

In the Matter Of:

O.C.FAIR & EVENT CENTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 28, 2021

Case No:

CERTIFIED COPY

32ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
ORANGE COUNTY FAIR & EVENT CENTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021 9:00 A.M.

CERTIFIED COPY

MEETING HELD

VIA ZOOM

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Stenographically Reported by:
Kathryn S. Swank
California Certified Shorthand Reporter #13061
Registered Professional Reporter



1	APPEARANCES
2	BOARD OF DIRECTORS
3	NATALIE RUBALCAVA-GARCIA Chairperson
4	DOUG LA BELLE
5	Vice Chairperson
6	SANDRA CERVANTES
7	ASHLEIGH AITKEN
8	BARBARA BAGNERIS
9	NEWTON PHAM
10	NICK KOVACEVICH
11	MELAHAT RAFIEI
12	ROBERT RUIZ
13	000
14	STAFF
15	MICHELE RICHARDS Chief Executive Officer
16	
17	KEN KARNS Chief Operating Officer
18	SUMMER ANGUS
19	Meeting Secretary Executive Assistant
20	JOAN HAMILL Chief Business Development Officer
21	000
22	BOARD COUNSEL
23	JOSH CAPLAN
24	Deputy Attorney General
25	000



1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED
2	PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS
3	LEIGH-ANN KAZOLAS
4	REGGIE MUNDEKIS
5	THERESA SEARS
6	KIM STANFORD
7	GIBRAN STOUT
8	000
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1	Thursday, October 28, 2021, 9:00 A.M.
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5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Good morning,
6	everybody. Welcome to the October Board of Directors
7	meeting. My final meeting as Chair. So I just want to
8	welcome everybody today.
9	I also want to remind everybody just some
10	housekeeping items. If you can keep your Zoom room on
11	mute, unless you are called on for public comment, that
12	would be fantastic.
13	And then, Board Members, if you are addressing
14	the meeting, please state your name. We have a new
15	court reporter with us today and we just want to make
16	sure that she captures all comments accurately.
17	So I'm going to go ahead and call this meeting
18	to order. All matters noticed on this agenda in any
19	category may be considered for action as listed. Any
20	item not so noticed may not be considered. Items listed
21	on this agenda may be considered in any order at the
22	discretion of the Chairperson.
23	The mission of the Orange County Fair & Event
24	Center is celebration of Orange County's communities,
25	 interest, agriculture, and heritage, with results

1	justifying resources expended.
2	At this time I would like to ask Board Director
3	Cervantes if she would lead us in the Pledge of
4	Allegiance.
5	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Absolutely.
6	Okay. Ready? Begin.
7	(Pledge of Allegiance was recited
8	in unison.)
9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
10	Director Cervantes.
11	Summer, can you please take roll call.
12	SECRETARY ANGUS: My pleasure.
13	Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Present.
15	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Present.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
18	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Present.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
20	(No response.)
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
22	(No response.)
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
24	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Present.
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Pham.

1	(No response.)
2	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
3	(No response.)
4	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
5	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Present.
6	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
8	Summer.
9	And just for the record, there are a couple of
10	board members who are joining late: Director Bagneris,
11	Director Ruiz, and Director Kovacevich. And we will
12	take roll call once again when they join.
13	I'm going to go ahead and move on to Agenda
14	Item 5, meeting minutes.
15	Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from
16	the following meetings? We're going to keep them all at
17	once.
18	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Sandra Cervantes. I so
19	move that we approve the minutes.
20	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Director Rafiei. I second.
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
22	Summer, can I get a roll call, please.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.



1	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
2	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
3	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
4	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
5	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
6	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
7	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
8	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
10	Agenda Item 6, matters of public comment.
11	Public comment is oh, before I read this, I also want
12	to mention, if you would like to give public comment,
13	please send a message to Summer. She is going to
14	collect that information and call on you when
15	appropriate.
16	Matters of public comment. Public comment is
17	allowed on issues not on the current agenda. However,
18	no debate by the Board shall be permitted on such public
19	comments, and no action will be taken on such public
20	comment items at this time, as law requires formal
21	public notice prior to any action on a docket item.
22	Speakers are requested to sign in prior to the
23	start of the meeting and are limited to three minutes.
24	Comments will be accepted on agenda items during the
25	meeting. Speakers wishing to address the Board on items

1	on the agenda are requested to sign in prior to the
2	start of the meeting and identify the agenda items on
3	which you desire to address the Board. Speakers are
4	limited to three minutes.
5	Summer, at this time, do we have any public
6	comment?
7	SECRETARY ANGUS: I don't have anybody that has
8	messaged me in the chat. However, Reggie Mundekis does
9	have her hand raised.
10	MS. MUNDEKIS: Hi. This is Reggie,
11	R-E-G-G-I-E, Mundekis, M-U-N-D-E-K-I-S.
12	And thank you, Summer, for recognizing me with
13	my hand raised on Zoom.
14	My chat is not working. I can see what Summer
15	is typing back, but I can't reply. And I get a message
16	saying chat is disabled. So that's why I wanted to let
17	you know.
18	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay. Perfect. Thank you so
19	much. Thank you so much, Reggie.
20	MS. MUNDEKIS: That's all I needed to tell you
21	under this.
22	SECRETARY ANGUS: Perfect. Thank you so much.
23	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. We have
24	another person with their hand up as well. "Kims."
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Kim or Kim S. If you

1	MS. STANFORD: Yes. I was going to say the
2	same thing: My chat was disabled. But Reggie already
3	informed you, so I appreciate it being set back up.
4	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay.
5	MS. STANFORD: Thank you.
6	SECRETARY ANGUS: Would anybody like to make
7	general public comment at this time for items not on the
8	agenda?
9	MS. STANFORD: That's what I will send in the
LO	chat.
L1	SECRETARY ANGUS: All right. Thank you.
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: I'm going to
L3	give about another few seconds for that.
L4	And, Summer, just let me know if you receive
L5	any for general public comment.
L6	SECRETARY ANGUS: Gibran Stout. Okay. It
L7	doesn't look like for general public comment. It all
L8	looks for agenda items so far.
L9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Great.
20	Thank you. I'm going to go ahead and move on
21	to Agenda Item 7, the consent calendar.
22	All matters listed under consent calendar are
23	optional matters about which the Board has governing
24	policies, implementation of which is delegated to the
25	CEO. They will be enacted in one motion. There will be

13

1	no discussion of these items prior to the time the Board
2	of Directors votes on the motion, unless members of the
3	Board, staff, or public request specific items to be
4	discussed separately and/or removed from this section.
5	Any member of the public who wishes to discuss
6	consent calendar items shall notify the Chair of the
7	Board at the time requested and be recognized by
8	invitation of the Chair to address the Board.
9	Does anybody want to pull any consent calendar
LO	items?
L1	MS. RICHARDS: Yes, Madam Chair.
L2	Staff would like to pull, under rental
L3	agreements, R-084-21. That's for a previously scheduled
L4	November 27th and 28th Crossroads of the West Gun Show.
L5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
L6	Michele.
L7	Any questions or comments before I ask for a
L8	motion?
L9	SECRETARY ANGUS: I do have public comment on
20	this item.
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Great. Let's go
22	ahead and take public comment on this item.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay. Kim S., when you are
24	ready.
25	MS. STANFORD: Hi, good morning. Thank you for

