

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

Tuesday, September 28th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4834214737?pwd=d0FrRzVFQUIUNG9OeUxFM0FuUG5qQT09>

Join Via the phone:

1-720-707-2699

Meeting ID: 483 421 4737

Passcode: 575554

This virtual board meeting is called in accordance with Governor Gavin Newsom's proclaiming a State of Emergency to exist on March 4, 2020 as a result of the threat of COVID-19 and the March 12, 2020 Executive Order N-25-20. Board Directors and staff of the California Department of Food and Agriculture may attend this meeting telephonically without notice of or access to their teleconference location. Members of the public may attend the meeting and provide comment at the meeting location noticed above. Any item not so noticed on this agenda will not be considered or discussed.

I. Call to Order

Roll Call

Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest

The meeting convened at 9:03 a.m. and called to order by President Cornejo.

Directors present: President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Armando Lopez, Shanté Morgan-Carter and Bonnie Weigel.

Staff present: Barbara Quaid, CEO, James Lockwood, Publicity and Marketing Manager, Jason Amelio, Sales Manager/Assistant Satellite Supervisor, Cristian Yepez, Accounting Dept. and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Assistant.

Guests Present: Sarah Pelle, Fairs & Expositions; Haig Baghdassarian, Deputy Secretary and Chief Counsel, CDFA; Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, Robert O'Riley, Alex Flores, Megan Hook, Scott Toland, Karen Peters, Kathie Moore, Sharon Ferro, Amber McCalister, Angel Garcia, Beth Mansfield, Candy Lingl, Carla Alvara, Carol Johnson, Cecilia Deskins Hanks, Kerrie Allen, Chris Dryden, Danielle De Van, Diane Cook, Tiffany Cook, Edy Santangelo, Illene Buckley Weber, Jaritza Nunez, Jeannette Sanchez, Jen McGuire, Julie Salomonson, Karson Chavez, Joe Stayton, Katie Linch, Kinsie Flame, Leydin Bowman, Louis Cunningham, Michele Vivirito, Pat Ehret, Rob Enos, Michael Anger, Sheree

Ryan, Sue Poland, Katie Lynch, Robin Tan, Steve Lindley, Rose Ann Sharp, Theresa Pellerino, Emelly Ortega, Travis Ueltschi, Tiffany Cook, Justin Peters, Dawn Colliname, Heather Waters, Tom Kissen, Joe Long, Cathy Swanson, Kiki Lyon, Tyler Cobb, Vianey Lopez, Maureen Lamb Cottingham, Fred Van Wingerden, Thomas Taylor, Carol Lindberg, Christina Bingham, Deborah Aguilar, Dearl Giles, Charlotte Peters, Shirley NLN, Sue NLN, Indivisible Ventura and Michael Anger.

President Cornejo explained that the chat box function will be turned off in the interest of giving equal access to everyone. This was done in consultation with the legal department. There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Lacayo led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

Megan Hook – Expressed her concern for lack of transparency and communication by the board and requested that it gets fixed so the community doesn't have to come to their own conclusions. She asked that the board not only allow public comments but listen to them as well.

Kinsie Flame – Explained she sits on many boards and last week's meeting was very disheartening because people were discouraged and felt like they weren't being heard. She stated many people love the fair and asked that the board show more compassion, respect and grace for the community members that are expressing their feelings.

V. Presentations - None

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. August 24th, 2021 Board Meeting

MOTION: To approve the August 24th, 2021 Board Meeting minutes.

Director Cuevas	Director Morgan-Carter		Not	X
	Director Weigel	Approved	Approved	
	Board Member Name	(Yes, Vote)	(No Vote)	Abstain
	Vice President Lacayo	X		
	Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
	President Cornejo	X		
	Director Cuevas	X		
	Director Long (Motion)	X		
	Director Lopez	X		

voted

yes but stated that much of the details of the comments made by speakers is being left out and asked that comments being made in the meeting be fully noted in the minutes.

Director Morgan-Carter abstained from the vote due to the fact she was absent.

VII. Financial Report

A. Financials ending August 31st, 2021

Mr. Yepez gave a report on the financials ending August 31st, 2021.

