

**TRINITY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

Trinity County Fair
Board Room – 6000 Hwy 3
Hayfork, CA 96041
Thursday, April 20, 2017
7PM – Open Session

Board of Directors

Wallace Brinkley, President	Dixie LaFountain, Vice President
Sharon Eggleston, Director	Chuck Sauer, Director
Billie Miller, Nominating Chair	Dennis Rourke, Director
Adam Dummer, Director	Dennis Anderson, Director
Adrien Keys, Director	

Mission Statement

To provide for the management of the Trinity County Fair and year-round use of the fairgrounds in the best interest of the people of Trinity County and its rural county values by partnering with county agencies and businesses, promoting agriculture and education, and maximizing available resources.

Note

Please be informed that any member of the public has a right and is invited to participate during this public meeting and may address the Board either during the “Public Comment” portion and/or during the discussion of any particular item listed on the agenda.

AGENDA

The Board of Directors retains the discretion to adjourn to Closed Session at any time during this meeting to confer with and give direction to its negotiator(s).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Items listed on this agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Chair. All items so listed may be considered for action. Any item not listed on the agenda will not be discussed or considered by the Board.

Called to order by President Brinkley at 7:01 pm

2. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

a. APPROVE DIRECTOR ABSENCES AS EXCUSED/UNEXCUSED

President Brinkley, Sauer, Anderson, Miller, Eggleston, LaFountain, Rourke, Dummer and Director Keys were present.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS / STAFF

Julie Velazquez, Justin Molner, Donna Grisham, Karen Leadbetter, Teresa Newman, Russ Newman, Shelby Newman, Bob Taylor, Laura Taylor, Brad Miller, Jennilea Brookins, Cindy Blackburn, Raymond E. Patton, Raymond Patton and Mayme Patton were present.

4. COMMENTS FROM ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AND/OR PUBLIC

Raymond E. Patton said he is concerned about the Wintu village on the Trinity County Fairgrounds and he would like to get on the agenda for the May TCFA Board meeting to discuss the issue further. He would like to discuss the structure that is currently in place and how he feels it is not historically correct. Discussion ensued. Mike Fillette explained the idea behind the area that is setup for the Wintu Educational & Cultural Council is to educate as well as fundraise for various projects and educational programs. One of which includes the graffiti cleanup at Natural Bridge. Mike has been communicating with both Raymond Patton and the Wintu Educational and Cultural Council to get them to meet and try to work things out. Discussion ensued.

5. CONSENT AGENDA & MINUTES

a. APPROVE April 20, 2017 AGENDA and March 16, 2017 MINUTES

Director Miller moved to approve the meeting minutes and agenda, seconded by Director Keys and approved unanimously.

6. APPROVE MARCH 2017 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Director Anderson moved to approve the March 2017 Financial Reports, seconded by Director Rourke and approved unanimously.

7. INFORMATIONAL – VACATION/SICK LEAVE BALANCES REPORT FOR APRIL 2017

President Brinkley stated that all looked good to him

8. CEO'S REPORT

a. Deferred Maintenance

For those who don't know, we received a \$475,000 grant to take care of two major projects. The first is the abatement of asbestos in the dining hall. The second major project is the addition of sprinkler systems throughout several buildings including the fair office. The grant will also cover the project management for the projects and they will handle the bid process for the work to be completed. TCFA paid \$38,000 for plans to be drawn but we were quickly reimbursed. September through October all rentals will be closed during these maintenance upgrades. Discussion ensued.

b. Concert Sign-up Sheet

Tickets are here and on sale now. The gentleman in the poster is not Willie Nelson but Roger Hegyi who stars in the tribute band True Willie. Merle Haggard's band The Haggard Connection will open for True Willie. The concert will be on the Lawn Stage and we are hard at work rehabbing the stage as we speak. Discussion ensued. Mike passed a volunteer signup sheet around to all board members for the first concert on May 13. Karen Leadbetter asked Mike if there are more concerts in the works and Mike replied yes. Malpass Brothers in June and Hotel California in July which will start at 3PM, then the races will start at 6PM which will then be followed by fireworks that same night. Blue Grass will be for the Bigfoot BBQ in September and then we are hoping for reggae in October which is weather permitting of course. Discussion ensued.

c. Showworks

Mike did some research for the JLC and utilizing Showworks and we do have the correct license to allow online data entry. In addition, it is possible to use ear tags for larger animals that will automatically register into the system via a wand. Discussion ensued.

d. Charter School

Mike reported that he was approached by the charter school here in Hayfork and they are looking for a new school building to expand into as they have outgrown their current home at the community church. The possible building for them to use is the 4H building as well as the commercial building during bad weather. They have already purchased some playground equipment which could also be used by kids during the fair. Jennilea Brookins said that there was no discussion of this during the most recent 4H meeting and she was wondering if this scenario has already been finalized. Mike replied that nothing has been decided yet and he was simply mentioning the fact that they are interested. Discussion ensued. Director Sauer expressed some concern regarding liability and insurance issues as well as everyday school logistical issues around the fairgrounds. Discussion ensued. Mike explained that this would be a rental situation of course which will generate more income for the Fair. Mike also mentioned that he has already talked to County Council and if we sublet, County Council would have to approve it. Discussion ensued. Director Brinkley mentioned that he feels this should not be a decision that one person makes but instead the board should be involved. Mike then went on to say that this is just the first step in discussions and there is a lot that has to fall into place to make it happen. Discussion ensued.

e. **Q&A**

Julie Valezquez asked Mike how it went with the spaying and neutering of the feral cats on the fairgrounds. Mike replied that we had 15 cats fixed and we released them. Sandy Bechtold asked Mike if ATMs will be at the concerts like they are for the fair. Mike explained that he was not sure yet as it is another expense. Discussion ensued.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Wallace Brinkley (Chairman), Dixie LaFountain, and Finance Committee Chair
Nothing to report at this time.
- b. **FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Dennis Rourke (Chairman), Dennis Anderson
Nothing further to report at this time.
- c. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Billie Miller (Chairman), Chuck Sauer
Nothing to report at this time.
- d. **JR. LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE:** Laura Taylor (Chairman), Wallace Brinkley
Laura Taylor said JLC met on Tuesday and are working on technology.

10. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- a. **POLICY & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:** Sharon Eggleston (Chairman), Adrien Keys
Nothing to report.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. **DISCUSS/APPROVE REVERSAL OF DECISION TO ELIMINATE INDEPENDENTS AS EXHIBITORS IN JR. LIVESTOCK**

Mike explained he received a phone call from Jay Carlson in Sacramento and he informed Mike that there were inquiries for Independents to show their animals in the Siskiyou County Fair since the Trinity County Fair won't allow Independents. He then informed Mike that the State Attorney General considers this to be discrimination and TCFA runs the risk of being sued. Discussion ensued. Mike presented two different packets to the board from other fairs that are much more stringent when it comes to Independents and he was creating one for TCF. Discussion ensued. Mike recommended to the board that we reverse the decision to eliminate Independents as exhibitors but to implement tougher rules at bare minimum for this year's fair. Teresa Newman has agreed to be the Independent Advisor and the fair office will work closely with her. Finally, Mike recommended the Board create a adhoc Committee to rewrite or finalize the Independent Exhibitor packet. Discussion ensued. Laura Taylor said the JLC went through the new TCF packet and they are ok with it. The JLC's primary recommendation is to have all records for Independent Exhibitors to be secured by their Advisor. The only issue Laura Taylor noticed in the new packet is the meeting is the third Thursday each month as opposed to the second Tuesday. Discussion ensued. Mike then went on to say that quality assurance training is something we might need help defining. The local 4H and FFA groups are willing to help Teresa while she is the Independent Advisor. Discussion ensued. President Brinkley asked Teresa Newman if she knew what she was getting into becoming the Independent Advisor. Teresa went on to explain that she has been around animals a long time and she has raised several different types of animals so she feels up to the challenge and she wants to help. Director Rourke said he felt that the JLC should oversee the Independent Advisor. He also mentioned that he thinks we should review the wording of the state rules and to see if there is a true risk of law suit if TCFA eliminated the Independent Exhibitor in the future. Discussion ensued. Bob Taylor said he agrees with Director Rourke. We should look into the older rules and see if there is a real legal issue there. Discussion ensued. Director Dummer asked who would police the Independent Exhibitors and Mike said he would as the fair manager. Discussion ensued. The board has time to define dress code for Independents prior to this year's fair. Discussion ensued. **The motion must include the following:** 1.) The Independent Exhibitor elimination will be reversed for the 2017 fair only 2.) JLC will oversee the Independent Advisors 3.) Re-evaluate this whole issue via an adhoc committee for next year's fair 4.) Independent Exhibitors must follow the new rule packet.

Director Rourke moved to approve the reversal of the elimination of Independent Exhibitors in Jr. Livestock, seconded by Director Sauer and approved. In a roll call, Directors Rourke, Eggleston, Sauer, Dummer, Keys, Anderson, LaFountain, and Brinkley voted to approve the reversal and Director Miller voted not approve the reversal.

b. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS AND RENTAL AGREEMENTS

RENTAL AGREEMENTS	OTHER AGREEMENTS
RA17-20e Dogs Scouts of America (workshop)	COM17-01 HRN – Fair Booth
RA17-21e Hayfork Fire - fire training (2 days)	COM17-02 Mountain Comm. Healthcare District
RA17-22e Hayfork Elementary Etiquette Dinner	COM17-03 Trinity County Patriots – Fair Booth
RA17-24e Mai Vu	COM17-04 Southern Trinity Health Srvcs – Booth
RA17-25e Mary Elaine Mercill (Bike-A-Thon)	COM17-05 Lula Roe – Fair Booth
RA17-26e USFS Hall Hands Meeting	CON17-04 Dogs on the roll
RA17-27e Trinity Hmong Community Meeting	CON17-05 Gators & Tators
RA17-28e Solid Rock/Soup Kitchen Xmas Luncheon	CON17-06 Conkle’s Concessions
RA17-29e MVUSD	CON17-07 La Creperie
	CON17-08 Asian Food (Wilai Tangtam)
	CON17-09 Oven Fresh Pizza (Dale Allen)

Director Miller moved to approve the contracts and rental agreements, seconded by Director Dummer and approved unanimously.

DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

Billie: I think the premium book is lovely. Great work! I am also happy to see so many guests at tonight’s meeting. Sorry I can’t help with concert in May.

Adam: Please fix the highway Wallace

Chuck: We recently held an auction for the Hayfork scholarship and we did over \$1,000 in dessert auctions

Dixie: Nothing to report

Sharon: Going to Granddaughter’s wedding in May

Dennis R: The JLC is a big deal to me. I’d like to be on the adhoc committee if possible

Wallace: Bradley is back from Europe after 3 months of duty. Ben recently got a chance to shoot guns after driving a tank for so long.

Dennis A: Southern Trinity has senior meetings on the Fridays following TCFA board meetings. I’d like to bring them flyers with future events on it to hand out to them if possible.

Adrien: I am sorry I can’t volunteer for the first concert but I will be cooking. I also want to thank Russ and Teresa Newman for stepping up and being an Independent Advisor.

12. ADJOURNED

Adjourned by President Brinkley at 8:38 pm

Submitted By:

Mike Fillette, CEO

Wallace Brinkley, TCFA President