

MINUTES
April 21, 2009
17th District Agricultural Association
Grass Valley, California

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the 17th District Agricultural Association was held on April 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Office of the Nevada County Fairgrounds.

President Lyss called the meeting to order and declared a quorum at 6:00 p.m. Directors present: Skip Lusk, Simi Lyss, Sandy Ballou, Tom Browning, Arnie Romanello, Jeanette Royal and Art Whitney.
Ron Wolfson present via video call
Absent: Bill Schultz

Introduction of Guests and Staff

CEO Sandy Woods, Deputy Manager Robin Hauck, Concession Manager Bob Smearden and John Fisher of Nor-Cal Construction were present.

Nevada County Certified Grower's Market: Norm Willerup, Jim Cimino, Jeanette Rice and Jim Stillman were introduced. Willerup, President of the Nevada County Certified Grower's Market reported that the Market faces the challenge of moving several times during their six month run because of conflicts with Fair events and rentals that utilize South Park. The Growers Market expressed interest in making the Cow/Horse Barn area at Gate 8 their permanent location, but the DAA has concerns with the potential health risks from E. coli especially where food vendors are in areas contaminated by animal waste. Following discussion President Lyss assigned Directors Browning and Ballou to an ad hoc committee to research a possible "permanent" location or at least minimize the number of moves.

Motion 2009-28: March 17, 2009 Minutes: Motion by Director Whitney, seconded by Director Browning to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion 2009-29: March 2009 Financial Reports: Motion by Director Whitney, seconded by Director Lusk to approve the March 2009 financial reports. Motion carried.

Motion 2009-30: March 2009 Contracts: Motion by Director Royal, seconded by Director Whitney to approve the March Contracts. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Directors were provided copies of the following correspondence:

- 4-H 2009 D.C. Delegates - Thank you note for donating a Fair package to their Spaghetti Dinner and Cake Auction.

Fair Considerations:

Motion 2009-31: 2009 Fair Admission Fees and Special Discounts: Motion by Director Ballou, seconded by Director Whitney to leave daily gate admissions the same as 2008, to increase the advance sale daily to \$5.00, the vendors daily to \$3.00, daily

parking to \$6.00, Sunday's Fair Worship Service Attendees to \$5.00, no longer offer free fair admission with the arena event tickets, to include a "Bunny Bucks" \$2.00 discount for Thursday, August 13th only and a \$1.00 discount with the donation of a can of food on Sunday, August 16th only. Motion carried.

Livestock

- The following recommendations for changes in the Competition Handbook were presented to the Board:
 - Eliminate one of the Feature Breed Divisions in Open Beef
 - Increase the Junior Beef Feeder entry fee to \$5.00
 - Increase Grade or Unregistered Junior Dairy Cattle entry fee to \$4.00
 - Increase Open Dairy Goat entry fee to \$5.00
 - Drop Champion Challenge and Dairy Herd from both Open and Junior Dairy Goat Shows
 - Drop Junior Get of Sire from Open Dairy Goat Show
 - Increase Pygmy Goats entry fee to \$2.00
 - Eliminate Vet check on all goat divisions
 - Increase Open and Junior Sheep entry fee to \$5.00
 - Eliminate the Junior Sheep Group Division
 - Wether Type Sheep: Create one division "All Breeds Judged as One" and add pair classes
 - Increase Junior Swine entry fee to \$5.00
 - Increase Junior Cavies, Dog Showmanship, Junior Poultry and Junior Rabbit entry fees to \$3.00
 - Increase Broiler & Turkey Meat Pens, Market Eggs and Rabbit Meat Pen entry fees to \$5.00
 - Junior Rabbits: Offer one breed division for Heavyweight and five Lightweight divisions with an "Any Other" Heavyweight Division and Lightweight Division.
 - Set an age limitation of 6 years and over for walk/jog and halter classes in the Horse Show.

Motion 2009-32: Motion made by Director Browning, seconded by Director Ballou to accept the recommendation for livestock entry fee and class changes and to approve the age limitation of 6 years and over for walk/jog and halter classes in the Nevada County Fair Horse Show. Motion carried, four in favor and two against.