1	allowing me to speak. My name is Kim Stanford. I'm a
2	member over here at the Equestrian Center and I'm the
3	owner and operator of Moonstone Riding Academy. I just
4	wanted to start out saying thank you to the Board for
5	all their hard work that they have been able to flex and
6	pivot during this time of our community returning back
7	to activities. It is so important to be able to provide
8	these services to the community and the public.
9	I also wanted to share that our Equestrian
10	Center is starting to burst at the seams again with the
11	services it provides. The owners here, of the horses,
12	are part of the community and the public, and we are at
13	full capacity and we actually have a waiting list again,
14	which is awesome, especially after COVID. And it's
15	really great to express that we survived during that
16	time, where so many other communities were at the you
17	know, basically had to close their doors during that
18	time.
19	So some of the services that are going on here
20	right now is, the nonprofits on site are providing huge
21	services for a lot of the kids in the community, who
22	desperately need to get back to having outdoor
23	experiences. And a lot of these are being provided at
24	no charge.
25	And then also our riding academies are at full

1	capacity and have been for many months.
2	And we, just past weekend, had a Halloween
3	event that was very successful. Many of the local
4	people from the community nearby came out to visit and
5	to witness the fun that we were sharing here. Even
6	seniors at the local assisted living came on out, and
7	they love coming here. They love getting out and seeing
8	everything happening, the laughs and the giggles.
9	And then even just yesterday, I was in the
10	restroom, and there was a mother here with some
11	children, and I started to open up the conversation with
12	her and I said, you know, "Are you guys here to
13	participate in some activities?"
14	And she said, "No. We come weekly in the
15	morning, just to walk around and see the horses and to
16	visit."
17	And I said, "Wow, that's really nice."
18	And she says, "Yeah, we take it as an
19	experience like it's an extension of the park across the
20	street."
21	So I just wanted to say that we're doing great
22	over here. The services here that we provide are
23	awesome for the public and the community and our doors
24	are wide open and we want everybody to come over.
25	So thank you for letting me speak, and I'm

1	looking forward to hearing the rest of the meeting.
2	Thank you.
3	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
4	I do not have any more consent calendar items.
5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
6	Summer.
7	I'm going to go ahead and bring it back to the
8	Board for discussion.
9	Hearing that there's no discussion, can I get a
10	motion or, Doug, did you have something to add?
11	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: I was just going to
12	move the consent calendar. And I presume that Michele
13	is going to make some comments about the item that she
14	pulled. But I move the consent calendar absent that one
15	item.
16	DIRECTOR AITKEN: I second. This is Director
17	Aitken.
18	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Perfect.
19	Go ahead. Summer, can I get a roll call,
20	please, on this motion.
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. Just to clarify, that
22	was a motion with with the gun show item pulled,
23	correct?
24	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Correct.
25	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: And, Doug, do

17

1	you want to pull it or just to vote on it separately
2	or would you like to hear Michele's comments first?
3	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: I would like to
4	vote on it separately, but I would like to hear
5	Michele's comments first.
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. So let's
7	go ahead and take this motion. And, Summer, can you
8	please take roll call.
9	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
12	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
13	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
14	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
15	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
16	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
18	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
21	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to
22	Michele on this agenda item. And I think that General
23	Counsel also has some comments to make on this item.
24	MS. RICHARDS: Okay. As we we have done for
25	the last two years, we highlight the Crossroads of the

18

1	West Gun Show contracts on the consent calendar because
2	they are of interest to the Board and much discussion.
3	This particular gun show was prebooked earlier
4	in the year. The contract was in the works when SB 264
5	was passed and signed into law. That law goes into
6	effect January 1st of 2022, but this show would take
7	place November 27th and 28th, before that the bill
8	is is in place.
9	So I just raise it as a matter of discussion
10	for the Board.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia,
12	just for the record, Director Ruiz has joined the
13	meeting.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Perfect.
15	Can we go ahead and get roll call now that
16	Robert has joined, please.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Sure.
18	Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
19	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Present.
20	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
21	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Present.
22	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
23	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Present.
24	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
25	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Present.

1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
2	(No response.)
3	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
4	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Present.
5	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Pham.
6	(No response.)
7	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
8	(No response.)
9	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
10	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Here.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
12	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
13	Summer.
14	And just to get you caught up, Director Ruiz,
15	we have approved the consent calendar with one pulled
16	item, and it is the November gun show. And Michele just
17	briefed the Board on how this item has been pulled for
18	the past two years, just to give the Board a heads-up.
19	And the I'm turning it over now to the Board for
20	discussion.
21	Any comments or questions on this item?
22	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes, Chair. This
23	is Director La Belle.
24	I just wanted to express my continuing concerns
25	over the sale of ghost gun parts at the Crossroads gun

20

1	show, and I know that they are currently legal in the
2	state of California. At some point in time I think
3	it's 2024 the law will change and modify that.
4	There was a recent article in the "Los Angeles
5	Times" I believe it was October 18th and the City
б	of L.A. has significant concerns over the proliferation
7	of ghost guns. The article mentioned that there have
8	been 24 killings this year alone due to ghost guns.
9	There have been, I think, a hundred violent crimes that
10	are directly related to that.
11	And the problem with the ghost guns is, there's
12	no way of tracking them, as with regular weapons. So
13	once they are in service, so to speak, it's impossible
14	to trace them back to any particular individual, as you
15	can with regular weapons under the law. And the article
16	from the LAPD indicates that I think there's been a
17	400 percent increase since 2017.
18	So I just wanted to state that for the record.
19	I don't know if the Crossroads operator is
20	going to make ghost guns and their parts available as a
21	part of the their proposed gun show in November.
22	But, again, I just wanted to get this on the record and
23	express my continuing concerns with that.
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, Doug.
25	Michele, how long has this gun show been on the

1	calendar for?
2	MS. RICHARDS: Historically, because this
3	particular promoter has been with us for many years,
4	30-plus years, they book their their shows, projected
5	shows, on an annual basis. So this particular date has
6	been on the calendar since the beginning of 2021.
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: So they have
8	already been they are kind of far down the road,
9	planning, securing sheriffs, and all of the things that
10	they do in order to host the show.
11	And we know that the legislation was signed by
12	the governor. So, you know, in 2022, there will be no
13	gun shows on the fairgrounds.
14	So I'm going to I want to go ahead and turn
15	it over to Josh Caplan. Josh, any words of wisdom for
16	the Board before we take a vote on this item?
17	MR. CAPLAN: No. I don't have any specific
18	direction for the Board. I mean, the the show that
19	Crossroads would put on under this contract, there's a
20	provision on the agreement that it would comply with
21	local, state, and federal law. And there's certainly
22	people on the ground, on the Crossroads side and also on
23	the district's side I'm guessing also the Bureau of
24	Firearms is there to make sure that all laws are
25	complied with.

