

Verde Valley Fair Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2025
5:30 p.m. - Regular meeting

In attendance: President Beth Canedy, Vice President Steve Drake, Secretary Ginny Rench, Board member Brian Bolton and Director Coleen Gilboy in addition, public Dan Sullivan, Eric Banuelos, Kelcy Lyons, Travis Lyons, Trenton Castro, Robert Meier, Ty Meier, Brandon Sellers and Steve Rench.

Absent: Treasurer Lewis Rice,

- I. **Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Canedy
- II. **Call to Public:** Mrs. Lyons would like some clarity on some items * Superintendent and how they are chosen, * Check in and how animals can enter before time, * Check in at the scale. * Conflict of interest – hard to get volunteers, Parents and leaders – should not be in show ring with children or club members * Club leader that is gainfully employed at fairgrounds could be a conflict of interest. (Since this is not an agenda item, the board can not speak about these items).
- III. **Consent agenda** – Mr. Drake moved to approve the Minutes from June 17, 2025 Regular meeting. Mrs. Rench 2nd the motion. No discussion – all in favor
- IV. **Chairman's Report** - *Nothing at this time.
- V. **Administration Report** - * Donuts were done in the RV camping area, a police report has been filed and we are trespassing them off the property. * We are doing our Governors Fund audit.

We are bringing item #VIII E – Rodeo to the top of the agenda.

VIII Old Business: E Rodeo – Ms. Canedy would like to talk about ways to get “better” riders to the rodeo, in the past couple of years nobody has rode a bull and event other events have not had participants make it to the buzzer. Mr. Lyons stated that the Rodeo is supported by the community, that people come to the fair and spend their money and want to see the Rodeo. There have been issues in the past where he could not get the gate codes and get onto the property. Ms. Canedy stated she does not have the gate code, that security can open gates. Discussion with the board was about raising the gate fee to \$20 on Friday and Saturday to help cover the additional cost of the Rodeo. A suggestion of lower fee in the morning and raising it in the afternoon, the board felt if we are raising the gate fee, do it for all day. A decision does not have to be made tonight but soon so that we can get the information out that the gate fees will be higher. A note that if people buy “pre-sale” tickets they will be able to get in for the \$5 advance price for ANY day so it will hopefully encourage people to pre-buy their gate passes. More discussion about how to improve our Rodeo, to get and retain our volunteers and where we want the Rodeo to look like.

VI. **Financials** -Discussion was had on the monthly reports. Mr. Drake moved to Approve 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 and our riders can decide if they want to put \$1,000 towards a saddle or towards local business gift cards. Also Mrs. Jonna Randal from Farm Bureau has donated \$500 for other winners.

VII. Committee Report –

A) **Livestock:** * Rulebook changes and suggestions were discussed, they will have a final draft to the Executive Board for the August meeting. The Mandatory Leader meeting date has been set for September 9th in the Art building. The theme was decided, dates for beef check in/weigh in was set and the Sheep/Goat/Swine tag in date was set. Out of Town letters are due by September 2nd. The Jr. Livestock Committee will be returning and the S'more night date was set for March 27th.

B) **Arena Report:** *Youth Rodeo will be rescheduled for during our Fall Festival. * Doing another barrel race series, working on sponsorships for that * CVGA – Gymkhana is working with us on dates.

C) **Rentals** – We getting back to our busy selves this fall.

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 not getting the individual breweries due to a lot of Oktoberfest events happening at that time, but we are working with Canyon Distributing to get craft beers to serve and if the brewers can come, that will happen. We will need a lot of volunteers to make this event happen.

VIII Old Business

- A) **Water Truck update** – Spoke with Mr. Robbins and he is working on it but will take awhile.
- B) **Capital Improvements** – The current list of Capital Improvements were handed out. Mrs. Rench, Mr. Rice and Ms Canedy had given their top projects. Staff will concentrate on the small stock barn replacement, rain water retention, doing the improvements for the Auction including TVs and direct cabling, Brush Hog and shade.
- C) **Budget –Final adoption of the budget.** Mr. Drake moved to accept the budget at presented. Mrs. Rench 2nd the Motion. All in favor.
- D) **7th Street Ownership** – Easement - The board would like the names of the owners of the property along 7th Street.
- E) **Rodeo** – discussed above.

IX New Business

- A) **Bleachers in Yuma** - Mr. Drake spoke to Mr. David Rezzonico about going to Yuma to flat pack the bleachers that are left down there. Staff has spoken to Yuma that we will come down when it is cooler. Mr. Shill is aware that we are trying to get the bleachers broke down to make hauling easier.

XI. Executive Session – At 7:14 Mr. Drake moved to go into Executive Session. At 7:28 the Board came back from Executive Session.

Mr. Drake moved to approve the staff salaries that were discussed in Executive Session. Mrs. Rench 2nd the Motion. All in favor. The Board President signed the raise sheet and will get to staff to make the changes.

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 – 7:29 pm Mr. Bolton moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Drake seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.