

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

TVSFA Ag Museum

3/18/26 6pm, March

Call to Order: President Rice called the board meeting of the Tanana Valley State Fair Association to order at 6:07pm.

Directors in Attendance: President Priscilla Rice, Vice President John Tiemessen, Treasurer Linda Stanley(zoom), Secretary Missy Rees, April Monroe, Danielle Gibbs(zoom), Jody Thomas(zoom) Marla Lowder(zoom)

Directors Excused- Director Joey Taylor

Association Members in Attendance: Peter Lizardi, Fritz Wozniak

Staff/Association Members in Attendance: Lilli Wilcher (zoom)

Staff in Attendance: none

Guests in Attendance:

Establish Quorum: Secretary Rees

Land Acknowledgement: President Rice

The Tanana Valley State Fair Association gratefully acknowledges that these events are taking place in the territory of the traditional and original inhabitants of this land, the Tanana Khwt'ana, and we say their name in this place to remind us of the Tanana Khwt'ana, their culture and way of life, their special relationship to the land and to honor the original language of this place Che'no' Kenaga'.

Agenda Approval: MOTION to approve the agenda by **Director Monroe** seconded by **Director Rees**. Motion carried without objection.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION to approve February 18, 2026 meeting minutes by **Director Monroe** , seconded by **Director Rees**. Motion carried without objection.

Public Comments: 6:15pm

Fritz Wozniak wants to know where the annual meeting is being held.

Committees:

Budget and Finance - Chair Director Stanley: Director Stanley reported that they will meet

Friday at noon. They are exploring banking opportunities and getting a P card. We need to figure out who will be the next treasurer, we will have to get the credit card move into the name of the new treasurer, and get her name off. New executive officers will be elected at our April meeting.

Policy and Procedures - Chair Director Rice: No meeting this month

Board Development/Community Involvement - Chair Director Rice: They will meet when the new board election has happened.

Capital Projects - Chair Director Monroe: ED Vance reported that there are potentially broken water pipes in the campground between the men's and women's bathrooms. Contractors will not work on it until pipes are fixed. Friday a plumber is scheduled to assess pipes. It is the highest priority. Lines were not properly blown out in the fall.

Executive Director Report- He has 6 of the day sponsors set, one is a tier V, he is working on mending relationships with past sponsors that have pulled their sponsorships last year. He is sending out 600 sponsorship mailings after getting information from the Chamber luncheon. He has finalized refining the By-laws for the member vote at the annual meeting. He has built a voting platform for absentee voting and built a live in-person process. The newly launched rental system is a great success with minimal problems reported. He is conducting interviews for campground host/manager, and is in talks with a potential entertainment coordinator. He has completed the OSHA follow-up, Has a list of priorities for buildings and maintenance. He has a lead on a facilities assistant. The bobcat continues to operate at less than 100%, cost to fix is \$10,000-15,000. Staff is continuing to develop marketing and merchandising materials for community engagement campaigns, they plan to reveal parts at the annual meeting. He gave a speech at the chamber lunch and was well received and made community connections.

Old Business:

A. Electronic storage for board members-TVSFA now have a sub domain- each director has an email, we can use to communicate and store documents. This will help during board transitions and keeping track of information and documents. Directors need to send ED Vance an email so he can set each individual up.

B. Access to mySBA for ED- all signatures have been submitted and he now has access.

C. Annual Membership Meeting-There will be food and drinks and some entertainment. Online voting is live, there was discussion about removing the word “rank” from the ballot next time we have a vote, as members might think they are ranking all the candidates as we do in the borough elections. 10 votes had been submitted. We currently have 120 TVSFA members.

D. 2026 Budget- ED Vance presented the budget. A few highlights- establishing paid parking Thursday-Saturday in a TVSF parking lots. This will help resolve illegal parking, encourage vendors not to park in parking lot, funnel more vehicles to Randy Smith to use buses. We discussed the need of a “drop zone” for people dropping off, not parking, Ubers..., meeting people with ADA compliance. Figuring out a system for volunteers/staff. The back parking lot will get resurfaced. Alcohol sales- there will be 2 beer tents and a few pop ups at events. ED Vance will rework budget to account for new electrical work that needs to be done.

Motion by Director Monroe to accept 2026 budget. No second, **Motion fails.**

Discussion on budget continues. Could part of the parking fee go towards non-profits? We should be charging credit card fees, particularly for winter storage. We will need to add paid parking to our Policy and procedures.

Motion by **Director Monroe** to approve 2026 budget, seconded by **Director Tiemessen**. Motion passes with **Director Stanley** and **Director Gibbs** opposed.

Director Monroe leaves and moves to ZOOM- 7:40

New Business:

Director Stanley will send 2025 TVSFA financials to board members to preview before the annual meeting.

Director Lowder Leaves meeting at 7:50

A. proposal for heavy equipment lease- Ice AK will leave the fairgrounds at the end of March taking their loader with them. They have lent the loader to facilities to aid in snow removal since the beginning of February when the bobcat became unreliable. We need a big machine for many jobs around the grounds, snow removal being the most important at the moment. There is a lease to own option through CAT for a D3 loader. \$22,000 per year with a \$22,640 balloon payment at the end if we want to buy it. There were no other lease options that were feasible. Only trained certified drivers will be able

to operate. Facilities manager and ED would check for certification. ED will check on insurance. ED build \$18,000 in the budget to pay for the lease, he can work with the budget to increase to \$22,000. ED recommends that we do not fix the bobcat. The loader and all the attachments that come with it will meet all of our needs. Director Tiemessen suggests looking to make sure the bucket coming with the loader is meant for moving snow, not dirt.

Motion by **Director Stanley** to accept proposal for CAT lease as long as ED Vance can adjust the budget to show cost, seconded by **Director Thomas**. Motion passes with no objections.

Motion by **Director Stanley** to approve January 2026 financials, seconded by **Director Tiemessen**, motion passes with no objections.

Board Comments:

Director Tiemessen advises that contracts not be named in the agenda.

Motion to move into executive session to discuss HR matters by **Director Tiemessen**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objections at 8:18 pm

Motion to move out of executive session by **Director Tiemessen**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objection at 8:45.

Motion to move back into executive session to discuss contract matters by **Director Tiemessen**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objections at 8:46 pm

Motion to move out of executive session by **Director Stanley**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objection at 8:50

Motion to approve moving forward with Paz the sports guy contract by **Director Tiemessen**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objection.

Motion by **Director Stanley** to approve electrical contracts with funds coming from capital projects, seconded by **Director Tiemessen**, motion passes with no objections.

Upcoming dates:

Budget and Finance- Friday 3/20/26, at noon via zoom

Annual Meeting Wednesday 3/25/26 4-H community center @ 6

Next Board of Directors Meeting- 6pm Wednesday 4/15/26, hybrid in person and zoom, Ag Museum

Motion to adjourn by **Director Tiemessen**, seconded by **Director Rees**, motion passes with no objection. Adjourned at 8:54

Submitted by Director Missy Rees