1	And so, like any other event and any other
2	vendor, Crossroads is required to comply with the law.
3	But short of that, I don't have any anything else to
4	add.
5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. And
6	Director La Belle, are you making a motion or are you
7	just making a comment?
8	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: I make a motion to
9	approve the Crossroads Gun Show for November. I just
10	wanted to get my comments about ghost guns into the
11	record. So I would I would so move that we move
12	forward in November with that.
13	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Second.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Your comments
15	are noted for the record.
16	Director Ruiz, are you seconding his motion? I
17	believe we had a second from Director Ruiz.
18	Summer, can you please take roll call.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
22	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
24	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.

1	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
2	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
3	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Abstain.
4	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
5	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Abstain.
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: So it looks like
7	our motion failed on the floor.
8	At this point so we don't have another
9	meeting until November.
10	Josh, any direction for the Board?
11	MR. CAPLAN: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia, what
12	was can someone read back what the vote count was;
13	how many members voted and how each member voted.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: I think three or
15	four people voted yes and two abstained.
16	MS. RICHARDS: The motion passed.
17	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Perfect.
18	Thank you.
19	I have not had enough coffee, everybody, but
20	thank you for your ability to count and I lacked mine.
21	So that motion passed.
22	I'm going to go ahead and move on to Agenda
23	Item 8, the governance process. Agenda Item 8A is
24	discussion and vote on the Facilities Committee's
25	recommendation to look at a 12-month standard agreement

1	with the Equestrian Center.
2	And just to kind of give a background for those
3	who may not have been here or don't remember, I asked
4	the Facilities Committee to work with the Equestrian
5	Center and the operator there.
6	We have had a contract that has been expired
7	for, I think, eight years now, and it was important for
8	us to get something in writing and in place so that we
9	can actually work with our operator more effectively.
10	So I'm going to go ahead and turn this over to
11	the Facilities Committee. Director Ruiz and Director
12	Aitken.
13	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Hi. Good morning. Thank you,
14	Madam Chair.
15	Yes. At the June meeting, like you stated, you
16	had given us direction Director Aitken and I to
17	look into this LOU. And we met in mid-September with
18	the operator along with the staff and we had a great
19	meeting. We actually discussed a lot of important
20	topics and issues in regards to the LOU.
21	So after, you know, a thorough review of the
22	current LOU, the Facilities Committee is wanting to
23	entertain a recommendation to enter into a 12-month
24	standard agreement with the current operator.
25	I believe the current agreement that's in place

25

1	now, that was reviewed and finalized, I think it's a
2	great agreement that will work for both parties,
3	including us here at the fairgrounds.
4	So with that, we are entertaining this
5	recommendation to go ahead and approve get approval
6	from the Board and then come back in the month of
7	November for approval of that LOU.
8	So with that, that's going to be my report.
9	Director Aitken, are you good with that report?
10	Do you have anything else to add?
11	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yeah. Just for the benefit
12	of some of the newer board members, the contract for
13	we have had an agreement in place for the last eight
14	years. It's just been month to month, and some of the
15	terms in it are no longer relevant to what goes on at
16	the property. So we were just asking to go from month
17	to month, in our current agreement, to a year.
18	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Thank you.
19	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
20	Director Ruiz, for your report. Thank you, Director
21	Aitken, for that follow-up.
22	Do we have any public comment on this item?
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: We do.
24	Gibran Stout followed by Reggie Mundekis.
25	Gibran, when you are ready. Gibran, are you

1	there?
2	She's connecting to audio. We'll give it a
3	minute. Gibran, are you there?
4	I'm going to go ahead and take Reggie Mundekis
5	first. Reggie, when you are ready.
6	MS. MUNDEKIS: Hi, good morning. Reggie
7	Mundekis. Thank you for this opportunity to address you
8	this morning.
9	I just want to make sure that we're clear that
10	this is a 12-month temporary contract. It's being done
11	as a courtesy. And that there will be an RFP and a
12	contract within 12 months or sooner, and that this
13	contract in no way will be extended past 12 months to
14	allow the current operator to continue their services.
15	In the new RFP and eventual contract, we need
16	to look at issues such as animal welfare and the welfare
17	of the students at the Equestrian Center. We need to
18	become best of breed in animal welfare practices and
19	facilities. We also need to become best in breed
20	regarding the treatment of the youth, which means
21	anybody 18 or under, at the facility.
22	There is a problem with abuse, both physical,
23	mental, and sexual abuse in the equestrian sports
24	community, and we need to be a leader in making sure
25	that we educate everybody that those behaviors are not

1	acceptable at this facility.
2	We also need to have true public programming,
3	meaning it's programming that you don't need to know
4	someone to get into or to find out about. And also
5	programming where you don't have to work in exchange for
6	being allowed to ride a horse.
7	We also need to address the issues regarding
8	the revenue situation. When you look at the numbers in
9	the cold, hard daylight, the district receives less
10	revenue in one year from the Equestrian Center than they
11	do from some of the shows coming in give us over one
12	weekend.
13	So thank you. And I also look forward to an
14	update on what repairs are being made at the Equestrian
15	Center. The infrastructure analysis done by a licensed
16	engineering firm asked that further structural analysis
17	be done on some of the buildings, because the current
18	operator has not kept up the maintenance. So we need to
19	have a report on what is being done to fix State-owned
20	facilities.
21	Thank you.
22	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you, Reggie.
23	Gibran Stout, are you there?
24	MS. STOUT: I think so. So can you hear me?
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. Go right ahead, please.

1	MS. STOUT: Yeah. Thank you.
2	Okay. I wanted to start off by letting you
3	know how excited we are, as daily users, about this
4	project moving forward. We realize that managing a
5	facility for responsible for live animals in a busy
6	urban center is truly complicated.
7	Reggie actually raises some really great
8	points, but there is tons of public programming that is
9	open to everybody. You don't have to know anybody. All
10	you have to do is do a Google search to find the
11	programs. Of course that can be improved.
12	But what I'm saying to you today is, as a
13	member of the public of the public and a real estate
14	professional, after extensive review of countless
15	reports, contracts, from our facility, as well as other
16	public boarding facilities in Orange County. And it's
17	for this reason that I ask that the committee please
18	take special note of a few areas that are critical to
19	the safety and welfare of the public users, and request
20	that you please include four areas in the new 12-month
21	LOU stopgap contract, as well as any future RFP.
22	And I will e-mail to the committee specifics on
23	suggestions. But these four areas are:
24	1. Communications. We need to have
25	dramatically improved communication with the operator

1	and the daily users. Emergencies. We need an emergency
2	plan that needs to be published and posted and shared
3	and a way to communicate during emergencies. And price
4	adjustments. I know that the boarding facility at
5	Irvine Park, that has the contract with the Parks Board
6	and it would be great to have something similar with
7	Board approval for any increases any annual increases
8	over the local CPI, consumer price index. A couple of
9	items like that. And perimeter security. We have some
10	suggestions on that. Also, facilities assessment. I
11	know that this has been a hot topic. And the original
12	contract is frustratingly vague, and there is no real
13	record existing of the actual condition of the
14	facilities. Therefore, it might behoove the Board or
15	the Facilities Committee to do an inspection, much like
16	a landlord does when you move out and you go through the
17	property. Do your own assessments. Come up with your
18	own list of things that you expect the operator to
19	remedy by the end of the 12-month period, and perhaps
20	that could eliminate some of the concerns about all of
21	the facilities, many of which Ms. Mundekis has raised.
22	Furthermore, we would like to ask the on-site
23	daily users and industry professionals for a study
24	session with the Facilities Committee to help in putting
25	together the RFP moving forward, so that we have the

