

**MINUTES OF THE regular MEETING FOR  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
EL DORADO COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC  
Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 4:00 pm**

**In order to ensure compliance with federal and state guidance regarding large gatherings and in accordance with State of California Executive Order N-29-20, to provide the public with the opportunity to provide comments to the Board, the Board provided a call-in number or Join with Zoom.**

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**PRESENT:** Whitaker, Forni-Feathers, Carter, Denton, McGuire, Davis, Kobervig, Knight, Witherow, Hunt, Bradley

**EXCUSED:**

**ABSENT:**

**MANAGER:** Jody W. Gray

**OTHERS:** Gay Willyard, Rita Timewell, Paul Zappettini, Kami Arnold, Kathy Dunkak, Doug Williams, Heather Watson, Ann McMillan, Myra Lowder, Brian Veerkamp, plus others via Zoom

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Record Verification of Legal Meeting Notice:

Gray authenticated the verification.

**QUORUM REQUIREMENTS MET:**

Gray determined that the requirements for a quorum were met.

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

Witherow moved that the agenda be approved; Whitaker seconded; motion carried to approve.

**III. APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 2020 REGULAR MEETING:**

Whitaker moved that the minutes be approved; Bradley seconded; Kobervig abstained; motion carried to approve.

**IV. PUBLIC FORUM**

**Myra Lowder** read a statement expressing concern regarding the cancellation of fair and that in past fairs the Miss El Dorado Pageant was “rushed” off of the stage and felt that enough consideration wasn’t given to that part of fair, indicated she would be forwarding her statement to Jody Gray, CEO, along with another statement written by another concerned party for board to address. She stated she and others had addressed this issue in the past but it had been ignored by fair staff. Lowder suggested using Union Mine 4H kids that had planned on entering poultry as clerks. Future fairs should have a livestock superintendent that is “community oriented”. Was questioning why we would be having our fair in July if State Fair cancelled. She felt online livestock auctions raised minimal funds.

**Doug Williams** introduced the possibility of fundraisers for the fairgrounds, and shared the “Tahoe Bucks” program used in SLT. He suggested we entertain the idea of a sub-committee for fundraising.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

The fair office received letters from Humane Society and Paws asking us to not allow an animal act at fair which includes “Wild About Monkeys”.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Acknowledgment of Contracts entered in May 2020.**

Kobervig moved that the Contracts be acknowledged, Bradley seconded; motion carried to approve, 11-0.

**B. COVID-19, Governors Orders and the Fairgrounds.**

Gray stated she felt it would be difficult to continue planning for a July 9-12 Fair since we are just now moving into Phase 3. However she still wants to pursue a livestock show and virtual auction, as well as accept still entries and judge the exhibits. After much discussion, Witherow

moved to cancel fair, yet move forward with the livestock and still exhibits. McGuire Seconded; motion carried to approve 11-0.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

## VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT

### A. Approval of Expenditures for May, 2020.

Whitaker moved that the Expenditures for May 2020 be approved, McGuire seconded; motion carried to approve 11-0.

### B. Gray went over a Worst-Case Scenario Budget predictions as of June 2020 through December 2020.

C. Approval to request that the County defer or waive the unfunded PERS and liability Loan to assist with cash flow. Whitaker moved to approve, McGuire seconded, motion carries 11-0.

## IX. MANAGER'S REPORT

- Gray shared she had spoken recently at the Taxpayer Association meeting and had also learned of the fundraising program similar to that suggested by Doug Williams, and planned to implement a "Fair Bucks" program, partnering with local businesses and hopefully the EDC Chamber.
- Ben Varozza and Peyton Darrah each donated their hogs for the Heritage Foundation to be auctioned. Darrah's as Heritage Hog, to be sold in June auction and Varozza, to be in the July sale for the "Save The Fairgrounds Hog."
- Heather Watson had submitted her resignation. Ann McMillan had retired, her last day was June 1<sup>st</sup>. There are no plans to hire replacements at this time.
- Russell Motorsports had received the go-ahead to host races with no spectators. Their first event is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Moving forward with still exhibits, the receiving and judging dates and times will be changing (to correspond with the previous July fair date) and the website will be updated accordingly.
- Shared an updated report of revenues and expenses for 2020, which include significant cuts to expenses and revenues. Will be updating and sharing with board each month as things change.

## X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### **Witherow:**

Pass

### **Kobervig:**

Heather and Ann will be missed.

### **Bradley:**

Pass

### **Whitaker:**

Very disappointed that we cannot have a fair. Now it is critical moving forward that the board assist fair staff in any/all fundraising endeavors. Important for the board to step up now more than ever, with limited staff and elimination of the majority of the fairgrounds revenue.

### **Davis:**

Very impressed with Gray's leadership during these tumultuous times.

### **McGuire:**

Likes the fundraising ideas discussed. Wants a retirement party for Ann and Heather after mass gatherings are allowed.

### **Carter:**

Excited for the next chapter for Ann and Heather, and thanked them for their contributions. Good job to staff. Shared that while participating in other fair industry events our fair is leaders within the industry.

### **Denton:**

Pass due to technical difficulties

### **Hunt:**

Looking forward to resume meeting in the board room and having hamburgers afterwards.

**Knight:**

Agreed with Whitaker's report.

**Forni-Feathers:**

Pass

Gray thanked the community who is on the Zoom call.

**XI. Adjourn 5:20 PM.**

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Chris Whitaker, President

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Date

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Jody W. Gray, CEO

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Date