

# 14<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association

## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIR

Established 1885



### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

#### Board of Directors' Meeting

2601 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

The Board Room

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CALL TO ORDER:** 1:30 PM by President Barton

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Stephanie Fontana, Vice President; Loretta Estrada, Director; Jody Belgard, Director; Don Dietrich, Director.

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Director Campos

**DIRECTORS EXCUSED:** Director Flores, Director Pruger

**GENERAL MANAGER (GM):** Dave Kegebein

**ADMINISTRATION/OPS.** – Lynne Grossi

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Eric Zamost asked what forms a quorum of the Board now (five directors out of a nine-member board).

**DIRECTOR COMMENTS:** President Barton asked GM to announce new appointees, Lupe Flores and Michael Pruger. Director Estrada inquired if anyone had applied for unfilled position.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** The Consent Calendar was presented. *Director Dietrich moved, Director Belgard seconded approval of the Consent Calendar with spelling correction to the word “complement” (correct to “compliment”) on page one, bottom paragraph. Motion carried 5-0, Ayes – Directors Barton, Fontana, Estrada, Belgard, and Dietrich.*

### FINANCIALS

GM noted that the STOP report is included in packet. Cash balance on hand is \$150,867. A discussion followed regarding the new rule – GASB 68, which requires report of pension liability by public agencies. Our share of the pension liability is \$425,000, per the auditors. The other portion is future medical care which is anticipated to be significantly higher than the pension liability. Director Dietrich expressed concern that these numbers may be overstated due to the low level of liability from past employees at our facility. He would like to have someone come in and explain how calculation is done. Financial reports will be considered next month after review.

*Director Dietrich moved, Director Belgard seconded approval of the STOP Report. Motion carried 5-0, Ayes – Directors Barton, Fontana, Estrada, Belgard, and Dietrich.*

GM reviewed the 2017 Budget which was presented in the agenda packet. Director Dietrich would like to see a breakdown of the Publicity budget and the Fair Entertainment budget. *After discussion, Director Estrada moved and Director Fontana seconded approval of the 2017 Budget. Motion carried 5-0, Ayes – Directors Barton, Fontana, Estrada, Belgard, and Dietrich.*

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

GM summarized the February Public Planning Session that was held the evening of February 28<sup>th</sup>. The general feedback was that the meeting was positive and that participants were supportive of the facility and our events. Director Dietrich was interested in doing additional outreach to get more participation. GM thanked Director Estrada for the positive feedback that she continues to offer at key moments, including at the planning session. Eric Zamost recommended that funding of public benefit be considered, such as allowing free attendance for Active Military at the Fair.

GM summarized his meeting with John Prentice - they walked the race track to identify issues that need attention and had a positive discussion of needed actions/improvements. The GM reviewed the draft Ag. History Project letter regarding adding a portion of the west end of the pit area for the Living History Farm. John Prentice has expressed interest in shortening the track so this concept would accommodate the proposed plan. The draft Letter of Intent, and map depicting the proposed area, from the Fair Board to AHP were presented and discussed. GM added a comment that the AHP site would benefit from a site expansion even if the Living History Farm doesn't move forward.

*Director Dietrich moved, Director Estrada seconded approval of draft Letter of Intent for the AHP site. Motion Carried 5-0, Ayes – Directors Barton, Fontana, Estrada, Belgard, and Dietrich.*

GM discussed other projects and improvements that are ongoing. Solar projects are under consideration after the electrical work is finalized. The Flea Market expansion for Fridays and Saturdays is on hold for now due to permitting issues facing PAMF at the current Flea Market site in Santa Cruz. Goodwill had their contract extended another two years to stay at the Soquel site for now.

GM just received a proposal for storm water monitoring in the amount of \$6,500 which is a reduction from prior years. Livestock training criteria is being developed in partnership with Monterey County Fair to educate the kids on food handling, monitoring and animal health. Along with ethics training, this training will be conducted annually. Directors Estrada and Belgard got certificates for director training at Western Fairs Conference in January.

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

**NEW BUSINESS** - none

## **REPORTS**

1. State Property Funding – Assemblyman Mark Stone was hosted by Director Dietrich on a tour of the facility. Assemblyman Stone noted that the State has challenges this year with emergency storm damage funding. He thought the concept of putting a multi-use livestock facility that could be used as a rental the rest of the year may be favored for funding by the state as it would help the facility be self-sustainable which is a goal of the administration.
2. Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Foundation News Update. Jeannie Kegebein reported that the Crab Feed generated about \$51,000 for the Fairgrounds. GM noted how the Foundation has made

huge progress getting organized and is doing a great job with financial tracking, etc. As a fundraiser, 38 benches were sold for \$350 each. They continue to investigate holding a Bingo game here – Kevin Larkin and GM are learning a lot about the industry and will report back. He noted that Monterey County Fair attempted a Bingo event and after considerable investment, were unsuccessful.

3. Rodgers House News Update – Report included in packet. Director Estrada provided an update, including discovery of a diploma for James Rodgers in the back of a frame purchased at an antique shop. Efforts are underway to acquire the diploma.
4. Ag History Project News Update – John Kegebein discussed the excitement that has developed around the new Puppet Stage that will be used to educate kids on livestock and other agricultural related topics. Social media is being brought in-house now. The Codiga Center is being remodeled including a Lettuce Display. The Living History Farm fundraiser will kick-off in May with a raffle drawing for a chain saw, a trip to Las Vegas for 4 days, and other great prizes.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – A thank you letter was received from Eric Hammer, and an invitation to community meetings being held by County of Santa Cruz Parks Department.

**Next Agenda Items Requested - none**

**Next Meetings**

Next Regular Board Meeting Schedule is April 25, 2016 at 1:30 in the Board Room

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.