

MINUTES
35-A District Agricultural Association
Board of Directors
March 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President T. Williams at 5:02 PM in the director's room, of the 35-A District Agricultural Association.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Williams.

DIRECTORS & STAFF PRESENT: Directors - Williams, Richards, Wass, Shelton, Phillips, Johnson, Vaughn and Staff - Bullis, and Foley.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion by Phillips, second by Shelton and carried unanimously to approve agenda via roll call, with the exception of Vaughn whom arrived late to the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Policies and Procedures Annual Review
- b. Form 700

Motion by Shelton, second by Phillips and carried unanimously via roll call to approve the Consent Agenda as is.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. APPROVE MINUTES: Motion by Phillips, second by Shelton and approved via roll call by the following: Richards, Williams, Shelton, Wass and Phillips to approve the January 29, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. Both, Vaughn and Johnson abstain from voting due to not being present at the January meeting.
- b. APPROVE DISBURSEMENTS: Motion by Richards, second by Phillips and carried unanimously to approve disbursements in the amount of \$437,107.91 and net payroll in the amount of \$13,494.86 for the month ending December 31, 2023 and disbursements in the amount of \$94,360.34 and net payroll in the amount of \$14,965.22 for the month ending January 31, 2024. Richards asked if amounts were on tract with prior years, Bullis said we did have \$400,000 that was taken from our operating account and put into an investment account in December 2023 and we also had our lump payments of our annual general liability and workers' comp paid in the month of January for \$64,724.63 which made our disbursements higher than usual.

- c. FOOD VENDOR FEES: Foley asked the Board if she can make the fair food vendors all the same price of \$400 or 22% whichever is more, we currently have a few that are a set \$400 and she feels they should all be the same across the board. Motion by Wass, second by Shelton and carried unanimously via roll call to approve making all fair food vendors the same price of \$400 or 22% whichever is more.
- d. 2024 FAIR THEME: Each director picked what they thought was a good theme from the list of suggestions from the public. After narrowing it down to those picked by more than one director, Motion by Richards, second by Shelton and carried unanimously via roll call to approve the 2024 fair theme as “Kids, Cows and Plows.”
- e. MARKETING COMMITTEE: Director Shelton went over the suggestions that the Marketing Committee recommended. Minutes are attached and made a part of these minutes. Marketing Committee would like a \$2,000 budget for advertising, contests and possible vacation rental advertising on Yosemite.com. Motion by Richards, second by Wass and carried unanimously via roll call to approve the requested budget not to exceed \$2,000 and the suggestions that the Marketing Committee recommended. Minutes are attached and made a part of these minutes.
- f. EXHIBITS COMMITTEE: Director Williams filled in for Director Wass for the Exhibitors Committee meeting. Foley went over the suggestions that the Exhibits Committee recommended. Minutes are attached and made a part of these minutes. Motion by Phillips, second by Johnson to approve the recommended suggestions/changes with the exception of holding off on the request to mandate goats be dehorned or meet a certain length criteria. Most goats have already been born and this should have been done before now. Carried unanimously via roll call to approve subject to the goats dehorning or length criteria

REPORTS AND INFORMATION:

- a. Report of Reserves – Bullis informed the Board that our reserves at December 31, 2023 was \$1,026,334.56 which is the best it has ever been, very pleased!
- b. Director & Staff Comments:

Richards said the new railing in front of Building A is perfect. Would like to see if Friends of the Fair will sponsor the free Monday for fair, Richards feels that it really helps families make coming to the fair more affordable.

Phillips had nothing to share.

Johnson had nothing to share.

Wass said she is happy to see new board members, it will help when Shelton has to travel for business or when she has to go out of town for her work.

Shelton is happy to see spring is here. He also is happy to have new board members so we can have a quorum for our meetings.

Vaughn is happy to be on the board, the fairgrounds is very important to our community and she is happy to help out wherever she can.

Williams is glad to have two new board members. He also agrees with Richards, the railing in front of building A looks great. This all came about due to a lawsuit that our ADA parking was not up to standards/compliance. This should correct the issue.

Foley asked the directors about derby and redo tickets for this year, just let her know tonight or by the next meeting if they want 8 free general admission tickets or if they want to purchase box seats for the events. Foley also informed the board that she has brought Leslie Davies who helped in the office ticket sales last year back early and has been training her to do fair contracts, she is doing a great job and it frees up time for her to get other things completed.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Bullis touched back on the parking lot issues and informed the board that the Via busses were having a hard time making a turn at the bottom of our lot due to the length of them after dropping off patrons during fair. Bullis has been in contact with the MCUSD about possibly bringing back the school busses. MCUSD does have a bus with a handicap lift that could be used if someone need it, they would need to call for a pickup. Still needs to be approved by the Superintendent.

Bullis explained some of the current and past history of fair funding to the new fair board members. The interview he just did with the Gazette regarding Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil introducing Senate Bill AB 1261 to increase funding and support to local fairs, if it passes it could put us back to full funding.

Bullis said we had a planned complete shut down of the water to the entire grounds on Wednesday to replace backflows, the old ones were half full of rust so it was much needed.

Next, maintenance will start working on restarting the irrigation system, putting up shade cloths for upcoming events and restriping the front parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion by Wass, second by Phillips and carried by roll call unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 PM in memory of Mary Williams.

Respectfully submitted

Brian Bullis, CEO

Tom Williams, President