VIII. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action regarding the Gun Shows

President Cornejo stated that at the last board meeting the Executive Committee was asked to look into the board's policy related to gun shows. The CEO, Vice President Lacayo and herself had a conference call with the legal department to get clarity and it was advised to maintain status quo over what the board voted on in 2019. If the board does not follow its policy, then they will be in legal jeopardy. The policy would need to be changed in order to deny a contract for a gun show, but there needs to be a legal basis to do so. She reminded everyone of the lawsuit in Del Mar and briefly discussed the recent legislation and what happened with SB 264.

Director Long asked if there was any information about ghost guns and CEO Quaid explained that there is nothing in the law that prohibits ghost guns. She explained that the weapon itself is nothing until it gets all components inside of it. Once it gets all the components it becomes a ghost gun and she believes that is what legislation is working on eliminating. However, at the present time there is nothing that prohibits ghost guns.

Sarah Pelle explained that this has come up at other fairs and ghost guns is not a legal term which makes it hard to add it into the contract. As CEO Quaid stated, individual components are legal items it's the compiling of them. So as of right now with current legislation legally there is no way to impose that in the contract.

Director Bradbury stated that ghost guns are firearms that are comprised of unidentifiable pieces/parts and law enforcement can't identify them. He wanted to know why the board couldn't contractually preclude them from being at the show.

President Cornejo stated that, based on what Sarah Pelle advised, it is not a legal term so it cannot be banned in a contract.

Director Bradbury stated that you don't have to use the specific term "ghost guns," the general product and how it is put together can be used.

Public comments commenced.

Beth Mansfield – Explained exactly what ghost guns are and expressed her concerns about them. She suggested that the term could be replaced by unserialized components or do-it-yourself kits. She asked the board to vote to ban unserialized guns and kits, ghost guns or all of the above. She also expressed her concerns about the policies put

in place after the Ad Hoc Committee regarding cabling and how the promoter did not follow the rules at the last gun show.

Supervisor Carmen Ramirez – Recognized the board's volunteer service and thanked the current and past members who oppose gun shows in the past. She expressed her opposition to the gun shows and explained why and asked the board to be bold and say no to gun shows.

Michele Vivirito – Expressed her opposition to the gun shows and gave reasons why. She urged the board to end the gun shows.

Kathy Long – Stated her appreciation for the board's hard work and love of the fairgrounds and understands that they are responsible for the bottom line but explained and gave reasons why the board didn't need to approve the contract for the gun show.

Karen Peters – Explained why the board should not have gun shows on state property. Asked that if the majority of the board is inclined to keep profiting from the gun shows to at least not allow the sale of ghost guns, kits, etc.

Steve Lindley – Briefly explained his background in law enforcement and spoke about the ghost gun issue. He showed a sample of a ghost gun kit and stated how easy it was to put together. He urged the board to at least require that no ghost guns or unserialized kits be sold at the Ventura County gun show.

Robert O'Riley – He explained on May 7th of this year a boy was arrested and sited for bringing a handgun into his Thousand Oaks school. He continued by stating facts about accidental shootings by children and explained that we need to put an end to this horrific, national epidemic. He urged the board to discontinue gun shows at the fairgrounds.

Pat Ehret – Applauded all speakers and urged the board to not sell guns and ammunition on state property.

Indivisible Ventura – Spoke on the concept that people say gun shows are family friendly events but explained that is a falsehood and gave reasons why. She stated that it isn't the inert weapons of violence, but the side aisles where vendors sell the fear and anger to animate the weapons and gave examples.

Theresa Pellerino – Explained that her family is made up of hunters and doesn't agree that all guns are bad and shouldn't be portrayed in a negative light. Explained that the laws in place need to be enforced to keep bad people from getting guns. She clarified that she is not for ghost guns, kits, etc. but reiterated that all people with guns are not bad.

Public comments were closed.

Director Bradbury commented that he dealt with gun violence for 33 years as a prosecutor and it is extremely rare that a firearm from a gun show is used in a crime.

He made a motion subject to two conditions: one being that there be no ghost guns or kit type guns sold or on the premises and two, that fair management hire an inspector to ensure compliance by those selling firearms or firearm parts at the gun show; that they be under the direction of fair management not the contractor.

There was discussion regarding clarifying ghost guns because that is not a legal term. Director Long stated that he would second the motion with refining ghost guns and making it a legal description. Further discussion on this matter ensued.