1	highest and best use for the Equestrian Center for the
2	widest public benefit possible.
3	SECRETARY ANGUS: Gibran, that is time. Thank
4	you.
5	MS. STOUT: Okay. Thank you.
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Summer, does
7	that conclude public comment?
8	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. That concludes public
9	comment.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Perfect. Thank
11	you.
12	Well, before I turn it over to the Board, I
13	want to thank the committee for their recommendation and
14	all of their work getting us to this point. This is a
15	temporary agreement that will only take place for the
16	12-month period.
17	As many of the members of the public who are on
18	this call, as well as the Board members, know, this is
19	part of our strategic planning initiative as well.
20	So thank you for all of your comments. We will
21	take all of that into consideration.
22	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to the
23	Board for discussion, and, after that, we will request a
24	motion on this item.
25	Any comments from the Board?

1	(No response.)
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Hearing that
3	there are none, can I get a motion can I get a motion
4	for this item, to approve this item?
5	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: So moved. This is Director
6	Rafiei.
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
8	Can I get a second?
9	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Second. Director Ruiz.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
11	Summer, can you please take roll call on this
12	item.
13	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
15	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
18	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
20	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
22	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
24	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
25	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: And this is Director
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1	Bagneris. I am on now. And I vote yes.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
3	Director Bagneris.
4	And I since Director Bagneris is on the
5	call, Summer, and has participated in this vote, I don't
6	think we need to take roll call again. But we can go
7	ahead and get that on the record.
8	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay.
9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
LO	Welcome, Director Bagneris. All right.
l1	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Thank you.
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: That motion has
L3	passed. Thank you.
L4	Moving on to agenda Item 8B, discussion and
L5	vote on the Community Affairs Committee's recommendation
L6	to create a public art piece celebrating diversity,
L7	using lighting on Plaza Pacifica, and include a \$50,000
L8	line item in the 2022 budget for this project.
L9	And just to recap, this committee was appointed
20	last month. So I just want to thank you for your
21	diligence in bringing this item forward. It is very
22	exciting to see that we're making some progress in this
23	area.
24	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to
25	Director Bagneris and Director Rafiei.

2.2

DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Thank you very much, Madam
Chair. We are both excited to be on this committee and
just to continue the groundwork that was already laid by
Directors Kovacevich and Ruiz. And we are excited to
make this presentation today and to ask for approval for
a budget to move forward.

We did review the feedback from the public survey during the '21 OC Fair, along with a presentation made during the open public meeting conducted by the committee on May 17th, to make sure that we included that input into our decision making going forward.

After review of the feedback and the discussion of what our options were, we are recommending the use of lighting and the light tower -- and the light towers in Plaza Pacifica. If you know, they have always been blank. We have never had anything on them. And we think that would be the perfect use right now to give our community message about our diversity and equity and inclusion commitment to the fairgrounds.

And so we are recommending that a \$50,000 budget be included -- budget line item be included in our '22 budget for this purpose. And, if approved, we will continue to work with staff to lay out the plans to initiate the project.

So, again, we are very, very excited about



1	this. And I'm our staff does an outstanding job when
2	it comes to creativity, so we are excited that they are
3	going to be the ones that are going to help us put this
4	all together.
5	With that, I would also like to talk about
6	this is Diversity Awareness Month, and I'm going to ask
7	Director Rafiei to actually show you a couple of items
8	that are in relation to that celebration.
9	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Thank you so much, Director
10	Bagneris.
11	I think staff might have something to show us.
12	MS. RICHARDS: We are. It's in the sequence
13	during committee reports. If we could maybe wait until
14	then, and then we can highlight what we talked about.
15	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Absolutely.
16	Okay. And I understand there's an echo. I
17	don't know how to control it. Sometime I'm fine.
18	Sometimes I'm not.
19	So as long as you can understand me, I'm good.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: We can
21	understand you. I'm pretty sure the court reporter can
22	understand what you are saying, so that's good.
23	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: That's good. Sometimes my
24	Southern accent comes out, so let me know if you don't
25	understand something.

1	But with that, we're going to we would like
2	to get approval of our recommendation. I'm going to
3	we will wait for public comment and then we will make a
4	motion to that effect.
5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you for
6	your report.
7	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to
8	Summer for public comment, and then we will bring it
9	back to the Board for discussion.
10	SECRETARY ANGUS: Actually, we do not have
11	public comment. The public commenter withdrew for this
12	item.
13	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Great.
14	Thank you, Summer.
15	I'm going to go ahead and bring it back to the
16	Board.
17	Are there any directors who have questions for
18	Director Bagneris or Director Rafiei on this topic?
19	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yeah. This is Director Ruiz.
20	I yes?
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes. You are
22	good.
23	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yeah. This is Director Ruiz.
24	I have no doubt that Director Rafiei and
25	Director Bagneris will do a great job with this. That

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1	we couldn't have picked a better group, Madam Chair.
2	And I so move that we approve the item, Item B.
3	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: This is Director La
4	Belle.
5	I concur with Director Ruiz's comments. I want
6	to thank the committee. I think they did an excellent
7	job, and I'm very pleased to second the motion.
8	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Fantastic.
9	So we have a first by Director Ruiz and a
10	second by Director La Belle.
11	Summer, can you please take roll call.
12	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Director Rubalcava, I have a
13	couple of questions.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Oh, yes, please.
15	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Thank you.
16	Michele, I know when we did this the last time
17	with the Farmworker Memorial, we had brought in some
18	outside groups like Via Arts OC. Are we going to be
19	doing that this time? Or is it going to be completely
20	done in-house.
21	MS. RICHARDS: The recommendation from the
22	committee we did discuss that, and I briefed the
23	committee on the project before and that option. But
24	the committee is recommending using our own in-house
25	creative staff and resources for this project. We feel

1	that we have a, you know, very, very talented group of
2	designers on staff that could contribute to this
3	project. So, at this time, it's their recommendation to
4	use in-house staff.
5	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Thank you.
6	And do we have an ability, as a State-owned
7	fairground, to do any, like, outside fundraising if
8	there's an idea that is outside the \$50,000 budget
9	recommendation to supplement that? Or are we
10	constrained because we're State-owned property?
11	MS. RICHARDS: We do have the ability to do
12	fundraising, but it is not tax deductible for the donor.
13	So it would you know, it would be people providing
14	donations, but without the ability for the tax
15	write-off.
16	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Does that
17	conclude your questions, Director Aitken?
18	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes. Sorry. Thank you.
19	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
20	Any other questions from the Board? We do have
21	a motion on the floor.
22	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I call for the previous
23	question.
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
25	And we have a first and a second.