- Tuberculosis testing for breeding dairy cattle over 6 months of age is mandatory for the 2009 fair season.
- Saturday, April 4th, fifty-three steers were tagged and weighed of which seven were backups.

Sponsorships: It is challenging out there but at this time most past sponsors are returning in 2009.

Dream Team: The Fair's "Dream Team" monthly newsletter is being e-mailed with the updates on projects and Fair preparation.

Ag Mechanics Auction: The ad hoc committee meeting with the high school instructors is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28th. There was general discussion of the Ag Mechanics auction, the creation of a silent auction element, the exhibitors' qualifications and whether they should be required to be enrolled in an Ag Mechanics class.

Motion 2009-33: Ag Mechanics Auction: Motion by Director Royal, seconded by Director Lusk to approve changes to the Competition Handbook as seen fit by the committee. Motion carried.

Draft Horse Classic & Harvest Fair

- It was reported that the letter inviting the past season ticket holders has been mailed and the Gentle Giant Journal, the direct marketing piece for the Draft Horse Classic, is done.

CEO Report

Sportsmen Raffle Request - Lion Lake Improvement: No presentation

Lion Lake - Hydrilla Project Update: California Construction Authority has submitted two sets of the "Evaluation of Alternates for the Pond Maintenance at the Nevada County Fair" to the California Department of Food and Agriculture stating that with this submittal Phase I of the project is complete and that Phase II (the construction drawing and specifications) is budgeted at \$45,000. Three alternatives have been identified for the eradication of the Hydrilla, ranging from \$343,240 to \$709,659.

Audits:

- **Audit Report - FYE 2007:** The Board received a copy of the CDFA audit report for the 2007 calendar year in their packets. CEO Woods provided each director with a copy of the response to reportable conditions for their review and approval.
Motion 2009-34: Motion by Director Browning, seconded by Director Royal to approve the 2007 response to reportable conditions as presented. Motion carried.
- **Audit - FYE 2008:** The CDFA Audit for the 2008 calendar year is currently taking place with the exit interview scheduled for Friday, April 24th.
- **PERS Audit Report:** The Board received copies of the draft CalPERS audit report for their review and information. Staff response to the CalPERS audit is forthcoming.

Senior Center Negotiations: Verbal notice has been received from the Gold Country Community Center that they will be moving to the Nevada County Senior Apartment complex effective August 1, 2009. Fair Staff and representatives of the Gold Country Community Center will do a final walk through of the Senior Center to verify the inventory for both parties.

Livestock Pavilion Project: CEO Woods presented a Livestock Pavilion Project Cost and Funding Analysis based on the low bids provided by Nor-Cal Construction of

\$90,400 for the demolition, footing excavation, perimeter foundation and concrete slab and \$95,000 for the purchase and construction of the building. With additional expenses the estimated project cost is \$267,000 which includes acquiring a \$140,000 loan from Citizens Bank of Northern California. The Nevada County Fairgrounds Foundation and other donors have \$127,000 available for the project and intend to continue with future fund raising projects. The Board reviewed the design drawings.

Motion 2009-35: Following discussion the motion was made by Director Royal, seconded by Director Whitney to approve the project and to pursue the bank loan. Motion carried.

California Fair Alliance Report: There are still many questions and concerns regarding the creation of the continuous appropriation of 32 million dollars from the General Fund to the Fairs & Expositions Fund and the movement from licensing fees on horse racing. To date Fairs have received their first two installments of their allocations.

Furlough Program: The State furlough program is still in effect.

One Stop Program - Youth Summer Employment: The DAA has been invited to participate in the Nevada County One-Stop Business and Career Center's Summer Youth Program which will run May 1st through September 30th providing jobs for Nevada County youth with federal dollars and a Private Industry Council Supervisor will be provided.

Nevada County Fairgrounds Foundation Report: No meeting.

Directors Comments - The following comments were made with no action taken:

- State wide advertising for California Fairs
- Charter buses to bring fair patrons in from other counties
- State FFA Convention was well represented by Nevada County with the newly elected State FFA President being from Bear River FFA and Nevada Union's Novice Parli Pro Team winning their competition.

New Business

There was no new business.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Sandra J. Woods, CEO

Simi Lyss, President of the Board