



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 6, 2025 • 10:00 AM
Zoom Meeting

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
CEO, Dixon May Fair

ALAN PHILLIPS
SECRETARY
CEO, Imperial Valley Fair

NANCY SITES
CEO, Tullake-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

MIC MOULTON
CEO, Redwood Acres Fair
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 and guests to the CFA Board Meeting. President & CEO Cummings called roll. Directors present were: Dave Dillabo, Laurie Giannini, Cliff Munson, Patricia Conklin, Alan Phillips, Nancy Sites, Allison Keaney, Matt Reed, Mic Moulton, Carlene Moore, and Andrew Trygg
Directors Absent were: Cinnamon Howell

II. **Approval of Minutes** – Chairman Dillabo called for a motion of the minutes. Director Reed made a motion to approve the minutes; Director Giannini seconded the motion. All board members were in favor; the motion carried.

III. **Area Reports**

North Coast Area: Met last month with 7 of 10 Area Fairs present. The Area conducted a discussion about the State Fire Marshall and OSFM reporting. There was discussion about Fair Funding, and the reporting process.

Southern Area: is conducting a survey to determine best meeting dates to hold WFA/CFA Area Meetings.

Mother Lode Area: Director Trygg many members attended WFA Supers' School; no Area Meeting to report.

Chair Dillabo wrapped up the Area Reports requesting the topic of Fair Funding Reporting be added to the April Board Meeting Agenda. President & CEO Cummings reminded the Board of the resources available on the CFA Fair Funding pages of the website and added the links to the chat. The Board talked about supporting neighbor Fairs by visiting and helping spread the word.

IV. **Committee Reports**

Legislative Committee - Louie Brown provided the Board with a Legislative report, noting that the Legislative Committee continues to have its biweekly committee meetings. On the legislative front, things are starting to pick up. Our bill, AB 258, by Mr. Connolly is scheduled for a hearing Monday in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee. There will not be a vote on Monday, but we will have CFA representative providing testimony. Brown noted since we last spoke, State Treasurer Fiona Ma has come on as a co-sponsor of the bill; we

also have support from the California Farm Bureau, from the State Association of Counties, from the Regional Caucus of Rural Counties, and others. Brown noted is the only bill that is being heard at the moment; the ream continues to watch the list of bills that come with potential impacts. Brown noted that CEO Cummings did include AB 258 and SB 493 in the agenda and called for questions on either bill. There was a question about CERRVF's request to amend our bill to include a \$50Million floor and include a 70/30 split of the funds to support resiliency and operations, respectively. Brown noted he met with our author, Assembly Member Connolly and the CERRVF leadership to discuss, and that CFA leadership would also be meeting with CEERRVF leadership tomorrow to also discuss the proposed amendments to our bill. Based on the meeting with Assembly Member Connolly, and the collective desire for the bill to pass, there will not be changes to the bill at this time. Brown turned the floor to Moulton and Munson who also attended the meeting with CERRVF and Assembly Member Connolly for input from their perspective; Munson noted Brown recapped the meeting well. Brown also noted a \$100 Million Bond that includes funds for Fairgrounds, should the budget be passed; CFA is in full support. The Board discussed Brown's report, noting that there are concerns with the proposed 70/30 split of the Fair Funding being included in the legislation. The board further discussed.

Director Giannini made a motion to support and move forward with our bill, AB 283, as written, while remaining open for future discussions about a long game approach. Director Phillips seconded the motion. Moore voted nay, all other board members present voted in support of the motion; the motion passed.

Director Moore inquired about SB 493. Brown noted the link to the bill text had been sent to the board and suggested a CFA board member who also serve on the CEERRVF Board might like the opportunity to present their bill summary to the CFA Board. Director Keaney reported on behalf of CERRVF, noting the point of the bill is to take the final approval of CEO salaries away from Cal HR, and leave it in the hands of the boards; noting that many of us have experienced the phenomenon where the budget supports a salary increase, the board votes on a salary increase, it gets signed off by CDFA, and then CalHR holds up the process. The bill will also ensure that there are regularly scheduled salary surveys done to ensure the salaries are equitable. Keaney also noted the bill will resolve the issue of compensation for a manager who is managing more than one fair. It was suggested that CERRVF consider hosting a meeting to discuss their bill with the DAA CEO's who will be impacted by it; offer an opportunity for Q&A since CERRVF represents a small number of the DAA's who will be impacted. Director Moore noted that CFA should discuss a position; decided to support, or support with amendments.

- a. **Branding and Marketing Committee** - Chair Laurie Giannini reported that the committee produced a brochure that Cummings is finishing. Please send photos to be included in the brochure and in the website redesign, and social media. Giannini is in the process of redesigning a standalone CFA Website.
- b. **Finance Committee** - Chair Patricia Conklin, reviews the financial projection to date which have fallen a little short, and noted that she is preparing to present the first quarterly financial report to the CFA board at the April meeting, following of the conclusion of the first quarter on 3.31.2025.
- c. **Member Communication** – no report.
- d. **CDFA Liaison Committee** – no report.

V. **New Business** – items listed in new business were discussed in the committee reports.

VI. **Old Business** – none to report

VII. **President & CEO's Report** - President and CEO Cummings noted that she will review dues payments to date, and provide a report of who has not yet made their payment, and provide a second invoice to those who have not yet made their 2025 Dues payments in full. Cummings again reminded board members to contribute photos for marketing, of the resources linked in the chat, Capitol ag Day, and encouraged members to use the "Proud CFA Member" logo on their email signatures and letterhead.

VIII. Next Board Meeting **April 3, 2025, 10:00 AM via Zoom**