1		Can we go ahead and get a roll call please,
2	Summer.	
3		SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
4		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
5		SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
6		VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
7		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
8		DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
9		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
10		DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
11		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
12		DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.
13		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
14		DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
15		SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
16		DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
17		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: And I see that
18	Director	Kovacevich has joined as well.
19		DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Hi everyone. Sorry I'm
20	late. I	am here.
21		And put me down for yes on this one.
22		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
23	Director	Kovacevich.
24		And I also just want to really commend the
25	Board for	recommending that we create this in-house. We
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1	do have a very talented staff at the OC Fair & Event
2	Center led by Michele Richards and her team. And I
3	think keeping this in-house will also minimize any
4	unnecessary red tape, so to speak. So I'm glad that you
5	guys have made this recommendation.
6	So this motion has passed. Thank you all very
7	much.
8	We're moving right along. So we're now on to
9	Agenda Item 8C. I'm going to go ahead and turn this
10	over to Michele Richards. This is a discussion about
11	the 2022 Board meeting schedule.
12	MS. RICHARDS: So the October board meeting is
13	on our annual meeting of the Board of Directors. And
14	Policy 3.05 states that regular meetings of the Board of
15	Directors will be held monthly on the fourth Thursday or
16	at the discretion of the Board Chair for no less than
17	eight months per year, with the exception of the
18	November meeting, which will be held on the third
19	Thursday, or at the discretion of the Board Chair, and
20	that's because of Thanksgiving being on the fourth
21	Thursday. The December regular meeting date will remain
22	at the Board Chair's discretion.
23	Because the 32nd DAA hosts the annual OC Fair
24	from mid July to mid August, there will not be a July
25	Board meeting unless specifically requested and approved

1	by the Board.
2	So this is the Board's opportunity to set the
3	schedule for 2022, and we have got a calendar of the
4	dates that line up with the with the policy. So this
5	just requires discussion and then agreement on those
6	dates.
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, CEO
8	Richards.
9	And I also want to mention, in the past, we
10	have gone dark during August, which is right after the
11	fair ends.
12	And I'm going to make a recommendation that we
13	either we don't have an August meeting, so we don't
14	have to cancel it. We did end up cancelling it this
15	year. We can always add a meeting, if necessary. So I
16	would make the recommendation to go ahead and remove the
17	Thursday, August 25th meeting.
18	Any other
19	DIRECTOR RUIZ: So moved.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
21	Director Ruiz.
22	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yeah. I also you know, I'm
23	in agreement with your motion. I also wanted to
24	discuss I know it had been brought up in the past
25	about having meetings in the afternoons. I notice it's

1	getting hard for some of the directors to make morning
2	meetings and there's been a lot of absenteeism here
3	within our Board. And and and for valid reasons.
4	You know, we're all busy.
5	And so I wanted to see if the Board is willing
6	to entertain having an afternoon meeting at maybe
7	once every quarter to make it easier for those directors
8	who have a hard time making these morning meetings. And
9	that way, we can have a full quorum at most of these
10	meetings. So that's that's something I would like
11	the Board to entertain as well; I think some afternoon
12	meetings.
13	And not only that, hopefully get more public
14	participation at these meetings, especially the
15	afternoon meetings, when we start going back to live
16	meetings, hopefully here soon.
17	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
18	Director Ruiz. That's a great recommendation.
19	And CEO Richards and I have actually talked
20	about whether or not that provides additional strain on
21	staff, and she has assured me that it does not. It
22	actually can be a little bit of a relief not to have to
23	be here at the crack of dawn to get things ready for a
24	9:00 a.m. meeting.
25	I also know that Director Pham has requested

1	some afternoon meetings as well.
2	So thank you for that recommendation.
3	Director Cervantes, do you have a comment?
4	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: I do.
5	I think if we look at just our past records,
6	when we did have a late afternoon meeting, we didn't
7	have a much greater attendance. And I think, in the
8	past five years, the morning meetings have worked, and I
9	don't think that we have ever not had a quorum to go
L O	ahead and move forward. And I just I mean, I would
L1	prefer to keep the meetings as they are.
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you for
L3	your comment.
L4	Any other additional comments or questions?
L5	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yeah. I think this is
L6	Director Kovacevich. Unfortunately, you know, I have to
L7	work during the day like, I think, other directors. So
L8	I would welcome some evening meetings, as Director Ruiz
L9	pointed out. I understand people want to keep their
20	evenings free too. So I get both sides. And, again, I
21	wouldn't advocate for all of them to be moved, but maybe
22	a few. And I liked Director Ruiz's recommendation,
23	personally.
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Director Rafiei,
25	I see your hand is up.

1	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Thank you for recognizing me.
2	I think it would be just a good idea for us to,
3	offline, have a Doodle or something that those folks
4	understand. I think any time of the day would it
5	will be difficult. Trying picking up at 3 o'clock
6	when you're picking up your kids for our strategic
7	meeting. I will be in the car picking up kids. So
8	maybe we can do that.
9	I'm open to afternoon meetings. For me,
L O	personally, mornings are easier because I don't have a
L1	kid running around in the background for me personally.
L2	But I think we can make them work so we have a you
L3	know, try to meet everyone's scheduling demands.
L4	I don't know about you all, but I work 24 hours
L5	a day. I don't have a 9:00 to 5:00. So it's work no
L6	matter what.
L7	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Director Cervantes
L8	again.
L9	Maybe CEO Richards can give us some information
20	on what's worked in the past, the few times that we have
21	had Board meetings that are not morning meetings.
22	And then I do want to make a comment that,
23	unfortunately, with Director Pham, if you go back to the
24	past four years or five years that he's been on the
25	Board, I think it really doesn't matter. I think he's

1	just so busy, you know, with his present job that
2	whether it's a morning meeting, a late meeting, it's
3	just you know, he's not able to make a lot of the
4	meetings.
5	MS. RICHARDS: Yeah. I would concur that we
6	don't really see a specific pattern whether the meetings
7	are in the morning or the afternoon. You know, there
8	was a recommendation that maybe the Board chooses to
9	alter. You know, I know, one year, there were two or
L O	three meetings that were scheduled for the afternoon and
L1	the rest for the morning. You all are very busy working
L2	people, and I I don't know that there would be a
L3	single time that would be, you know, good for everybody.
L4	So maybe the idea is to revisit the
L5	recommendation. I believe Director Ruiz made that
L6	perhaps, you know, some of the meetings throughout the
L7	year are in the late afternoon.
L8	Also, I know that evenings are precious to a
L9	lot of people, but staff has no issue even scheduling
20	later in the afternoon or into the early evening, if
21	that works for the Board as well.
22	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, CEO
23	Richards.
24	Director Bagneris, do you have a question? I
25	gee vour hand is un

