

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EL DORADO COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC
Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

PRESENT: Forni-Feathers, Jones, Whitaker, Carter, Bloxsom, Williams, Warden, Pitts-Garcia, Sanders and White

MANAGER: Kathy Dunkak

OTHERS: Amanda Koch and Robin Cleveland

EXCUSED: Kobervig

1. Call to Order at 4:30 pm

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call
- C. Record verification of legal meeting notice. White authenticated the verification.
- D. Determine Quorum. White determined that the quorum requirements were met.

2. Approve Agenda, Previous Minutes, Consent Items, and Correspondence items:

Warden moved that these items be approved. Whitaker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Public Forum: None

4. Ad Hoc Committee Chair Reports (Organ, Adopt-a-Spot)

Organ: Email from Historical Society after meeting with Kit, Jacob, and organ tech (EDCFA attendees: Jones and White) was shared with Board. Board directed Dunkak to reach out to Organ Specialist in Benicia to find out if he feels the Organ can ever be made playable, and what the chances are of the Organ being dismantled and re-assembled in another location.

Carter – what is our financial commitment in restoration of the organ room? Dunkak – the project would be done in phases; the first phase would be removing existing pegboard, repainting, replacing or updating existing swamp coolers and heaters. The second phase would be adding a “family style” restroom and kitchenette. The plumbing for both would need to be done by a contractor. We have an estimated budget of \$150k.

Adopt-a-Spot: Sanders has been working on untended areas throughout the fairgrounds. Home Depot is being a great sponsor and providing us with “unsellable” plants and donated other items such as irrigation. She fixed Gay’s irrigation and cleaned up abandoned-looking spots. Facilities built an Arbor in the Marshall Building “island”.

Solar: Dee has been working on it (reported by Dunkak).

Opening Ceremony: Explorers are set for the opening ceremony and auction. They’ll post colors by the front gate; Gordon Vicini’s fire truck will drive around; Roses will cut ribbon; Miss EDC Teens will sing the National Anthem after colors are posted. Board picture will be taken in front of the Old Hangtown Saloon.

VIP Dinner: starts at 5:30. Whitaker loading up beer, water, ice at the bar. Setup done by 5:30. Dinner served at 6:00 pm served by Sierra Chaplains. Tri-tip, chicken, baked beans, roll, salad, and watermelon. Hot dogs for the kids. Dunkak to make announcement at 5:55. Have headcount through RSVP emails.

Old Business: Directors to sign up for fair volunteering.

5. New Business: None

6. Manager's Report

Poll to see if concealed weapons should be allowed at the Sheriff’s CCW Awareness event in August. Current policy is no weapons on grounds unless law enforcement. Does the Board want to allow CCWs to attend this event? Polled: Whitaker, Carter, Forni-Feathers, Warden, White, Pitts-Garcia, Williams, Sanders, Bloxsom all say yes. Fair Management has approved a one-time allowance of CCWs to attend the CCW event on the grounds, August 8, 2026.

Financial Review was completed; no issues.

Implemented the new Tent/Pop-up policy in the livestock area for the fairs; for the most part, it has been well received. This way, the kids all do their animal fitting together, helping and learning from each other. The overall appearance will be significantly improved.

Regarding rumors, last year we started conducting Steer safety checks at the end of April to ensure the kids can control their animals. This year, 3 kids failed the safety check. We gave them an additional 30 days to work with their animal. On May 30th, we did the 2nd check; same results. Their leader was unhappy with the decision and strongly advocated for the kids, stating that the kids could handle their animals just fine at home. The point is they need to be able to handle it in a fair setting (we had other steers at both checks to make it “fair-like”). Dunkak declined to change the decision for safety purposes.

A few kids were disqualified from participating in the livestock program due to bad grades and asked to switch from their group (4H, FFA, Grange) to Independent. This violates both our rules and the state rules so they were denied. One mom is calling the superintendent of schools to protest.

El Dorado County Fire Protection District increased our annual contract by over \$3500, so they could have an “Incident Command” at the fair. Reached out to Jason Bloxsom and Brian Veerkamp, ended up meeting with the new Captain (Gates) and another captain and member of their board, along with Jason, Sue Phillips, and Brian Veerkamp. After some back-and-forth, the contract was slightly reduced from \$10,940 to \$ 8,151. (2025 & 2024 \$7550, 2023 \$6,550, 2022 \$6,164). Dunkak also asked that they not bill fair attendees for services performed on the fairgrounds (ambulance

transport is different, and every rider is billed).

Brian Veerkamp is going to request \$5,000 from discretionary funds to put towards the 4th of July fireworks show. The city of Placerville printed our 4th of July info in their Parks and Recs book.

Received a bill from the City of Placerville for sewer in the amount of \$ 5987, which is about \$4,787 more than normal for this time period. City said we must have had a leak, yet the EID bill does not reflect the amount of water we purchased going into the sewer.

We are changing our payroll software from QuickBooks to Gusto and are in the process now. QuickBooks will no longer allow owners to calculate payroll tax deposits; they cannot calculate our payroll properly, as we have some employees on CalPERS and some are temporary.

Taylor left on 5/28 to have her baby; Kathy Barry will be helping us in the office prior to the fair.

7. Treasurer's Report

\$5,000 – replaced one side of Armory Gate. Someone got locked out and broke the gate on the way back in. We took responsibility because it shouldn't have been locked, as there were campers on the grounds.

KW Cages – ordered new custom rabbit cages for the fair; Heritage Foundation will reimburse.

Advertising – KNCI Radio, Folsom Telegraph, Granite Bay plus local publications.

8. Directors To/From:

Blossom: Plenty of EDSO staff controlling the gates. Using the What's Up app to notify people about missing children. Hope to not have to close exit gates during a "Code Adam" (lost child). When we do shut down, only those without children will be able to leave. After hours, barn managers will be notified if someone is in the barns. Security will be at Livestock Gate and have radios. Signs will be posted at the Livestock gate for hand-stamping if they go out without a Livestock wristband. Drones with facial recognition will be present.

Williams: Parking? Parking passes will be given out at VIP night.

Pitts-Garcia: Was with Big Brothers Big Sisters, now with M.O.R.E. and Director of Miss EDC.

Warden: – Auction committee painted auction barn. The auction committee would like LED light bulbs, but they're not in our budget.

Forni-Feathers: A few years ago, we discussed getting a landscaping company to come in 2 weeks before the fair to go over the entire grounds; it might be beneficial. Trimming hedges, etc. Dunkak to look into. Could get someone to sponsor. In the future, build it into the budget. Facilities take care of year-round issues but run out of time before fair. Forni-Feathers and Sanders to send off list of suggestions to Kathy.

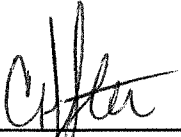
Jones: Pig barn is setup, getting some pushback about tents. He explained to people that it's security issues and multiple other things. People are frazzled about the process. He noticed that there are a lot of people that don't understand how fair works.

Carter: Saw tents at another fair that were really nice but may be too much of an install. TentandTable.com

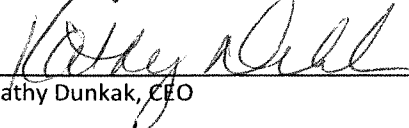
9. Closed Session (Property Negotiations)

Nothing to report.

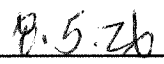
Board Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 pm.



Cheri White, Vice President



Kathy Dunkak, CEO



Date



Date