



**15th District Agricultural Association
Kern County Fair and Event Center
Bakersfield, California
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, August 17, 2020**

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM via zoom teleconference.

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 absence of Director Torres. Motion made by Director Johnson, 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Public Comment:

None

Consent Calendar:

- a. Review of Minutes of July 20, 2020 regular meeting

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Chavez. 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	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to meet in closed session for the purpose of considering pending litigation (Gov. Code §11126 (e)1). Motion made by Director Espericueta, seconded by Director Chavez. Motion passed by all Directors. Time is 5:09 PM

<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	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to reconvene into open session. Motion made by Director Dunphy, seconded by Director Britschgi. Motion passed by all Directors. Time is 5:44 PM.

Action was taken. The action voted on is to allow CEO Olcott to secure outside council.

<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	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Lucas Espericueta, Chairperson

- a. Review of Financial Report (*Discussion/Action by Board*)
- b. Review of July 2020 Financials (*Discussion/Action by Board*)

We are getting a narrative form from Diane and it's very helpful. The revenue that was received was \$216,000 for interim revenue. For the Kern County Marketplace (Swap Meet) and the renting of the drive thru testing for COVID-19. For expenses, we still have salaries and benefits, so that is basically our only expenses. All other expenses are very minimal. Mike is doing a good job of keeping the expenses down while still doing a lot of important work. We have a net of about \$39,000 for the month. Considering we have about \$255,000 of expenses, we are doing pretty well. The balance sheet shows we are still in a good position. Diane summed it up perfectly, "The COVID-19 shut down has been detrimental to the Association's finances, as well as every other live entertainment venue in the State. With some Governmental Funding and the re-opening of Kern County Marketplace, the Association is in a relatively stable holding pattern."

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the Financial Report and July's Financials. Motion made by Director Chavez, 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	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		
Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Livestock Committee - Jared Britschgi, Chairperson

Based on the species that have been entered. Swine: 263, Sheep: 190, Goats: 124, Steer: 64, Dairy Springer: 27. That’s exactly 50% lower than last year’s numbers as a total. The last day to purchase Beef Heifer DNA is tomorrow, August 18th, 2020. They are due to the office by 5:00 PM on August 25th and the deadline to enter online is August 25th, at 11:59 PM.

Dawn Stornetta, Livestock Superintendent – As of right now, no there are not any changes for the virtual livestock show. We just finished the virtual show and auction up at Napa Valley Expo, and there were a few things that we found up there that will get worked out before Kern starts submitting videos. It’s beneficial that we found out the issues now, before Kern starts entering. We are pretty solid as of right now. Napa had 183 entries and a \$500,000 auction. The buyers loved that platform. I am in the process of getting the sponsorships covered. Nothing is concrete yet, but hopefully in the next couple weeks, I will have some sponsorships for the platform and the awards.

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

Nothing to report

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

- a. Review of 2020 Resolution appointing Michael G. Olcott, CEO or Chairwoman, Blodgie Rodriguez to represent the 15th District Agricultural Association, Kern County Fair and Event Center as electors to the California Fair Services Board of Directors Elections.

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to approve the 2020 Resolution appointing Michael G. Olcott, CEO or Chairwoman, Blodgie Rodriguez to represent the 15th District Agricultural Association, Kern County Fair and Event Center as electors to the California Fair Services Board of Directors Elections. 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	X		
Ned Dunphy	X		
Lucas Espericueta	X		
NaTasha Johnson	X		
David Lidgett	X		

Blodgie Rodriguez	X		
David Torres			

Next Regular Board Meeting

Next scheduled board meeting is Monday, September 21, 2020 at 5:00 PM in the Association Office and via zoom meeting.

CEO Report

The network of California Fairs continues to work on funding by sending letters to local and state elected officials. Rep. John Harder (D-10th District) is introducing the **Protecting Fairs during Coronavirus Act**. This bill would help create a new emergency grant program to help offset the massive revenue losses our fairs are experiencing because of health care measures taken to combat this pandemic. Without action, fair advocates warn that some fairs could close permanently or be forced to sell fairgrounds, permanently damaging these essential portions of our communities.

CA Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-20th District) and Missouri Congressman Billy Long (R-7th District) are introducing **The Agricultural Fairs Rescue Act** that will provide grant funding for agricultural fairs through state departments of agriculture to keep them functioning and preserve them for the future.

The legislation provides \$500 million in Agricultural Fair Rescue Grants to agricultural fairs, administered by the US Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). The AMS will provide the grant funding to states or state departments of agriculture based on the loss of attendance those fairs have experienced in 2020.

Currently, there is \$40 million dollars in the state budget reserved for those fairs that are in the layoff process. The funds are to be used for leave balances, payroll and unemployment insurance. CDFA has yet to roll out the complete details of how to receive these funds but all of us should be receiving information soon.

There is approximately \$18 million in AB1499 fund for the 2020/2021 fiscal year. CDFA is discussing efforts to get that money out to fairs. Kern County Fair could receive up to \$149,000.

Chelsey Roberts, Marketing - When we made the decision to cancel the 2020 Kern County Fair, we wanted to find a way to bring parts of the fair to the public. So, we are working on a virtual fair concept during the dates that the fair would run. We are reaching out to our fair partners such as entertainers, food vendors, commercial vendors, etc. We will have activities that you can participate in from home, contests ran through social media, how-to videos from concessionaires such as how to make a funnel cake. We are trying to reach out to people in the community that have entertained at the fair in the past to submit videos, we are also going to have a commercial exhibit section on the website where they can promote their items for a nominal fee and we can promote them with a link to their website or social media accounts. We are also working on a fair food drive thru component, but we have to have our plan fully together before we take it to the Public Health Department and it would be during the time that the virtual fair would be.

Correspondence

None

Directors Comments

Chairwoman Rodriguez – I love seeing the kids get creative with their marketing for the livestock projects.

Director Dunphy – I want to thank all the parents, leaders and everyone trying to make this work.

Director Lidgett – Thank you everyone. All the resilience for the kids. It still is taking the same amount of work.

Director Chavez – No comment

Director Torres –

Director Espericueta –. No comment

Director Britschgi – Thank you Dawn for all of your expertise. She will be able to perfect things before we get to our auction. Being involved in other shows is really helping us.

Director Johnson – No comment

Chairwoman Rodriguez requested a motion to adjourn the August 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. 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>
Jared Britschgi	X		
Cesar Chavez	X		
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

[Redacted Signature]

Blodgie Rodriguez

Title: Chairwoman of the Board

Date: August 17, 2020

Signed

[Redacted Signature]

Michael G Olcott

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Date: August 17, 2020