1	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: No. I don't have a
2	question. I just wanted to make a comment. You know,
3	maybe we can do a couple of evenings and we will leave
4	that up to the to the Chair's discretion at that
5	point, because we don't get any more public in the
6	afternoon than we do in the morning. Maybe because
7	we've been doing 9 o'clock for so long, people are just
8	accustomed to Thursday, this Thursday, at 9 o'clock.
9	Right now, I'm working from home. But I would
10	prefer to have this meeting and get it out of the way so
11	that I can continue with my with my normal work, even
12	though I'm kind of multitasking right now. Because we
13	can work from home, it makes that easier.
14	But I'm not sure if we want to you know,
15	maybe every quarter, choose a meeting to do that. I
16	don't see any problem with that. I would prefer that
17	the 9:00 a.m. on the schedule that we have now though.
18	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
19	Director Bagneris.
20	Director Ruiz, do you have a comment or a
21	question?
22	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yeah. It was just back to my
23	comment. You know, I'm not suggesting to go back to,
24	let's have all afternoons. It was just one meeting a
25	quarter; it's four meetings a year. I mean, that's

1	not that's not asking for too much. That's it.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yeah. Thank
3	you.
4	And it has been a you know, just from my
5	three years on the Board, I believe it's been a request
6	from the public as well.
7	So what I think if the Board is comfortable
8	with this we do not have any public comment on this
9	item. I would if possible, it would be great to get
10	a motion to approve the Board meeting dates with the
11	exception of excluding Thursday, August 25th. If we can
12	get a motion to do that.
13	And then we do have a new Chair coming in, and
14	we can have that Chair work with CEO Richards to
15	identify a few dates that we could potentially have an
16	afternoon meeting. You know, maybe a date where it's a
17	lighter agenda, you know.
18	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: This is Director La
19	Belle.
20	I would make the motion to approve the
21	schedule.
22	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: May I second. This is the
23	Director Cervantes.
24	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Let me just make an
25	added comment.

1	I have listened to you know, all of us
2	have well, I'm the old retired guy so just about any
3	time works for me.
4	But I think everybody has different schedules
5	in terms of their their work situation. So I think
6	we could we can kind of look at that and kind of work
7	out something that is related to, you know, when we have
8	meetings that we would anticipate a greater public
9	participation, so on and so forth.
LO	So but, anyway, I move the motion. And that
L1	concludes my comments.
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Great. We
L3	need
L4	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: I'm going to second that.
L5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: I'm going to
L6	table that motion for a minute. We actually have public
L7	comment on this item now.
L8	SECRETARY ANGUS: Gibran Stout, when you are
L9	ready.
20	MS. STOUT: Sorry about that. Can you hear me?
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Go ahead.
22	MS. STOUT: Sorry. I put it in sooner. I
23	didn't know we could comment.
24	I know that everybody has busy schedules and
25	all of our schedules are different. Barbara has a point

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1	that the 9:00 a.m. meetings are standard and we all kind
2	of get used to it. But maybe there could be an
3	alternate and maybe starting the meetings at 10:00,
4	11:00, lunchtime, sometimes closer to the middle of the
5	day. That might be helpful to some people; facilitate
6	it for the directors as well as for the public.
7	But, yeah, maybe alternate odd/even months. I
8	don't know. Great idea. Great that you are having this
9	discussion.
10	Thank you.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
12	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you for
13	your comment.
14	So I'm going to go ahead and bring that motion
15	back. So we have a motion to go ahead and approve the
16	Board meeting schedule with the exception of August
17	25th.
18	Director La Belle was the first. I believe
19	Director Ruiz seconded that.
20	Can we go ahead and get a roll call.
21	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I believe Director
22	Cervantes seconded.
23	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Oh, I'm sorry.
24	Director Cervantes made the second on that, for the
25	record, please.

1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
3	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
4	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
5	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
6	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
7	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
8	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
9	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
10	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
12	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
13	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
14	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.
15	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
16	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
18	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
19	And I just want to remind the board, this will
20	be an issue that the next Board chair will facilitate,
21	but we are not going to be virtual forever. I think one
22	of the things is, it has become a great option for us,
23	and until things open up in 2022, I anticipate we will
24	probably be having more in-person Board meetings just to
25	keep that in mind as we're scheduling meetings in the

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1	future.
2	All right. I'm going to go ahead and move on
3	to the next agenda item, which is agenda Item 8D, and
4	this is whether or not to approve out-of-state travel.
5	I'm going to go ahead and turn this over to CEO
6	Richards.
7	MS. RICHARDS: Thank you very much.
8	The State of California requires a Board of
9	Directors approval any time staff travels out of state
10	on business. And we include the destinations and the
11	travel expenses as part of the annual budget. However,
12	this year's Western Fair or I should say, in 2022, in
13	January, Western Fairs Association Convention, our trade
14	association convention, will be held in Reno, Nevada, in
15	January. But there's an opportunity right now for us to
16	take advantage of some early bird discounts and lower
17	airfare. We have all heard how airfare is expected to
18	increase with gas prices.
19	So we're looking for that approval now in order
20	to send up to ten staff members and board members that
21	are interested to attend that convention in Reno,
22	Nevada.
23	And I should add that Nevada is not on the list
24	of banned states for the State of California.
25	The fiscal impact, all for airfare, hotel



1	reservations, and registration, meals, etc., will be
2	approximately \$15,100 out of our 2022 budget for that
3	travel.
4	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: When is that travel again
5	CEO Richards?
6	MS. RICHARDS: It is mid-January. January
7	gosh. Joan? Ken? Help me. I don't have access to my
8	calendar right now. The 17th through the
9	15th through the 20th, maybe? Hello?
LO	MS. HAMILL: Yes. I believe that is the date.
L1	MS. RICHARDS: Okay.
L2	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yeah. The 16th yeah.
L3	16th through the 19th is the actual convention.
L4	MS. RICHARDS: Yes. 16th through the 19th.
L5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: We have no
L6	public comment on this item.
L7	Is there any further discussion from the Board?
L8	Director Cervantes?
L9	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: No. I'm good. Thank you.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: As CEO Richards
21	mentioned, Director Cervantes may have attended this in
22	the past, and we have had other directors who have
23	attended, so I highly encourage those who are interested
24	to talk to CEO Richards. It is a great way to get
25	get more acquainted with the fair industry. So I highly

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1	recommend that.
2	I was going to say, Director Ruiz has already
3	indicated that he would like to join us, so we're very
4	happy about that.
5	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: I would like to join as
6	well. This is Director Cervantes.
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Fantastic.
8	Great.
9	Any additional comments?
10	(No response.)
11	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: And if not, can
12	I get a motion to approve agenda Item 8D, out-of-state
13	travel.
14	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: I so move. This is
15	Director Cervantes.
16	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
17	Director Cervantes.
18	Can I get a second?
19	DIRECTOR AITKEN: I second. This is Director
20	Aitken.
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
22	Director Aitken.
23	Summer, a roll call, please.
24	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
25	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.