Director Morgan-Carter asked if the promoter complied with some of the requirements at the last gun show, which were to have safety chords and education, that were approved in 2019 to be added to the contract.

CEO Quaid stated she did not attend that gun show, but asked Mr. Amelio to give a report. When she spoke to Director Morgan-Carter a few days ago she discussed giving the promoter more direction as to what they want for an educational process; not only pamphlets being handed out, but actual booths that will register people for gun safety classes etc.

Mr. Amelio explained that what they had at the last show was more in line with the flyer and pamphlet education; people did have the ability to sign up for gun safety and concealed weapons license. There were additional materials on self-defense, education, training, legal protection for responsible gun owners and gun knowledge and safety courses.

Director Cuevas stated her request was made as a condition of approval for the contract that all weapons be cabled and not just to the table itself but to something concrete or stable. She explained that there were pictures presented by a member of the public after the last show that reflected cabling not being done on all weapons. She also stated that education wasn't supposed to be a volunteer sign up but an actual pro-active outreach on the provision of gun safety with any purchase or sale. She asked for clarification on if this vote was only for the last show of the existing contract or if the contract extends into another year beyond the October date.

CEO Quaid stated it is only for the one date in October. They usually have a date in December, but they have not asked for that date. There has not been conversation about 2022 yet and as a reminder the board needs to follow their own policy until it is changed.

Director Cuevas stated that there were several changes to the policy at that last meeting but wasn't sure how much teeth they had with respect to future shows. It was her understanding that if the promoter didn't comply with the new conditions that the future shows on the contract would not be allowed. There was supposed to be a status report post show to find out whether or not there was compliance and all there is at this point are the comments Mr. Amelio made with respect to cabling and testimony from the public. It was her understating that if they did not comply the board was not held to honoring their contracted number of shows. She stated that if Director Bradbury's

motion is the strictest way we can apply the inclusion of all the unserialized and do-it-yourself kits specifically to fulfill the contract for the last show then she is willing to vote in favor of it noting that she has very strong feelings against using the state public property for these types of shows. In order to avoid a legal battle with the company she encourages the board to approve Director Bradbury's motion, fulfill the contract and not move forward with any other shows in the future ever.

Director Lopez commented that it doesn't make sense to him to be told that he doesn't have a choice but to vote in favor of the gun shows because many reasons. If it is on the agenda, he feels he can vote yes or no. He agrees with those that feel there is no room for gun shows in a public facility. He attends to push for an amendment to the policy. He wanted to push to amend the policy to not allow gun shows on the fairgrounds.

Sarah Pelle explained that should be a separate motion.

President Cornejo asked Director Bradbury to clarify the designated person who is to ensure compliance at the show.

Director Bradbury stated it should be someone hired by Fair management who is knowledgeable and competent and will make sure the promoter is complying with all conditions and file a report after the shows. This would give the board an idea of whether or not to move forward.

Director Morgan-Carter stated that in 2019 after the hearings, even though she voted against continuing with the contract, the board was trying to cooperate and avoid any legal lawsuits. However, it seems to her that Crossroads of the West has not done their due diligence in complying and for the record in concept she is not in support of continuing contracts; they have not done what they have been asked to do.

Director Cuevas clarified that this motion only applies to the October gun show which President Cornejo confirmed.

President Cornejo stated that it is her understanding that staff intends to bring any show to the board on an individual basis for discussion and approval.

Director Lopez stated that he offered an additional amendment that this be referred to the Executive Committee and then to the board for a policy review and decision.

MOTION: To approve holding the October gun show with two conditions, that no unserialized components or do-it-yourself kits be sold on the premises and that Fair management hire an inspector to ensure compliance and report back.

Director Cuevas		X	
Director Long (Second)	X	Not	
Director Morgan-Carter	Approved	Approved	
Board Member Name	(Yes Vote)	(No Vote)	Abstain
Director Morgan-Carter	X	X	

Director Weigel	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

Director Cuevas asked for an additional motion to place gun show policy on the agenda for the next board meeting.

MOTION: To move to place on the next board meeting agenda the consideration of changing the board's policy as it relates to future gun shows on these fairgrounds.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas (Motion)	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez (Second)	X		
Director Morgan-Carter	X		
Director Weigel	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

IX. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee Meeting September 23rd, 2021 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action on the 2022 Fair dates.

