

**The California Mid-State Fair  
Heritage Foundation, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

August 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Torgerson.

**BODs Present:** Susan Beebe, Mike Coon, Joanne Cummings, Debbie Dusi, Brenda Fletcher, Daren Friedle, Patricia Lawrence, Deana Nelson, Michael Torgerson

**BODs Absent:** Dave Belmont, Branden Blanke, John Peschong, Ross Tenhaeff

**Members/Guests:** Steve Baker, Jason Baron, Ricky Brown, Kathy Campbell-Dahl, Deb Chenier, Michael Cipriano, JD Cronin, Chuck Fletcher, Ed Hale, Jim Mulhall, Steven Nakamoto, Susie Torgerson, Nancy Wheeler-Nichols

**Approval of Agenda:** Brenda Fletcher made a motion to approve the agenda. Deana Nelson made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Joanne Cummings motioned to approve the June 12, 2024, minutes. Daren Friedle made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Announcements/Introductions/Member Comments:**

Chairman Torgerson asked the guests to introduce themselves.

**Financial Report:**

A. Financials

The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements were distributed to the Board for the period January 1 – August 14, 2024.

Deana Nelson indicated she would move the \$50.00 donation for the Hugh Pitts Memorial Fund to the CD at American Riveria Bank. Deana noted that she had not received all the invoices from concessions, and the final numbers should be available at the September meeting.

Daren Friedle made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports as submitted. Brenda Fletcher made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

The list of checks written since the last meeting was presented. After some discussion, Susan Beebe made a motion to ratify the checks written. Daren Friedle made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Currently, there are no unpaid bills.

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**Board Business:**

- A. Standard Committees
  1. Executive Committee – Michael Torgerson stated that the Committee did not meet.
  2. Budget/Audit/Endowment – Daren Friedle – no report.
  3. By-Laws – John Peschong – no report.
  4. Concessions – Dave Belmont – no report.
  5. Elections - Debbie Dusi reported that 7 Board members were up for re-election. Debbie further explained that John Peschong and Brenda Fletcher were up for re-election and are currently on the Election Committee. After some discussion, Debbie Dusi motioned to appoint Denise Stornetta to the Election Committee. Mike Coon made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board asked that the forms and suggested dates be presented and discussed at the September meeting.
  6. Facilities – Ross Tenhaeff – no report.
  7. Media/Marketing – Susan Beebe – no report.
  8. Membership – Brenda Fletcher asked that the waitlist information be removed from the Heritage Foundation Web Page. Brenda indicated that the pick-up party was successful and much smoother without tickets in the packets. In addition, the pizza was a big hit. Several new members volunteered at the event. Ticket sales overall went well, and Brenda thanked the Fair staff for their hard work. Brenda also indicated the closing date for Heritage memberships will be April 1, 2025. Brenda reported to the Board that the Membership Committee is working on policies and the waitlist. Brenda also indicated that November 2024 is the Annual Membership meeting. Michael Torgerson asked that it be put on the September Agenda.
  9. Balcony – Mike Coon reported some members had printout problems with the new electronic ticket process this year. Currently, there are 65 on the waitlist, with 6 from 2018. Mike indicated he is looking into a new plexiglass that might be available to replace the current barrier. This would help with the vision for those seated in the front row.
  10. Scholarship – Joanne Cummings reported she spoke with Katie at the Farm Bureau. Katie indicated 6 to 7 had applied for scholarships with 2 being awarded.
- B. Special Committees:
  1. Hugh Pitts Memorial Fund Capital Project – Dave Belmont – no report.
  2. Legal Task Force – Michael Torgerson – no report.
  3. Capital Improvements – Deana Nelson – no report.

**Old Business:**

- A.
- B.

**New Business:**

- A. Fair Wrap-Up – Brenda Fletcher stated she had made some notes regarding areas we can improve for next year's Fair. Brenda explained that the Membership Committee is looking at the Code of Conduct being redone as a more stand-alone form. Michael Torgerson thanked Brett Butterfield and his staff for their hard work.
- B. CMSF Board of Directors Liaison Update – Nancy Wheeler-Nichols reported the Fair numbers were up overall, with the carnival up 2%. The auction was down this year, but the Industrial Arts sale did well.
- C. Fair Update – Ricky Brown stated the press release went out indicating the overall success of the 2024 Fair. Although the first part of the Fair was hot weather -, attendance numbers were up overall. Livestock auction numbers will go up as add-ons are posted. Ricky further reported that the new front gates helped with the flow of guests entering the Fair. In addition, this was SLO Safe Ride's

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first year providing transportation. All went well with riders reporting that drivers were friendly and helpful. In conclusion, Ricky reported the dates for the 2025 Fair were July 16-27, 2025.

### **Board Comments:**

Patricia Lawrence indicated she was left off the June 12, 2024, minutes. After some discussion, Susan Beebe made a motion to add Patricia Lawrence under BODS Present. Joanne Cummings made a second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mike Coon stated he was happy that we did not eliminate guests during the rodeo.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debbie Dusi  
Secretary

***The Next Regular Board Meeting:  
August 14, 2024***