



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 6, 2025 • 12:30 PM
Courtyard Marriott Cal Expo, Sacramento, California

DAVE DILLABO
CHAIR OF THE BOARD
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds & Event Center

LAURIE GIANNINI
VICE CHAIR
CEO, Calaveras County Fair

CLIFF MUNSON
VICE CHAIR
CEO, Siskiyou Golden Fair

PATRICIA CONKLIN
TREASURER
CEO, Dixon May Fair

ALAN PHILLIPS
SECRETARY
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

VACANT
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.
- II. **Roll Call** - President & CEO Sarah Cummings called roll. Directors in attendance were: Dave Dillabo, Laurie Giannini, Cliff Munson, Patricia Conklin, Alan Phillips, Nancy Sites, Cinnamon Howell, Matt Reed, Carlene Moore, and Andrew Trygg. Directors absent were: Allison Keaney.
- III. **Managers Conference Recap** - Chair Dillabo provided a recap of the 2025 Managers Conference. Key highlights included: CFA had a strong year of progress and significant legislative advancements, including the passage of AB 258 (Connolly); responding to members' desire for transparency by providing financial reports, open legislative committee meetings, improved communication, and enhanced independence with a new standalone website and robust social media presence. Committees worked diligently and delivered meaningful results for the membership. Chair Dillabo thanked the membership for attending Managers Conference, noting that participation and engagement directly drive results.
- IV. **Area Reports** –
 - Mother Lode Area**, Andrew Trygg reported that the area has set goals and will work to reengage members who were not present at the Managers Conference.
 - Cascade Area**, Nancy Sites reported she will also begin outreach efforts to her area.
 - Sacramento Valley Area**, Matt Reed reported that the Sac Valley Area will be hosting a booth at Western Fairs Association Convention Showcase.
 - Southern Area**, Carlene Moore reported the Southern Area remains strong, continues monthly meetings, and is pursuing creation of a charitable organization to exclusively represent fairs in the Southern Area.
 - San Joaquin Area**, Cinnamon Howell reported the area meets monthly with a topic, and plans to continue with monthly meetings.
 - Central Coast Area**, Dara Tobias reported in Allison's absence, that the Central Coast area also meets monthly, and appreciates the discussions had at Managers Conference.

- V. Committee Action Plan** – While most committees had previously presented their reports, the Ad Hoc Committee on CFA’s Evolution & Strategic Development presented to the board and membership. The committee requested a poll of members in the room to get an unofficial understanding of membership views on the complex topic of CFA autonomy, including whether discussion should consider potential separation from Western Fairs Association. In the sampling of the membership present, 5 member Fairs were not in favor of exploring a structure for CFA separate from WFA; 17 member Fairs were in favor of exploring a structure for CFA separate from WFA; and 7 member fairs abstained from the vote, primarily due to insufficient information provided in advance of this impromptu sampling poll. A committee was formed to develop a list of pros and cons regarding CFA’s Evolution & Strategic Development. Members include: Cliff Munson, Carlene Moore, Cinnamon Howell, Katie Bielen, Kim Floyd, Dara Tobias, Mandy Clendenen, Dave Dillabo, and Sarah Cummings.
- VI. President & CEO’s Report** – President & CEO Sarah Cummings reminded members of the dues renewal deadline of November 1, noting the importance of renewing to ensure accurate information is included in the annual Date List and Membership Directory. Cummings encouraged members to reflect on the substantial work and effort put forward by the CFA Board over the past year, which drove growth and improvement and resulted in a 167% increase in member funding. Cummings encouraged members to reflect on the future of the industry and the direction they wish to see moving forward. Cummings emphasized that CFA is at a pivotal moment and decisions made now will shape the industry for decades. Cummings expressed confidence in the CFA Board to continue its strong work and noted that member participation and engagement have been key drivers of CFA’s progress. Cummings encouraged continued membership and participation to sustain CFA’s momentum. Cummings thanked everyone for attending, engaging and being a part of our powerful and productive alliance.
- VII. Next Board Meeting** – The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, at 10:00 AM. Chair Dillabo adjourned the meeting at 1:41 PM.

