new information of possible new protocol coming from the Government.

Blodgie- We will schedule for Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and cancel if we must.

**Old Business**

No old business

**New Business**

No new business

**Next Regular Board Meeting**

Next scheduled board meetings are Thursday, September 9, 2021 and Monday, September 20, 2021, at 5:00 PM in the Association Office

**CEO Reports**

- a. 2021 Fair Updates
- b. Fairgrounds and Facilities Updates

Mike- The Governor has allocated \$50 million for the 2021 current budget in the correspondence section from CDFA on a need bases only after they review fairs financials and projected financials. We applied for it anyway just in case we qualify. We did receive a small portion last time we applied. There is an additional \$150 million allocated funds to the fairs. At this point, we are unsure how they will allocate the funds. We have been awarded the SPA Shutters Venue Operator Grant in the amount of \$2,090,000. The grant has specific rules on how the money is spent and reviewed. The grant period

covers March 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021. Expenses can contain contracted amount that are obligated but must be paid by June 30, 2022. We will create a separate budget to allocate the expenses since it spans a two-year period and allocate against that budget. No new information from SPA. The money should have been funded, but we have not received it yet. Continuing to repair maintenance equipment. We continue to receive good revenue from the Kern Market Place. We sent over 300 contracts as seen on tabs. There will be two dinners during fair. The first is Thursday September 23, 2021, for person of the year honoring the Tjaarda Family. The Second Dinner is sponsor night on Wednesday September 29, 2021. I have contracted with Chuy's to do bar service for both events. July 26, 2021 received an email from Gay Faivre of CDFA HR Department in Sacramento stating "Governor Gavin Newsom, Office of Governor and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) announce new Covid-19 Vaccine verification and testing program for all state employees, and contracted, and or temporary workers to combat the surge of Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations. Effective immediately you are required to verify the vaccination status and that of your employees including those of 125 days, permanent and temporary civil service staff. Attached is a spread sheet to assist you with record keeping. We are seeking clarification, regarding verification for Board Members we will issue instructions as soon as we receive them. You do not need to keep a copy of the record. Visual verification is sufficient. You may review a physical document, or a copy sent electronically via email, text, app and or whatever method to prove sufficient status. Unvaccinated employees or those who decline to state are required to test on a continuous basis. Details for the testing requirements are currently being developed which will be issued within the next few weeks. Received another email update to previous email on August 6, 2021, at 5:30PM, "KLHR is requesting the number of vaccinated and unvaccinated including declines to state employees and how many employees will require testing. This information will assist and determine the statewide testing need. Names are not needed just need to send total count". The response to this email was sent in on 10<sup>th</sup> as requested.

David- What's going to happen with testing? This is a public safety concern.

Blodgie- They have options to decline to state, so they cannot be forced.

Mike- There is no process or protocols currently on testing. Currently collecting information now on when this is supposed to be enforced. We will probably get more clarification from Governor's Office and CDFA. Will contact CDFA.

Blodgie- There are liability issues, it is what it is. We must put disclaimers everywhere you look and protect ourselves. We just must move forward with this. We must reach out to CDFA because we must keep that fine balance between the state, Governor's Office, CDFA and the county. At the end of the day its going to come back on us, so we must protect ourselves.

Mike- We added a disclaimer verbiage on our website and will be posted on all entrances "Please be advised that Covid-19, in particular Delta variant of that strain it's a highly contagious virus that with some people can pose a lethal threat even when taking precautions. The Kern County Fair asks that you take all precautions in coming to the fair this year as outlined by the Kern County Department of Health and the CDC. We encourage you to get vaccinated and seriously consider wearing mask both indoor and outside when near other people. In making the decision to come to the fair you do so recognizing that Covid-19 poses potential a serious risk to your health even if following all the appropriate guidelines and in coming to the fair leave the 15 District Agriculture Association, its board of directors, employees and all its agents of all responsibility in the event you contract covid19 because of your attendance of the 2021 fair".

**Correspondence**

a. F2021-07 Target Support

Mike- Tab 10 about the \$50 million and target support program.

**Other information**

Postponed Coffee with the CEO this Thursday morning.

**Directors Comments**

Ned Dunphy- No Comment

Cesar Chavez- No Comment

David Torres- No Comment

David Lidgett- My concern is about the Delta Variant, and how it is out there in the community. I applaud Our Chairperson agreeing to have a Covid-19 watch type of committee.

Lucas Espericueta- I think the benefit of having mask mandate is very minimal, where as the cost of causing confrontation if enforced, is greater. The cost far outweighs the benefit.

Jared Britschgi- This is exactly what I said three months ago.

NaTasha Johnson- No Comment

Blodgie Rodriguez- No Comment

Director Rodriguez adjourned the August 16, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting.

Time is 5:53 PM.

Certified to be a True Copy

Signed 

Blodgie Rodriguez  
Title: Chairman of the Board  
Date: August 16, 2021

Signed 

Michael G Olcott  
Title: Chief Executive Officer  
Date: August 16, 2021