CEO Quaid is asking the board to consider a policy change to the dates of the Fair; take out twelve days and July/August and have it read “to put on a successful Fair with no dates or months.” She is researching other Fairs and the southern California route has not been decided yet. The board has told people and reassured them that there will be a Fair in 2022. At this point, the policy needs to be changed and then CEO Quaid can come back with the Fair dates.

Public Comments opened.

Kinsie Flame – Explained her involvement in livestock and expressed her feelings and opposition about moving the Fair dates and gave reasons for keeping the Fair in the summer months.

Sheree Ryan – Stated that she was a former 4H leader and buyer and questioned why the dates would even be changed. She explained that it would be important to have the Fair when school is not in session and to have a decision about the dates made quickly so everyone can plan.

Director Bradbury asked if CEO Quaid would give some reasons for her request.

CEO Quaid stated there is a route in southern California and due to COVID many fairs are making changes. She explained that if she is going to make a change to the dates it will only be within a couple of weeks of the traditional dates. She is looking to be able to accommodate every department.

Director Cuevas stated that the bulk of correspondence references a problem with the dates being in September due to school starting and asked for CEO Quaid to keep that in mind.

Megan Hook – Commented that there are many conflicting statements about the dates and explained that the problem is that any movement of the dates will negatively affect local schools and the livestock department and gave reasons why. She asked for transparency and for the board to take into consideration what the community wants from their local county fair.

Kiki Lyon – Explained that she is an advocate for the Junior Livestock Auction and supports what the prior speakers said. Commented on her past and current involvement with the Fair and stated she would be disappointed if Fair was moved one way or the other because of the logistics for the children and auction.

Theresa Pellerino - Explained that she is a local breeder, and it is too late to change the Fair dates because animals have already been bred and it is a huge investment. Expressed that she feels like decision has already been made and the public is in the dark or not privy to that information.

Cathy Swanson – Commented that she is very concerned about the Fair being moved and explained all the reasons why and how it would negatively impact the kids. When she sat in on the Executive Meeting there were things said that led people to believe the Fair would be later than September.

Carla Alvara – Explained her involvement in livestock and agrees with everything that has been said and added her thoughts on how changing the Fair dynamics and dates would negatively impact the kids. Hopes the board listens to the public comments and keep the Fair dates the same.

Kathie Moore – Reiterated and agreed with everyone about what they said about the breeding, the kids and school. She is opposed to the Fair dates being changed and gave her reasons why.

Sue NLN – Commented that it seemed like more attention was being spent on other departments and not the kids and expressed how important the kids are to the community. She asked for the same amount of consideration be put into the kids as anyone else at the Fair.

Rob Enos – He echoed and ditto the words of Theresa Pellerino and Megan Hook. He asked the board to vote against the date change and explained the negative effects if the dates were moved out of July and August.

Charlotte Peters – Explained what the main concern would be, from a livestock standpoint, if the dates were changed and the negative effects it would cause from a student's point of view. Stated it is too late to change the dates and asked that they remain the same.

Joe Long – Briefly explained some history he has with the Fair. Stated that the best weather is in August, and it would be the wrong thing to move the dates.

Leydin Bowman – Explained she's been the Small Livestock Superintendent for the past couple years and echoed the other speaker's comments about the difficulty of having Fair during school. She explained other negative effects and changes that would have to happen if the dates were moved and was opposed to it.

Christina Bingham – Briefly explained her history with the Fair and how changing the dates would negatively affect the kids and different organizations that support the county fair. She wanted the board to hear the unanimous worry and take everyone's comments into consideration and not change the dates.

Michael Anger – Commented that most everyone shares similar viewpoints but explained that by not planning is failing to plan. Stated that part of the public's frustration with the board is that they don't understand why they are even in this situation and asked the board to leave it alone. He also commented on the negative effects this would have on the kids and community.

Robin Tan - Explained her involvement with livestock at the Fair and how she is a project leader. Stated many families already started enrollment with their projects, but there would be negative impact on the kids if the dates were changed because of school. She explained no one would participate and attendance numbers would be down. She asked the board to vote no on changing the fair dates.

Emelly Ortega - Explained that she is an exhibitor and moving the Fair dates would negatively affect all ag kids and gave reasons why. She asked the board not to change the dates.

