

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
EL DORADO COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION**
Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 4:30 pm
**THE BOARD ROOM ON THE EL DORADO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
100 PLACERVILLE DRIVE, PLACERVILLE, CA.**

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lori Warden, Tiffany Carter, Maureen Carter, Jim Carter, Karen Feathers, Joy Knight, Jody Gray, Fred Hunt, Kathy Dunkak, Dee Kobervig, Robert Kobervig, Mick McGuire, Brian Veerkamp,
Chris Whitaker, Gay Willyard, Kathy Witherow

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Whitaker called the meeting to order.

PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Hunt.

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

No Annual meeting in 2021, so no minutes to approve.

IV. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

2020 and 2021 were challenging years, however, we persevered.

Luckily, we had just been given TOT funding from the County to upgrade the RV park at Fair side, remove a condemned building and replace the light poles at the Racetrack.

We saved on staffing, as one full time maintenance employee had just resigned and that position was not filled, one employee resigned to spend more time with her baby and one decided to retire. This allowed us to continue without laying off any permanent employees and focus on the upgrades.

The RV Park was upgraded with 18 permanent spots with power and water, asphalt, a new driveway and automatic gate off of Ray Lawyer Drive, a dog run, laundry facilities, a small pavilion, new trees, upgraded the gates and doors on existing buildings, signs, Wi-Fi, security cameras and online registration platform. The RV Park has been very successful, last year after opening, our revenue for the year was \$115,000 compared to the year before the upgrades of \$22,000.

The light posts at the Racetrack were replaced, making for a much safer racetrack and pits, the posts were rotted out and wood peckers had hollowed them out over the 50 plus years that they have been there. We postponed our June Fair until July, finally having to cancel the 2020 Fair, however, we did manage to have the Livestock Shows and an online auction.

2021 Fair was moved to September in hopes to get away from the Covid restrictions, keeping the Livestock shows and auction in June. We had a record auction, \$572,700 with our community being very supportive.

The 2021 September Fair had to be canceled because of the Caldor Fire. The rent from the Caldor Fire was basically equal to the revenue that we would have gotten from the Fair, so financially, it wasn't a hardship, just not having the Fair was the devastating part for us and the community.

The Heritage Hog raised \$130 per pound for \$30,030 and the sheep raised \$40 per pound for \$5240, with added money totaling \$40,620, both donated by 4H exhibitors.

The Heritage Foundation held some fundraisers and received donations and a Grant to purchase new show panels for the Livestock Shows. Those were used at the June 2021 show. We are continuing to raise money for pens for the Hog Barn, Sheep Barn & Goat Barn.

The Heritage Foundation started the remodeling and expansion of the Gate House. It is nearly complete; it will be a great addition to the 2022 Fair in June.

The Fourth of July Blast was a record breaker, we normally have around 4000 people, we had 10,002 in 2021. We attribute that to people wanting to finally get out and do something.

PG & E put a generator in the Corker Bldg. in order to rent it for PSPS events.

We applied for 2 other generators, one for the Marshall Building and another for the Forni Bldg. and we have one that can power the office, maintenance and any barn.

The Pit Restrooms are almost completed, Russell Motorsports is having those rebuilt.

Are receiving American Recovery Act money in 2022, the three proposed projects that have been conceptually approved are:

- Asphalt: repairing entire lower grounds.

- Forni Building: remodel restrooms, drywall the walls, change the windows and blinds, paint, hanging light fixtures, add an audio visual system.

- Board Room: replace the roof, siding, heating and air, paint.

We updated and renewed our contract with the County, we renewed our contract with the Speedway promoter for 5 years and we renewed our contract with the theater for one year.

We are excited for all of the positive things happening here at our Fairgrounds, a lot to look forward to.

V. MANAGERS REPORT:

Fair June 16 – 19, 2022 The Magic Returns to the El Dorado County Fair

Online Livestock entry 2021 worked great, less staff needed. Doing it again in 2022, its online now, they can also buy their exhibitor wristbands, Livestock carnival and RV parking pass online when they register. Added this option for still exhibits as well, will cut down a lot of staffing needs at those normally very busy times. Exhibitors may still come in or mail in entries the old-fashioned way if they desire.

The homebrew and commercial Brew competition will be held at the end of this month and displayed at the June Fair.

The commercial and the Homemade wine competitions will be held in May.

We started an annual Hog jackpot in late October, it was very well received, we will continue, the proceeds from these shows will help replace the pen panels for livestock. We will be selling the old panels as we replace them, this will also help buy more.

We moved our Annual Crab Feed to Dec this year to accommodate a Beef Jackpot that we had here, it will be back in November this year. We sold both drive-thru and dine in tickets.

We started having Swap Meets in the early months of the year, they have been very successful, we will have about 3 per year.

We continue to have our Schooling Horse shows, 8 months of the year. They were very busy during Covid. We continue to offer our open ride passes to use the arena, the last few days have been exceptionally busy.

We hired in 2021, 2 new maintenance full time staff, John Olson and Dan Ryan to replace the one that left in 2020 and one in 2021.

We hired a new office Administrative Assistant, Robin Cleveland to replace the person that retired in 2020.

The Governor added \$50 million for Fairs on this year's budget, our portion was \$295,000. Our savings are doing well. In 2002 when I was hired, we had \$180,000 in the bank, we now have \$1.2 million, not counting the \$814,000 for infrastructure improvements for the American Recovery Act.

With everything going in such a positive direction, it feels like a good time to go out on top, so I am going to retire on February 2. I will miss working with everyone however, I will still be around, I am not going anywhere.

VI. Association Members Reports:

Dee Kobervig praised Jody for a great job and is going to miss her.

Tiffany Carter will really miss her. She recognized what an impact Gray has had on the Fair Association with her conservative approach, and established a great working relationship with the County. She appreciated the care Gray has always shown the Fair Association Board.

Mick McGuire shared how well-respected Gray is by her peers throughout the western fairs.

Brian Veerkamp – on behalf of Kiwanis he truly appreciates working with Jody, as well as when he was on the Board of Supervisors.

VII. Elections of Board Members (3 positions open for re-election):

Tiffany Carter and Dee Kobervig were re-elected. District IV Supervisor Lori Parlin had decided Forni-Feathers being assistant to District III Supervisor was a conflict of interest, so asked Forni-Feathers to resign, which she did. Forni-Feathers ran for final open seat, and was elected.

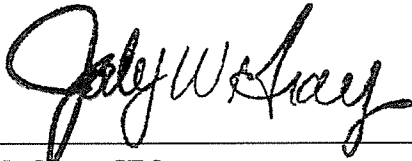
VIII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY.

Chris Whitaker, President

Date



Jody W. Gray, CEO

Date