



## 23<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MEETING MINUTES

**TIME & PLACE:** A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the 23<sup>RD</sup> District Agricultural Association was held at the Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, California, on Wednesday September 12, 2018.

#### 23<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESENT:**

Robert Hoffner, President  
Kerry Dolphin, Vice President  
Kelly Mykrantz  
Chad Cabral  
Craig Cannon  
John Pence  
Steve Limrite  
Bob Sherwood  
Joe Brengle, CEO/Fair Manager

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:**

Susan Cannon, Martinez  
Bill Puckett, Pittsburg  
Laurie Limrite, Knightsen  
John Soares, Livermore  
David Rosa, Antioch  
Jeremy Prince, Martinez  
Isabelle DeBerry, Antioch  
Felicia Cursi, Concord  
Kyle Cursi, Concord  
Jeff Cesca, Sacramento CDFA

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffner called a meeting of the Board of Directors of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District at 7:00pm.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Hoffner led The Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL/DIRECTORS ABSENT**

All members present.

**4. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

No guests present.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Soares, Owner of Oval Motorsports introduced himself, and expressed his concerns regarding his current contract going back out to bid upon the contract expiration. Mr. Soares stated that he was under the impression that his contract would be up for renegotiation. Mr. Soares reviewed his history with the Fair. Soares stated he felt if his contract was not renewed or renegotiated that the track would set empty next year, as all the equipment that is at the track belongs to Oval Motor Sports and it would be removed if he was not awarded the contract.

Jeremy Prince, current promoter at Dixon Speedway, expressed his interest in being able to bid on the Speedway.

Various racers spoke in support of John Soares and expressed their concerns with a new promoter coming in and the risks involved that could result in the closure of the track.

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. President Hoffner asked for a motion to approve the August 8 meeting minutes as presented. Director Cabral asked for a correction to the minutes showing him as present. Director Cabral made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Director Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion affirmatively voted upon by all other members present. Motion carried.
2. President Hoffner asked for a motion to approve the Interim Rental Agreements as presented. Director Mykrantz made a motion to approve the agreements as presented. Director Cabral seconded the motion. Motion affirmatively voted upon by all members present. Motion carried.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Executive Committee - President Hoffner stated that the Executive Committee had meet and discussed the Oval Motorsports contract. President Hoffner stated that he had toured the Speedway facility the week prior and did not see \$200,000.00 in improvements that Mr. Soares had previously stated he had invested in the facility over his 20 years of running the track. President Hoffner stated concerned the physical

appearance and cleanliness of the facility including, leaning wall at south end restrooms, kitchen oven hood cleanliness, chipped paint, and various vehicles parked at main entrance.

President Hoffner stated that members of the Board had heard concerns from the public and asked Mr. Soares which board members he felt he had in his pocket as that was a comment he had heard out in the community. Mr. Soares stated that he felt he had no board members in his pocket.

President Hoffner brought up concerns regarding Oval Motorsports and their previous contract with Merced County Fair and Oval Motorsports selling Merced Speedway to new owners. Mr. Soares responded that he had worked with the Merced County Fair Board regarding the takeover of Merced County Speedway.

President Hoffner stated that he had heard that some racers had been black-balled from racing at his track after they had pursued a special race at another facility. Mr. Soares advised that he has a policy in his rulebook that if any racer goes on social media and speaks out against the Speedway, that they are not interested in having them at their facility. President Hoffner said regardless of what the story was, they were getting bad feedback from the community regarding him and the way he runs the track.

President Hoffner clarified that the 5 year option in the current contract was not a guarantee and was up for review by the Board.

President Hoffner brought up various other concerns including snack bar menu and prices, car counts, utility reimbursements, and general attendance. Mr. Soares stated he was meeting the financial obligations of his contract and that racing participation and spectatorship is down industry wide. Mr. Prince, stated he did not want to discredit Mr. Soares, but that the racing participation and spectatorship is not down industry wide and that the racing industry is thriving, except for the Antioch Speedway.

Director Mykrantz stated that she felt obligated as a Board member to do what would generate more revenue for the Fair and felt it was the right thing to do to put the contract up for bid.

Manager Brengle stated that the Board had three options which included approve the 5 year option on the current contract, negotiate a new contract with Oval Motorsports, or go out to bid.

Director Limrite asked for staff's opinion regarding the current working relationship with Oval Motorsports, payment status, and recommendations on how to proceed. Manager Brengle stated his recommendations as he had in the previous month's board meeting that there was a good current

working relationship between staff and Oval Motorsports. Mr. Soares had made improvements as requested by staff and there were additional improvements to be made. Based on the current contract, Oval Motorsports overpays in concessions and underpays in utilities, in the end it balances out evenly. Manager Brengle stated that he fears that if the contract goes out to bid, we will receive no bids or no qualifying bids and we would be left with a vacant facility and that the Fair could not take that kind of financial loss. Manager Brengle's recommendation was to negotiate a new contract with Oval Motorsports.

CDFA Representative Jeff Cesca, recommended if this contract goes out to bid that CDFA Legal, and Department of General Service, should review the Request For Proposal before it is released.

Additional discussion followed with input from guests and board members.

President Hoffner asked if there was a motion to put the contract out to bid. Director Sherwood made a motion to put the speedway contract out to bid. Director Cabral seconded the motion. Directors Pence, Cannon, Mykrantz, Cabral, and Sherwood voted in favor to put the contract out to bid. Director Limrite and Vice President Dolphin voted against putting the contract out to bid. Motion carried.

2. Vice President Dolphin and Director Mykrantz reviewed financial reports for the Budget/Finance Committee. The July financials were presented and discussed. President Hoffner asked for a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Director Cabral made a motion to approve the July Financials as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. Motion affirmatively voted upon by all members present. Motion carried.
3. Livestock Committee reported on the topics for the upcoming Fair wrap up meeting scheduled on September 19, 2018.
4. Building and Grounds Committee reported on all on-going projects at the Fair as well as working with CDFA on the deferred maintenance projects.
5. Media P/R Committee had nothing to report.
6. Sponsorship/Marketing & Facility Rebranding Committee had nothing to report.
7. AG Day Committee had nothing to report.
8. Facility Development Committee discussed the option of auctioning off the car or selling out right to any interested parties. Director Sherwood made a motion to sell the museum car. Director Mykrantz seconded the

motion. Motion affirmatively voted upon by all members present. Motion carried.

9. Community Outreach Committee had nothing to report.

**7. HERITAGE FOUNDATION REPORT**

Heritage Treasurer Laurie Limrite reported on behalf of the Foundation and presented the Board with information regarding their upcoming Oktoberfest fundraiser, the Annual Membership Dinner, and the 2019 Heritage Foundation Scholarship opportunity.

**8. CEO REPORT**

Manager Brengle provided the Board with updates, meetings, maintenance projects, and past/current/upcoming events. Discussion followed.

**9. BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENT**

President Hoffner had no comments.

**10. BOARD COMMENT**

Director Mykrantz offered her condolences to the Fair RV Park Camp Host, Isabelle DeBerry on the passing of her husband.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the 23<sup>rd</sup> District Agricultural Association the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.


**Bob Hoffner**  
**Board President**

  
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**DATE**

11-14-18

**Joe Brengle**  
**CEO/Fair Manager**

  
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**DATE**

11-14-18

**VOTING GRID ATTACHED**

Jenn Burror  
Recorder