

MINUTES
35-A District Agricultural Association
Board of Directors
February 22, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:11 PM by President T. Williams in the director's room of the 35-A District Agricultural Association.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Richards.

DIRECTORS AND STAFF PRESENT: Williams, Richards, Shelton, Bullis, Foley, and by telephone conference, Stewart, Appling and Wass.

DIRECTORS AND STAFF ABSENT: Phillips

GUESTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion by Stewart, second by Shelton and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as emailed.

APPROVE MINUTES: Motion by Shelton, second by Wass, approved by all with the exception of abstained by Richards and carried to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021 regular meeting.

APPROVE DISBURSEMENTS: Motion by Richards, second by Stewart and carried unanimously to approve disbursements in the amount of \$31,367.01 and net payroll \$10,342.82 for the month ending January 31, 2021. Richards asked if we here on track from previous years; Manager Bullis informed the Board that our annual review for \$2,100 had been paid in January.

EXHIBITS COMMITTEE: Wass will set the date for the second week of March, Foley will inform those that will attend when the date is picked.

MARKETING COMMITTEE: Director Shelton went over the suggested changes that the marketing committee recommended, (see attached) budget requested not to exceed \$800.00. Motion by Appling, second by Wass and carried unanimously to approve as presented.

2020 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS: Tabled for March 2021.

REQUEST FOR 2021 ALLOCATION: Bullis requested Board approval to request the 2021 Allocation upon receiving the STOP and Budget. Motion by Richards, second by Steward and carried unanimously to approve the request for allocation.

CDFA REQUIRED CLASSES: Bullis explained the requirement for all board members to take the CDFA testing required prior to being able to get our 2021 allocation. Normal California classes required are Sexual Harassment and Ethics, CDFA is requiring several other classes. Richards thinks it is wrong that they require the classes all on line and don't offer a backup with paperwork, sometimes the system kicks you off and you have to start over. Richards thinks this requirement is uncalled for with a year-long

ongoing pandemic and now they want us to comply with online classes when most everyone is working hard to keep their families safe and healthy, trying to stay afloat in a time of financial unrest. Richards said he is contemplating resigning from the board due to the CDFA mandatory online training, the requirement being put on the board is wrong. Richards said he will be making contact with people in Sacramento to represent the fairs.

SHUTTERED VENUE OPERATOR GRANT: Bullis explained that the grants will be available soon but as of now no applications are being accepted yet. CFSA sent out notification that State entities are eligible to apply. We will need to have a Dunn's number to apply.

FORM 700: Form 700 was handed out and signed by Board Members.

POLICES AND PROCEDURES: The following existing written policies and procedures were reviewed with manager recommending that no changes be made form 2020: Policy Manual, Alcohol Management, Sexual Harassment/Discrimination, Emergency Procedures, Blood Bourne Pathogens, Interim Rental, Employee Handbook, Violence or Threats of Violence, Controlled Substances & Alcohol, Procurement Management, Vendor Policy, Motion by Stewart, second by Shelton and unanimously carried to approve the above polices for the 2021.

DIRECTORS & STAFF COMMENTS:

- Williams – In reference to the resent articles in the Mariposa Gazette on Merlin Jones, Williams asked the board to refrain from any comments and to direct all discussions to Bullis to handle. Mr. Jones has been a great sponsor to the fair throughout the years. Williams hates to see Richards leave the board, he has been a great mentor and friend to him. Hopes things will turn around. Thanked Bullis and Foley a doing a great job.
- Shelton – Also disagrees with the requirement of the classes. He wishes Richards would reconsider and stay on the board, he hates to see people out of our area have so much control over a small community. Commented that the FFA Boosters are also supportive of Merlin Jones.
- Stewart- Understands Pelk regarding the classes, wishes he would reconsider resigning.
- Wass- Last weekend 3 locals went to a derby, they want the fair board to consider allowing the company that put it on to bid for Mariposa Fair derby. Bullis explained that it is not a bid contract because it is considered entertainment. Wass said she told them they would need to contact Bullis to discuss.
- Appling – She concurs with Richards on the requirement of the classes, asked Richards to think about it, the board needs him. Thanked Bullis and Foley for all they do.
- Foley – Working on getting out judges for fair in hopes we get to have it. Wishes Richards would reconsider and stay with the board.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Spoke to Kevin Tate our Carnival Contractor, he went to Florida and said it is wide open, while there he attended a fair and it was booming! Said the death rate is even lower there with it being completely open.
- NRCS Building may be rented, should know in a day or so.
- PG&E is paying us \$28,900 for the use of our front and back parking lots, plus utilities. They also brought in 21 - 10 yard boxes of gravel for the back lot.
- Governor has put a \$50K one time allotment in the budget for fairs, needs to go through litigation still, if approved it would be the end of June 2021.

- Regarding the 50 Million in the budget, CFA sent out a matrix on how the funds would be allocated (see attached), Bullis emailed CFA opposing it, the litigation specifically states it is for State Fairs only, yet CFA shows allocations to all fairs.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Richards, second by Stewart and carried to unanimously adjourn the meeting in memory of Daryl Giannini at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Tom Williams, President

Brian Bullis, CEO/General Manager