Alex Flores – Stated who he was and his involvement with the livestock department. He commented that when the Fair cancelled last year, they decided to host their own live show and explained some of the details. The biggest request is to get back to the Fair and get things going with the kids and community so their needs to be a date set.

Scott Toland – Stated that many people spoke today and will continue to let the board know the momentum is growing. Explained that it was a bad choice to have the zoom subscription limit of 100 participants as well as not include his correspondence to the board. Expressed his opinions on the inconsistencies in communication with the board and staff. Asked the board to just decide and announce the dates.

CEO Quaid addressed Mr. Toland's comment about his correspondence not being put in the board packet.

Heather Waters – Explained that her daughters are involved in livestock and asked that the board nails down a date for the Fair so they can move forward. She expressed her feelings and stated the negative effects there would be if the Fair is during school. She asked the board to continue having the Ventura County Fair during the summer.

Dawn Colliname – Reinforced what everyone else has said already and added that the board will take away the seniors last potential Fair year. She expressed her feelings and stated that the board needs to stick with the traditional Fair dates and make a decision now.

Cecilia Deskins Hanks – Explained her involvement in the junior livestock industry and stated that she feels the board is undermining the junior livestock kids by moving the dates that would conflict with school. She stated what the negative impact would be and feels like the board is not very invested with the kids.

Shelby NLN – Reminded everyone that this is the 31st Agricultural District and without the livestock it doesn't exist. Stated there is not one person in favor of moving the date. Explained that she is friends with some vendors, and they have kids and wouldn't be able to come because of school. Asked the board to leave the date in the summer and not change it.

Justin Peters – He stated that the last speaker had a good point about undermining the junior livestock and the erosion of the junior livestock to a point where it won't happen. He commented that it usually comes down to money and expressed his thoughts on that. He explained that the kids are the next generation, so we need to keep it going and continue having the Fair in August.

Travis Ueltschi – Explained that everyone was looking for Fair dates to be announced at the meeting today. He asked the board if they can just decide on the dates, out of respect for the public, so they can tell the kids.

Public comments were closed at this time.

Director Bradbury asked CEO Quaid to address what some of the issues would be if the board stayed with the traditional dates.

CEO Quaid stated that she is asking the board to change the policy today. She is still working with four other Fairs on the dates; it doesn't mean that there will be a date change. The reason for the policy change would be to have the flexibility in case there ever needs to be a date change. All the Fairs are working together to make sure we can get the best of everything we bring to the Fair; all departments are equally important. She does not have definite dates to give yet.

President Cornejo addressed the rumors about the dates being discussed behind closed doors and assured everyone that there have not been any discussions on dates with any board members. Staff asked for flexibility so they can work out the best dates and in good corporate governance is asking that the board give them the flexibility by changing policy.

Vice President Lacayo reiterated what President Cornejo stated. This came out of the Executive Committee at the request of the CEO that she is given the flexibility because right now the board is locked into the number of days and specific months, and she feels that does the board a disservice. The board is trying to be mindful of the livestock community and trying to take everything into consideration. Made a motion to allow CEO Quaid, at her discretion, to change the policy to have an annual Fair with no specifics.

Director Bradbury wanted to make a motion as well to put this matter over to next month's meeting. It sounds like the dramatic impact on the people that depend on the Fair in the livestock area is so substantial that it should be taken into consideration. If it becomes necessary to bring to the board a new date that is fine, but he asks to put this over to the next meeting at this point.

President Cornejo stated there is a motion on the floor but it died for a lack of a second.

Shanté Morgan-Carter – Clarified with CEO Quaid that October is normally when the board votes on the Fair dates and CEO Quaid confirmed that. She explained that the public does need a deadline and as part of the discussion wanted to give them a time certain of when the board will make a decision so the public can move forward.

CEO Quaid stated that there will be a decision at the October Board Meeting unless they schedule a special meeting for the dates.

Director Lopez added his voice to President Cornejo and Vice President Lacayo's about never hearing or discussing dates with anyone and wants to dispel that rumor. He emphasized that CEO Quaid planning an annual Fair is a monumental task, not to minimize the importance of the children being able to breed, raise their animals and everything involved in that, but she has to make sure every component is in place and what it takes to make it happen. He asked CEO Quaid if she would be okay postponing

this to October, which she ensured it would. With that he asked Vice President Lacayo to withdraw her motion and look at Director Bradbury's motion instead.