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1		SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle. Doug,	I
2	think you	are muted.	
3		VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yeah. Yes.	
4		SECRETARY ANGUS: There you go.	
5		VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Sorry about that.	
6		SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.	
7		Director Cervantes.	
8		DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.	
9		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.	
10		DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.	
11		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.	
12		DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.	
13		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.	
14		DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.	
15		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.	
16		DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.	
17		SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.	
18		DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.	
19		SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.	
20		DIRECTOR PHAM: Hey, FYI, Summer. I was on	
21	mute and	I joined a little bit ago.	
22		SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.	
23		Would you like to weigh in on the vote?	
24		DIRECTOR PHAM: It's yes. It's fine.	
25		SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.	
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1	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
2	Newton.
3	Welcome, Director Pham.
4	So we're moving right along.
5	So that motion has passed. Have fun in Reno,
6	everybody.
7	I'm going to go ahead and move on over to
8	Agenda 8E, which is a vote on review and vote on the
9	inclusion of strategic planning programming goals for
10	the Equestrian Center and annual OC Fair.
11	As you know, we had a strategic planning
12	session earlier this month. I'm going to go ahead and
13	turn this over to director or to CEO Richards so she
14	can provide an overview of what was discussed at that
15	meeting.
16	MS. RICHARDS: So for any members of the public
17	that Zoomed in on that strategic planning workshop on
18	October 12th, you know that the Board did a great job of
19	developing strategic direction statements specific to
20	the Equestrian Center and to the annual OC Fair.
21	We captured those comments regarding those two
22	programming areas, and staff has drafted statements
23	reflecting back the comments made by the Board members
24	during that that workshop.
25	The Leadership Committee Chair



1	Rubalcava-Garcia and Vice Chair La Belle have
2	reviewed these draft statements, and we're now
3	presenting them to the Board for further discussion and
4	then vote on making them a part of the three-year
5	strategic plan.
6	So I will review those in a second, but I I
7	want to explain what a strategic direction statement is.
8	This is a statement by the Board on the direction that
9	staff should go in order to meet goals. These are not
L O	goals themselves. The goals should be smart goals,
L1	measurable, specific, attainable, etc.
L2	Staff has already taken some of these
L3	statements and begun to develop more operational-type
L 4	goals and action steps, which we will share with the
L5	Board in a later workshop. So the fact that there
L6	aren't metrics included shouldn't you know, shouldn't
L7	be an issue at this point. These are really just
L8	directional statements.
L9	So with regard to the Equestrian Center, there
20	are four all together:
21	The first one: That the OC Fair & Event
22	Center's Equestrian Center will serve as a true public
23	asset to ensure greater access to a broader group of
24	constituents throughout Orange County. It will be
25	operated as a best in breed equine venue with the

1	highest standard of care for boarded horses and animals
2	in need of shelter during emergencies.
3	The second statement: OC Fair & Event Center
4	staff will operate the Equestrian Center, planning and
5	executing programming to the maximum benefit of the
6	public. The programming will be focused on equine
7	education and entertainment for the public.
8	Statement number three: The Equestrian Center
9	programming will be integrated into other OC Fair &
10	Event Center activities throughout the year, including
11	the annual OC Fair and Imaginology.
12	And then the second statement: The business
13	model for the Equestrian Center will balance the
14	requirement to operate as a public benefit venue with
15	the need to be financially sound.
16	So I don't know if we want to take each section
17	separately or if you want me to review the statements
18	for the annual OC Fair as well, and then we can come
19	back to all of them or
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Let's take them
21	separately, Michele, since they are both so different.
22	MS. RICHARDS: Okay. So open for any
23	adjustments the Board wants to make, comments. But
24	these statements is what the the will be the basis
25	for then developing specific goals and action steps for

1	the three-year strategic plan.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, CEO
3	Richards.
4	Any questions or comments on this item from the
5	Board before I open it up to public comment? We have
6	three public commenters on this item.
7	(No response.)
8	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Hearing that
9	there are none from the Board at this time, I'm going to
10	go ahead and turn it over to Summer for public comment.
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. We have Leigh-Ann
12	Kazolas followed by Reggie Mundekis, then Gibran Stout.
13	Leigh-Ann, when you are ready.
14	MS. KAZOLAS: Hi, good morning. My name is
15	Leigh-Ann Kazolas.
16	And I wanted to let the Board and everyone
17	know, as Kim did earlier, that we held our seventh
18	annual Halloween costume contest and parade this past
19	Saturday. And despite some chilly temperatures and
20	drizzle, it was a roaring success.
21	Many thanks to Arlis Reynolds of the City of
22	Costa Mesa City Council and a huge thanks to our very
23	own Joan Hamill for being our judges this year. As CEO
24	Richards and Terry know from past years, it's not an
25	easy job. The kids do a great job of dressing up

1	themselves and their equine best friends, and we had a
2	record number of 27 entries this year. I will be
3	forwarding a photo collage to you later.
4	One of the greatest things about the Halloween
5	parade and activities at the Equestrian Center is the

seamless participation from all walks of life. The majority of the participants did not own their own horses that they used for the parade. They used their

9 favorite school horses from their trainers or borrowed

10 one of the horses boarded there.

2.2

That were participants from the Changing
Strides Program, who attend camps, who receive riding
instruction for free. Two of them were actually amongst
the biggest prize winners of the day. The youngest
participant was two years old and our oldest, while
she's a few decades older than that, participated with
her adopted Amish plow horse that she got from a rescue.

One participant calls herself "proudly autistic," and another rider, we know, is struggling with a loss of a parent to COVID-19. But the audience doesn't see that. The horses know because they are intuitive, but they don't discriminate or judge, and everyone was welcome to participate in a joyful community event.

We were able to host residents from the



1	Kirkwood Seniors Home, who enjoyed a wonderful outing,
2	seeing a jumping demonstration followed by the parade.
3	And from all reports, it was well received.
4	We look forward to as OCFEC, as part of its
5	strategic plan, to help us grow and expand this event
6	and many others, so that more members of the public can
7	enjoy and attend.
8	We're excited to see that the Board, in its
9	strategic planning, is to become more involved in the
10	programming and events of the Equestrian Center. The
11	members of the public that board their horses, the
12	trainers that provide lessons and classes to the public,
13	the onsite therapeutic and nonprofit programs that serve
14	the public and our community supporters in the
15	community are looking forward to a more structured
16	pro-public access and sharing equine education and
17	activities with the broader public.
18	Soon there will be a sign on the gate with a QR
19	code so that members of the public can sign up for our
20	docent-guided tour programs, so be on the lookout for
21	that.
22	We encourage the Board to reach out to the
23	equestrians as you move forward with both an LOU and
24	management contract or RFP for daily operations. We
25	have so many great ideas about expanding the public

1	programs that are already going on. Hopefully, you have
2	had an opportunity to read our document about that.
3	And it's great to see the Board planning to
4	seek public-private partnerships to expand access for
5	the fair, and we encourage you to do the same for the
6	Equestrian Center.
7	We are looking forward to assisting in any way
8	that we can to make this a real example of what an
9	authentic, working, public Equestrian Center can and
10	should be, and a model that others can follow.
11	Thank you so much.
12	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you, Leigh-Ann.
13	Reggie Mundekis, when you are ready.
14	MS. MUNDEKIS: Hi. This is Reggie Mundekis.
15	And thank you for this opportunity to address you.
16	I just want to say thank you for the strategic
17	planning process. I think it's going well. It's
18	getting a lot of good input and thought into the
19	process.
20	I would also like to thank the Board for coming
21	up with good goals for the Equestrian Center and the
22	Annual OC Fair. And I like the direction you are going
23	as far as understanding the need for the changing
24	meaning of public access and how to include more members
25	of our changing demographics and our changing economics

