



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, January 18, 2026 • 2:00 PM

Crystal 1& 2, Reno, Nevada

Western Fairs Association Convention & Trade Show

DAVE DILLABO

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds & Event Center

LURIE GIANNINI

VICE CHAIR

CEO, Calaveras County Fair

CLIFF MUNSON

VICE CHAIR

CEO, Siskiyou Golden Fair

PATRICIA CONKLIN

TREASURER

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ALAN PHILLIPS

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CEO, Imperial Valley Fair

NANCY SITES

CEO, Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair
Cascade Area

ALLISON KEANEY

CEO, Cow Palace
Central Coast Area

CINNAMON HOWELL

CEO, Merced County Spring Fair
San Joaquin Area

MATT REED

CEO, Butte County Fair
Sacramento Valley Area

KIM FLOYD

North Coast Area

CARLENE MOORE

CEO, San Diego County Fair
Southern Area

ANDREW TRYGG

CEO, Nevada County Fair
Mother Lode Area

SARAH CUMMINGS

President & CEO

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- I. **Call to Order and Welcome** – CFA Board Chair Dave Dillabo called the meeting to order, welcoming board members, members, and guests to the CFA Board Meeting at WFA Convention. Chair Dillabo called roll and established a quorum.
Board members present: Chair Dave Dillabo; Vice Chair Laurie Giannini; Vice Chair Cliff Munson; Treasurer Patricia Conklin; Secretary Alan Philips; Board Members: Nancy Sites, Allison Keaney, Cinnamon Howell, Kim Flloyd, Carlene Moore and Andrew Trygg.
Board Members absent: Matt Reed
- II. **2025 Year in Review** - Chair Dillabo and Vice Chair Laurie Giannini reviewed the activity for the 2025 year to the members present, they noted the strides CFA made in growing and improving CFA. Chair Dillabo specifically noted the adoption of new CFA Bylaws; launching a standalone website; a robust social media presence; forming and supporting an active legislative committee which successfully authored, introduced, and supported the passage of AB 258; created CFA marketing brochure to support a statewide marketing campaign; supported Fairgrounds Appreciation Month, with a CFA Advocacy Day at the Capitol; and collaborated with CDFA for parallel training dates around our annual Managers Conference.
- III. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Legislative Committee** – Committee Chair Cliff Munson reported that the legislative committee is very active, with biweekly meetings. Munson commended our advocacy team, Louie and Norm for their expertise and leadership. Munson noted his involvement in the advocacy process with the launch and passage of AB 1499, and now the passage of AB 258, noting his pride to be involved with Fair Funding from start to present. Munson encouraged all members to get involved with the Legislative Committee. Munson invited Louie Brown to also provide a report to the membership.
Louie Brown took the podium, also noting the strong success with the passage of AB 258. Brown also discussed the defense process he and the Legislative committee works through, with a number of bills each year being stopped or amended to our benefit, to avoid potentially damaging legislation. Brown recapped the CFA Advocacy Day at the Capitol, and noted he is looking forward to a great year ahead.
 - b. **Branding and Marketing Committee** - Committee Chair Laurie Giannini reported on the committees' progress on creating and launching a stand also CFA website, the creation of CFA Brochures, aggressive social media campaign on Facebook, and reminded the membership that CFA will host a booth this week at the WFA Showcase event.
 - c. **Finance Committee** – Committee Chair Patricia Conklin reported that she will have a year-end finance report shortly. Conklin also recruited members to join her finance committee for the year ahead.

- d. Member Communication - Committee Chair Alan Phillips reported on the process to launch the CFA newsletter campaign, including review and assessing newsletter platforms, creating a standing newsletter template, and officially launching the monthly CFA newsletter communication plan.
 - e. CDFA Liaison Committee – Committee Chair Dillabo reported that we successfully launched a parallel training program to the CDFA Symposium in November with our annual Managers Conference, to allow members to attend both events in Sacramento, in person, in the same week.
- IV. **Area Reports** – all CFA Areas reported that they will be meeting this week at the WFA Convention for the first time following our November Managers Conference.
- V. **Industry Updates** – no reports
- VI. **New Business - Results of North Coast Area Election** – CEO Cummings announced the results of the North Coast Area Election, congratulating Kim Floyd as the newly elected area representative for the North Coast Area.
- VII. **Old Business, CFA Evolution & Strategic Development Discussion** – Chair Dillabo and Vice Chair Giannini discussed the CFA relationship with WFA in relation to the membership survey results, stating that there had not been time to completely review the information from the survey. They also discussed the results of the “straw poll” taken at Managers Conference in November. There was discussion as to what and how it was asked of the WFA Board regarding the WFA Board’s willingness to release the CFA name and brand to an entity that could create a standalone CFA. WFA Board Member Dara Tobias was invited to the podium to summarize the outcome of their meeting, and what was communicated to the WFA Board. CEO Cummings recapped the question that was presented to the WFA board at their Meeting in December, and read the response sent to the CFA Executive committee from WFA Board Chair Bob Batista following the WFA Board meeting. The response from WFA to CFA noted that the WFA board was willing to further conversations at the upcoming WFA in-person planning meeting in March, noting WFA plans to continue to remain the parent company as CFA explores options for greater autonomy. The CFA board expressed the desire for a joint meeting with the WFA Board to further discuss CFA autonomy. Cummings reminded the membership that the CFA Chair sits on the WFA Board to serve as the official liaison at each of the quarterly WFA Board meetings. Director Moore noted her work in progressing CFA this year with her contributions of offering further bylaw revisions for a standalone entity, vocally noting her opinion of a need for multiple entities, and a more autonomous structure for CFA. Moore further commented, with the decision for the WFA board to not “break up” with CFA and that not being relayed to the full CFA board in advance of the meeting, she elected to tender her resignation from the CFA board at the conclusion of the meeting. Director Conklin thanked Director Moore for her contributions to the discussion, process, and CFA board. Director Trygg commented on the communication within the board, noting his frustration as a board member. Chair Dillabo reinstated the CFA Exploration Committee that last met in December, to continue committee work to explore the CFA’s Organizational Structure adding Allison Keaney and Patricia Conklin to the committee. Cummings will schedule a committee meeting following the WFA Convention.
- VIII. **Board Chair Closing Remarks** – Chair Dillabo concluded the meeting with closing remarks, summarizing his year as the leader of CFA, including the wins and the challenges that come with leading a peer driven organization like CFA, and the demand of the position. Dillabo concluded his remarks with his resignation from the board.
- Cummings followed up to thank both Director Moore and Chair Dillabo for their leadership and contributions to the CFA Board. Cummings assured the membership that steps will be taken at the February meeting to fill the newly established vacancies for the CFA Chair and the Southern Area Representative positions and thanked the CFA Membership for attending the annual Member Meeting.
- IX. CEO Cummings reminded the membership of our next board meeting to be held February 5, 2025, 10:00 AM via Zoom. Meeting Adjourned.