President Cornejo reminded the board that the Executive Committee was asked by CEO Quaid for the ability to give flexibility with a policy change.

Director Weigel clarified that after hearing her fellow director's comments today about the Fair remaining in July and August that there does not need to be a policy change. Reading the Executive Committee minutes could make one think that the Fair would be taken out of those months. As the meeting has progressed today, comments by both the directors and the public, asked what could be done right now to have a better understanding and not a lack of confidence and mistrust.

Director Lopez stated that in keeping with what Director Weigel said he thinks Director Bradbury's idea is appropriate. If CEO Quaid is okay waiting until October and that is what is traditionally done, then the board can wait until then and see what CEO Quaid has to say in the interim.

There was a motion on the floor made by Vice President Lacayo, but with a lack of a second the motion died. Director Bradbury restated his motion; to approve postponing the recommendation of the policy change regarding Fair dates until the October Board Meeting.

Sarah Pelle clarified that if the board does not approve a policy change now then in October when the board normally has Fair dates, if it falls outside of the policy, then it would have to be postponed again until November. If the policy is going to change then it needs to be done before the Fair dates.

Director Morgan-Carter asked if necessary, CEO Quaid would be able to call an emergency meeting that would give the board time to properly post it if for some reason it is needed.

Sarah Pelle stated that it wouldn't constitute as an emergency, but the board can have as many meetings as they wanted it would just require the ten days' notice.

It was clarified that policy was not being changed so there was no need for a motion. The board is simply requesting the status quo of policy and at the October Board Meeting the directors would be discussing Fair dates within current policy.

President Cornejo concluded that the motion failed for a lack of a second and policy remains in place. The board will wait for staff to bring the Fair dates in October.

X. Board Correspondence

A. Gun Show Correspondence

XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.

A. Agreements

1. Rental Agreements – Interim

Director Weigel questioned approving the Surfer's Pint contract because not all the information is there and it only says TBD.

CEO Quaid explained that the promoter needed a contract before going to the architect. Once the architect comes back with the drawings they will go to the board for approval. She explained that the board is acknowledging that he has a contract number and what he wants to do (the amount he will be paying the fairgrounds will be 8%). She reminded the board that they discussed this a few months ago.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda with items A, 1.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas		X	
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez	X		
Director Morgan-Carter	X		
Director Weigel		X	
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

Director Cuevas clarified that she voted no for lack of information.

XII. CEO Report

- Mr. Giammanco is working on the Halloween event that runs from September 30th through October 31st. She encouraged the board to come down and see it.
- Last Saturday there was a concert, Grupo Firme, with about 10,000 people in attendance and was held in the carnival lot. It was a good event and she thanked David Valdivia for being such a good partner and bringing the fairgrounds these events.
- She spoke to Senator Monique Limon about the gun shows and she will be pursuing the bill again next year.
- In her conversation with Orange County regarding Fair dates, she spoke to one of their vice presidents to see what they are doing with gun shows at the current time and seeing if there is any information that could be helpful.

XIII. President's Comments

- Expressed her gratitude to staff, fellow board members and to the public for plodding through all these issues. She assured everyone that the board is being as transparent as the law allows and explained it is hard with the open meeting laws, which can be very frustrating. The public is welcome to speak to the board at any time and communicate with staff for additional information. Voices are being heard and thanked everyone through the process. She thanked the special guidance that the board gets from Sacramento, including Sarah Pelle, because some of it is relatively new and everyone just wants to make sure that the board is taking care of everyone's rights and that the board is being good stewards of the fairgrounds.

XIV. Director's Comments

Director Weigel

- Thanked the board for taking the time to listen to all the agricultural livestock community members. She thinks that the fact that the motion/recommendation did not pass will help build trust and confidence that we were able to answer in a way that follows the guidelines and also show that the board is trying to come together as a community and that the board does care about their stakeholders.

Director Morgan-Carter

- Thanked the community for showing up because she loves to get their input and feels it is important because we work together and that is how the fair is made successful.

Vice President Lacayo

- Thanked the public for being present and reassured them that the board is hearing and listening.

