

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OF THE
EL DORADO COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC
Wednesday, April 9, 2025**

PRESENT: Warden, Forni-Feathers, Whitaker, Carter, Williams, Jones, Witherow, Willyard, and White

MANAGER: Kathy Dunkak

OTHERS: Robin Cleveland, Amanda Koch, and Heather Watson

EXCUSED: Kobervig

ABSENT: Bloxsom

1. Call to Order at 4:31 pm

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

C. Record verification of legal meeting notice. Dunkak authenticated the verification.

D. Determine Quorum. Warden determined that the requirements for a quorum were met.

2. Approve Agenda, Previous Minutes, and Consent Items

Jones moved that the meeting minutes, correspondence, and an acknowledgment of agreements from March be approved. Forni-Feathers seconded the motion. The motion carried to approval.

3. Public Forum

Heather Watson presented information on the new tents/covers rentals for fair (our previous vendor closed their business). Cost is comparable to 2024 and most tents will look similar, with the exception of the stage on the Main lawn.

4. Old Business - None

5. New Business

A. Rescheduling the Annual January Association meeting to be at 4:30 instead of 4:00. Willyard moved to accept the change of start time to 4:30 for the Association meeting, with the regular January Board meeting immediately following. Forni-Feathers seconded. Motion carried for approval.

B. Discuss the pros and cons of opening the fair an hour early for disabled persons (2026 Fair).

Dunkak received a request to open an hour early one day. After some discussion, it was decided that Dunkak would contact a couple of the local groups and get some feedback.

6. Manager's Report

Jr. Livestock Auction Committee will add a cooling system to the show ring, which will cost around \$40,000. Steer Barn Manager had a practice show on March 22 to make sure that all of the youth entering steer can handle their steer in a safe and controlled manner, and direct leaders to work more with those who cannot.

Speedway light poles installed in 2020. The wood has twisted and the lights have turned away from the straight away leaving it dark (on 3 poles). We have a quote from JR Sharp to move the lights in the amount of \$8,500.

Dunkak will research any warranty possibilities before authorizing work. The Speedway had another pole blow over with speakers and other wires attached, which our facilities staff fixed.

Old Town Grill is catering our luncheon on April 29th.

Fair entertainment almost complete.

Vendors almost full.

Tickets went "live" on sale April 1st.

We sold 160 during a flash sale in December.

Financial review is scheduled for May 9.

7. Treasurers Report –

No unusual entries. RV reservations seem high for March. The deposit for the Blast bounce house for the Blast was questioned, we will have bounce houses during the Blast and they are staffing.

Willyard moved that the Treasurer's report be approved. Witherow seconded. Motion carried to approval.

8. Ad Hoc Committee Chair Reports

A. **Adopt-a-Spot:** We will be judging on April 10 at 1:00 for this quarter. Feathers: How are we getting recognition out to gardeners? Recognition—no money. Plaques for the fair and perhaps a Fair swag bag. The Warden's friend was so excited when she won the large gardens vs. the small gardens.

B. **Fair Binder:** White and Witherow to meet and review in May, making adjustments as needed.

C. Solar Report: Solar panels are hazardous waste and cost a small fortune to remove. One company said we should not be sending back energy to PGE; we should be storing in a battery. One company said that we may not be a good candidate for solar. They discussed usage: we use the Forni Building 2 days a week, and there is no A/C or heat (propane). 2025 true-up is \$ 70,000. On the bids we are getting for new solar, but batteries last about 10 years. Would we be better off without the solar? We would leave them on the speedway and Henningsen.

Last month, we talked about using a company that would cover all equipment costs and repairs, and we would pay monthly. How could we sign a 15-year lease if our County MOU is good for five years at a time?

Dunkak is working with our County liaison on this issue.

D. Fair-time Parking: the committee will get together at the end of April. From the stairway of the boardroom down will be law enforcement. Directors will be by the ivy, staff by fencing (top of main lawn), entertainment at top. We will call Honorary to see which day they might be coming so we have spaces allocated. There are some spots by Barn D where judges park. Henningsen will have law enforcement on the backside of fence.

Building & Grounds: will meet in the next couple of weeks.

9. Director's To/From

Forni-Feathers: Are we doing a new PA system in the Henningsen? Dunkak and Kelly talked about the system that was put in last year. Didn't work out, we are ordering new speakers. We need more bleachers at Henningsen. Dunkak: Bleachers are a challenge during the Fair (not enough and difficult to move). Warden, Forni-Feathers, and Bloxsom will put together the Opening Ceremony. Warden would like all Board Members to be there. 2025 Board Picture will be taken in front of the Steer Barn and new panels at 11:15 on June 12.


Warden and Forni-Feathers need to work on Preview Night. Dunkak is working on food with Explorers.

Directors bar tend on Preview Night. Begins at 5:30, directly after people get off work to make it easier for them to attend. More details at the next meeting.

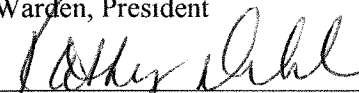
Williams: Has a friend who is an executive chef – do we need him to judge anything? (Keith Roberts)

Warden: We will have a list for volunteers to sign up at the April 29 meeting.

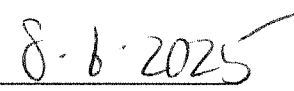
Adjourn the meeting at 5:25 pm.



Lori Warden, President



Kathy Dunkak, CEO



Date



Date