

Verde Valley Fair Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of September 16, 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 and Director Coleen Gilboy in addition, public Dan Sullivan, Eric Banuelos, Kelcy Lyons, Travis Lyons, Trenton Castro, Robert Meier, Jessica Bolton, Delaney Fimbres, Rafael Fimbres, Gretchen Groseta, McKenzie Banuelos, David Welch, Katy Welch and Steve Rench.

Absent: None

- I. **Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by President Canedy
- II. **Call to Public:** None
- III. **Consent agenda** – Mrs. Rench moved to approve the Minutes from August 19, 2025 Regular meeting. Mr. Rice 2nd the motion. No discussion – all in favor
- IV. **Chairman's Report** - *Would like everyone to treat everyone better – everyone on a board or committee is a volunteer and it takes everyone to make the fair happen. * We have a great livestock committee and Executive Board and we want to keep things rolling. There was an incident in the barn on Sunday morning of fair and we are just finding out about it now, Ms. Canedy is very disappointed in this leaders actions. * More kindness needs to be shown and again Ms. Canedy believes in this livestock committee.
- V. **Administration Report** - *VACTE has started on the decorative wall. * Small Stock barn is down, * Trying to get bids on getting a Master Plan done for the whole property.
- VI. **Financials** -Discussion was had on the monthly reports. Mr. Drake moved to accept the Financials, Mr. Bolton 2nd the Motion. All in Favor The annual Audit done by the accounting firm is done and is available for members to review if wanted.
- VII. **Committee Report** –
 - A) **Livestock:** * Mandatory meeting was held last week, one club was not allowed due to late notification of wanting to do a new club. *Dates were reviewed, and new rulebook was discussed.
 - B) **Arena Report:** *Youth Rodeo will be during our Fall Festival. * Doing another barrel race series, * CVGA – Gymkhana is set up with dates each month.
 - C) **Rentals** The weekly farmers market is going to the Catholic Church parking lot
 - D) **Grant Updates** - *We have applied for a grant for rainwater run off from the Friends of the Verde River.
 - E) **.5 K – Beer Fest** – October 11th - everyone is excited for the event

VIII Old Business

- A) **Water Truck update** – Moving forward.
- 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) **Appeal of New Club – Denied by livestock Committee** - Mrs. Delaney Fimbres read a statement about the new club they would like to form. It would be called the VV Wranglers. Mrs. Fimbres has had a long standing connection to the fair. Recap of livestock committee meeting. Mrs. Fimbres stated there are 12 potential exhibitors what would like to join. Mrs. Gretchen Groseta stated that the decision by the livestock committee was not done lightly, the students have been in other clubs Mr. Robert Meier stated that more time was needed between the time the club asked to join and a decision had to be made. Mrs. McKenzie Mulcaire stated that the rulebook leaves room for interpretation, and does not limit exhibitors who want to join. Mrs. Kelcy Lyons sees the

denying of a new club as limiting volunteers. People who live in the Verde Valley get to choose where they send their kids to school, similarly parents can decide which club to send their kids to. Mrs. Lyons would like to decide which club is best for her kids. If this new club is not approved Mrs. Lyons is concerned that come kids might not be involved with the options that are available. Mrs. Lyons has grown up here and involved in the fair for many years. The new club would focus on record keeping, financials, education's piece are all planned for the new club. Ms. Canedy stated that at the Livestock Committee meeting there was an option to speak up and get changes made, but no one spoke up. Mrs. Lyons stated it felt like it was for the committee members to comment not the public. Mr. Bolton asked if kids did not get serviced in 2025 why did everyone wait until August to request a new club. Mr. Rice asked about insurance for the new club. Mrs. Lyons has looked into insurance for a new club, but has not purchased a plan until the new club gets approved. Ms. Canedy asked what volunteer work have the new club leaders done in the past year for any club before starting a new club. Mrs. Fimbres has offered to help with PALS but sometimes can not get an answer. There was discussion among the Executive Board, that currently there are 10 clubs of all ages and open to what schools or area of town. Mr. Travis Lyons stated that the rulebook was not approved until the August Meeting so did not know what rules would be changed. Mr. Groseta stated that the rulebook has been on the agenda for a few months and club changes was not on the list for any changes. Ms. Canedy made the Motion to uphold the livestock Committee decision to deny the new club. Mrs. Ginny Rensch 2nd the motion. There was 4 yes' and Mr. Steve Drake abstained. Motion passed. Ms. Canedy would like to send "Guidelines for clubs" back to the Livestock to make rules and if there is a deadline to request a new club to state it in the rulebook.

Ms. Canedy would also like to know about doing background checks and fingerprinting for leaders, volunteers, committee members, board members. What do other fairs do, what do they require or allow at other fairs and what does the Attorney feel about this. Mr. Fimbres asked if we lose volunteers due to doing background checks are we doing the opposite of trying to get more volunteers.

- B) **Club Guidelines/rules to add clubs** -The Livestock Committee will need to come up with these guidelines.
- C) **Golf Cart** – We need to replace the 6 batteries on the custodian golf cart – Mr. Drake suggested Costco has golf cart batteries
- D) **Change Student Worker hourly wage** – Mrs. Gilboy would like to request that the board approve a mid year adjustment, she has been more than just a student worker like when hired. She is extremely responsible, works in the office, helps with welding, here at 6 am for a water leak, not your typical youth employee. Mrs. Gilboy would like to give her a raise to \$16 (this way when the Arizona minimum wage changes in January we will not have to come back for another adjustment). Mr. Drake moved to increase her wages to \$16 off the recommendation of Director, Mrs. Rensch 2nd the motion. Mr. Rice abstained, Rest of board voted yes. Motion carried.

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 – 6:57 pm Mr. Drake moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Bolton seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.