Director Long

- Appreciates all the staff time that has been put in during COVID. Also, thanked Sarah Pelle for being present and popping in when needed.
- The board does value all the comments. There may be some communication that isn't as prevalent as some would like, but everyone is doing the best that they can. He feels it is unfortunate that there are just a few people that are really trying to make unsubstantiated rumors. Everybody on the board loves all of the community, the livestock community as well. It is a little frustrating for everyone and all of us try very hard to have faith in the CEO to do the right thing and has been doing for many years.
- He supports all that the board is doing and appreciates all the board members being a part of the board of directors.

Director Cuevas

- Expressed her gratitude to all the public who attended today and took time out of their busy schedules. It has been commented about the scheduling of the fair board meetings and the difficulty for the public to attend due to the fact it is on a weekday in the morning, so she appreciates people attending. She suggested possibly looking at this in the future and polling the community to see if a different time would be better to continue to get community input.

- Thanked CEO Quaid. In the past she has been very vocal on criticizing or complaining or seeming aggressive with CEO Quaid in the demands of the board, in their workplan, setting schedules and timelines and explained that she has really stepped up to show that not only is she looking out for the Fair by impacting her own personal pay, benefits, schedule and such to remain at the fairgrounds as the interim CEO during this very difficult time of COVID and it actually helps the fairgrounds in a surplus situation which was a difficult task because there was very limited staff. She really wanted to applaud CEO Quaid for that work and for her teams work in pulling everything together in the most perilous of times. She stated that coming from her it probably speaks to the trust that she has gained in CEO Quaid's work as well as a collective board in making sure that they are sustainable and viable going into the future.
- Thanked her fellow board members for their bravery and their analysis and consideration of the gun show issue. She hopes that the board continues to look to the future to make the fairgrounds a safe place to be and a place of community support and love.

Director Lopez

- Added his voice to all of those compliments that have been paid to staff and to the public.
- He also complimented CEO Quaid and thanked her because it wasn't long ago that everyone thought the fairgrounds might go bankrupt and become a past Fair.
- He thanked President Cornejo for taking the board through his process because it has been a long meeting and feels she did a good job.

Director Bradbury

- He added onto what Director Weigel commented by saying that no one can deny that the board and management have come under substantial criticism as of late, whether it be statements at the meeting, letters, phone calls to individual directors and now even on Facebook. He stated that his remarks should not be interpreted as criticism of leadership or management because he thinks CEO Quaid is doing a great job under these circumstances, especially with the COVID atmosphere in the last couple of years that has made everything extremely difficult. He believes this is not something that should be ignored, and it is not a comment on the validity of the criticisms, but the fact that they exist. He stated that it is important to address what is becoming an obvious lack of credibility the board has with the public and especially the public that deals with the Fair. There has been a lot of talk about a training session and thinks it is time to stop talking about it and make it happen. The training should focus in on public relationships. He feels things can be done better and feels things were exacerbated by the pandemic, but the issue is much larger. Feels the board really needs to move forward with it. Explained that the board has to deal with issues of credibility with the public as soon as possible.
- He would like to take steps to increase the zoom population because there are more people that would like to join in.
- Hopes everyone has a great month and will see everyone again in October.

CEO Quaid welcomed and thanked Deputy Secretary and Chief Counsel for the State of California with the Department of Food & Ag., Haig Baghdassarian.

Haig Baghdassarian appreciated the welcome and apologized for not joining until later in the meeting. Stated he was happy to see so many people in the community engaged. Appreciates all the interest and the board seems like they are doing the most to address the concerns. There have been a lot of challenges over the past two years for everyone on so many levels and he is confident that this community and DAA will see its way through.

President Cornejo reiterated how grateful the board is to have the support and advice of counsel from CDFA. It has been extraordinary and she does not know how the board would have gotten through all of the complex and legal issues without that support. They are always willing to help make sure the board is looking after, not only the District which is in the board's charge, but the community as well. She thanked Mr. Baghdassarian for being here today. She also wanted to close the meeting in memory of Ari Larson, a councilwoman in Fillmore, who passed away suddenly but was a wonderful woman and inspiration to all.

XV. Future Agenda Items

XVI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Ari Larson at 12:28 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary

Approved by: _____
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: _____
Leslie Cornejo, Board President