

Verde Valley Fair Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2025
5:30 p.m. - Regular meeting

In attendance: President Beth Canedy, Vice President Steve Drake, Secretary Ginny Rench, Treasurer Lewis Rice, Board member Brian Bolton (Telephonic) and Director Coleen Gilboy in addition, public Dan Sullivan, Eric Banuelos, Kelcy Lyons, Travis Lyons, Trenton Castro, Robert Meier, Ty Meier, Cristin Combs, Jessica Bolton, Mindy Diehl and Steve Rench.

Absent: None

- I. **Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Canedy
- II. **Call to Public:** None
- III. **Consent agenda** – Mr. Drake moved to accept the Minutes from July 15, 2025 Regular meeting. Mrs. Rench 2nd the motion. No discussion – all in favor
- IV. **Chairman's Report** - *Talked to members about the rodeo – would like staff to create a committee that is a sub-committee of the arena – they do have to be a member of the association and they will have to be elected to be on the committee. * The small stock barn is down, we are moving forward quickly. * Staff needs to talk to MRI to see if they can concentrate on our side of the slag so we will be able to use the grounds when the project is finished.
- V. **Administration Report** - *Cactus paving is using our parking lot to stage in exchange we get chips to use on our excavation project behind show barn. * the box scraper is here and we are using it.
- VI. **Financials** -Discussion was had on the monthly reports. Mr. Drake moved to accept the Financials, Mrs. Rench 2nd the Motion. All in Favor Discussion was held on the new sponsors we got for our barrel race series. We have received \$5,000 grant from Waste Management, \$500 from Farm Bureau Johnna Randall and \$300 from Cornville Mercantile. Our riders can decide if they want to put \$1,000 towards a saddle or towards local business gift cards. We received \$5,000 anonymous donation for our building project.
- VII. **Committee Report** –
 - A) **Livestock:** * Rulebook will be voted on tonight, Fair Dedication was decided, Mr. Livestock committee criteria was discussed and Mandatory Leader meeting was planned.
 - B) **Arena Report:** *Youth Rodeo will be during our Fall Festival. * Doing another barrel race series, * CVGA – Gymkhana is working with us on dates.
 - C) **Rentals** – A weekly farmers market would like to come set up. Discussion on a flat fee vs \$ per booth entered. Security, bathrooms depending on where set up.
 - D) **Grant Updates** - *We have applied for 2 grants from the city of Cottonwood, one for shade and parking lot maintenance.
 - E) **.5 K – Beer Fest** – October 11th - discussion on time of event – from 11 to 3 or from 2 to 6 or 4 to 8. Going to keep it 11 to 3 for this first year. We have offered to our members to man a beer booth to serve beer and promote their business. We will need a lot of volunteers to make this event happen.
- VIII **Old Business**
 - A) **Water Truck update** – None.
 - B) **7th Street Ownership** – When Ms. Mulcaire gets back we will write a letter to the property owners and then to the city if we have buy in from the business owners.
 - C) **Bleachers in Yuma** – Mr. Drake and Mr. Rezzonico will go down and dismantle the bleachers when it gets cooler

IX New Business

- A) **Rulebook Adoption** - Mr. Rice would have liked to see the full livestock committee vote on the changes, not a simple majority, and for the committee to have 11 members so that a minimum of 10 have to vote. Mr. Bolton talked to buyers and leaders – like that tag in for beef to be in the fall so

the exhibitor has a period of time to work with the animal and not let its weight get behind with a shorter time period between tag in and fair. Mrs. Lyons if there is a heifer class, there could be more beef like the old days. Ms. Canedy stated that 5 or 6 years ago did not have enough barn space for beef and that is why breeding when to a show and go, now there is a lot of pen space. Mr. Rice if do heifer will it be better for the kids, we have traditions, would like any change to be for the better of the fair. Also need to get the beef more ready for the sale if they have longer to raise it and learn what works. Mrs. Canedy feels we are not quite ready to add another class (regarding the heifer show) but would like to know why our steer numbers are down in general. Mrs. Bolton all other species are easy to find everywhere but steers/heifers are less available due to availability or miles away. That leads to how many steers exhibitors are able to purchase. Mr. Lyons stated that rules change back and for each year and makes it hard to know what the rules will be for the next year. Mr. Meier stated that they will never get all the boardmembers there for a meeting – in the past 2 years it might have happened once. Mr. Drake asked for the pros and cons of the three items that we are discussing. Ms. Canedy is ok with taking out the 1.75, but keeping the tag in to two days so that exhibitors learn more about their project. Mrs. Bolton stated that 1st year kids struggle with all species on how to feed, how much to feed, how much they gain, it is for sure a learning process. Mr. Drake made the motion on the rule book to scratch one tag in date (so it would stay 2 dates) and keep the 1.75 rate of gain that is currently there and add a heifer division. There was no 2nd to the motion so the motion died. Mr. Bolton made the motion to have 2 tag in dates, take out the 1.75 rate of gain and not add the heifer division. Mr. Drake 2nd the Motion. Mr. Rice asked if we are sending it back to livestock committee and discussion was that the Executive Board would make the decision. Mr. Drake said we are keeping what we currently had at this time except for taking out the 1.75 rate of gain required. Roll Call vote: Mr. Drake Yes, Mrs. Rench Yes, Ms. Canedy No, Mr. Rice Yes, Mr. Bolton Yes. The Motion passes. Mr. Rice made the motion to accept all the other changes proposed by the livestock committee. Mr. Drake 2nd the Motion – all in favor, Motion passed.

- B) **Governors Fund Application:** -We have received the official request for funds and staff will begin working on it.
- C) **Golf Cart** – We need to replace the 6 batteries on the custodian golf cart – Mr. Drake suggested Costco has golf cart batteries
- D) **Excavator** – Mr. Bolton excused himself from the meeting. Mr. Mulcaire is ready to sell the small excavator for \$20,000 to the fairgrounds. Mrs. Rench made the motion to not purchase the equipment, Mr. Rice 2nd the Motion – discussion was if we need something to rent it. All in favor, the motion passed
- E) **ALTA Survey for Utilities** – to start the Master Plan process we need an ALTA survey on the property. Yavapai Title will be the one to do the survey.

XI. Executive Session – None

X. Future Agenda Items- VACTE – do they have students working on electricity, Solor, Donor Packet, Donor Bricks, Donor Program, VV Wine Consortium do they want a new event, Donations on Website, Disconnect to Gyberg, 7th Street Road/Ingress, Kids park – maintain the parking lot, Bleachers in Yuma, Better air handling and HVAC (collapsible duck work).

:XII. Adjournment – 8:07 pm Mr. Drake moved to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Rench seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.