1	of Orange County.
2	I think we all are aware that we are not the
3	same Orange County we were a decade ago or 25 years ago.
4	And I just want to thank the Board for acknowledging
5	that change and working towards accommodating it.
6	Thank you.
7	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
8	Gibran Stout, when you are ready.
9	MS. STOUT: Hello. Can you hear me?
10	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. Go ahead.
11	MS. STOUT: Okay. Great.
12	I would just like to start by saying thank you
13	as well for this strategic planning process. We love
14	the direction it's going. We love that the Equestrian
15	Center is being included.
16	We, again, have, you know, many public events
17	happening. And a huge, huge thank you to Joan Hamill
18	and Arlis for judging our Halloween event last weekend.
19	It was really fun. And we look forward to many more
20	items like that.
21	We look forward to perhaps dovetailing many of
22	the public programs that we have, along with new ideas
23	and modernization. So really look forward to that.
24	And by doing so, we would really maximize
25	public benefit and minimize resources. So any community

for perhaps a presentation, we would love to do. We can 1 2 show you what's happening already. Save you guys lot of 3 work on this planning. But we love where it's going. We love that 4 it's going to be measurable, specific, and attainable. 5 And, again, thank you so much and love the direction 6 that the Board is going with it. 8 Thank you. 9 SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you. 10 We have one more. Theresa Sears. Theresa, you 11 will have to press *6 to unmute yourself. Go ahead when 12 you are read. 13 Am I unmuted, Summer? MS. SEARS: Yes. Yes. 14 SECRETARY ANGUS: You're good. Go ahead, 15 Theresa. Oh, very good. I appreciate the 16 MS. SEARS: 17 opportunity. Good morning, everyone. 18 I have been pretty silent during the pandemic, 19 but that doesn't mean I haven't listened to every meeting. I listen to all meetings. 20 21 And for those of you who may not know, I have attended board meetings for about the last 20 years. 22 23 Memorial Gardens, attended many there, which is now 24 Heroes Hall. 25 And then, additionally, I want to -- I want to

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1	welcome Melahat. So, Melahat, if you can hear me,
2	welcome to our Board. It's exciting that you are going
3	to be participating, and we welcome you as well. So
4	congratulations on the appointment. That's great.
5	I also would like to extend an invitation to
6	Melahat. If you if you have time I know you are
7	busy I would love to meet with you and go over some
8	of the history of what has happened at the fairgrounds
9	for the last 20 years, as far as the sale, the
LO	Equestrian Center, why horses matter.
L1	I don't want to bore everybody with my typical
L2	history of the horse. As everyone knows, I am an
L3	advocate for the horse, and that's what matters to me;
L 4	how our horses are treated.
L5	I have had horses for over 40 years, so I'm
L6	very well versed in horsemanship and caring for them,
L7	stabling, safety issues, etc., evacuation. My horses
L8	are at my own property, so I'm fortunate in that regard.
L9	In looking at the recommendations and
20	specifically to the Equestrian Center, for me, words
21	matter. So I'm going to make a couple comments and
22	observations, because it was very unclear to me.
23	You talk about "best in breed" equestrian
24	venue. Now, I've been around horses for years. I have
25	never heard of that terminology. I looked it up. I

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really couldn't find what that meant. 1 2 So I just -- I want to say, maybe you want to 3 pick something different, because, for me, it just 4 indicates that maybe you are looking at just high end horses, purebreds, registered-only horses, and then 5 where would those horses come from? Of my six horses, 6 7 only two of them would be allowed to be at the 8 Equestrian Center, so this "best of breed," that sounds 9 more like a dog show to me. 10 And then the other thing that is of concern is, two, you talk about entertainment for the public. 11 12 it just -- you know, for me, the horses are the key to 13 this whole thing. And horses are about history, the 14 history in Orange County, the heritage of our 15 fairgrounds, agriculture, 4-H. And then, mostly, horses 16 have been part of the California fairgrounds for nearly 17 150 years. 18 So we might want to consider this 19 "entertainment" thing, change that wording a bit, 20 because it is a bit ambiguous. And I highly recommend 21 that -- I would like to be a resource to help as we go 2.2 forward, because I think you must have people that have 23 horse savvy, horse experience, people that have actually 24 done it, because you -- words on paper are fine and 25 everything --



1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Theresa, I'm sorry, that is
2	time.
3	MS. SEARS: Okay. Thank you. But I'm here as
4	a resource. So, Michele, call on me whenever you like.
5	Thank you.
6	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Can you tell who that was,
7	that was speaking? She's on the phone.
8	SECRETARY ANGUS: That was Theresa Sears.
9	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Oh, hi, Theresa.
10	SECRETARY ANGUS: Hi. Is that Melahat?
11	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: It's Director Bagneris.
12	MS. SEARS: Bagneris. Hi, Barbara. We're both
13	kind of muted out there. Okay.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
15	Mrs. Sears.
16	Do we have any other public comment, Summer?
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: No. That concludes public
18	comment.
19	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. I'm going
20	to go ahead and turn it over to the Board just on this
21	Equestrian Center item. Just want to recap what CEO
22	Richards mentioned.
23	This is a general overview of what the goals
24	during that public strategic planning session that the
25	Board came up with.



1	Director or CEO Richards based upon the
2	approval of the Board today or any insights from the
3	discussion we have will go back and develop
4	operational goals that are measurable.
5	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to the
6	Board for discussion.
7	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Sandra. Director
8	Cervantes.
9	So is this a continuation of additional
10	meetings that we're going to have? Or are these our
11	final recommendations?
12	MS. RICHARDS: It everything that we're
13	doing with the strategic plan is in draft form, and so
14	the Board will have many opportunities in upcoming
15	workshops to make changes and to, you know, amend the
16	draft before we put it out to the public for feedback.
17	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Fabulous. That's what I
18	thought.
19	And then maybe we can incorporate I don't
20	know if we can incorporate a couple people from the
21	public that might own horses, that have just a better
22	idea of assessing the uniqueness from the beginning to
23	the end, because it appears that horses are a huge part
24	of history, and it is something that we certainly want
25	to have.

1	But we want to make all the specific
2	adjustments that are needed to make, so we have that
3	community engagement, but we also have all the rest of
4	the points in place of I mean, I don't own horses,
5	and I don't know a lot about horses, so, therefore, I'm
6	sure, from, you know, the taking care of the horse and
7	just I think there's still a lot of work in place, so
8	I'm excited that it's a work in progress.
9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
10	Director Cervantes. Great recommendation.
11	Any additional comments from the Board?
12	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I have a quick comment.
13	Based on the comment about "best in breed"; maybe that
14	should say "best in practice," "practices," or something
15	of that nature, just so it's not confusing.
16	I don't know much about horses, but Theresa
17	Sears has always been very helpful in that area.
18	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yeah. And
19	Michele, you know, maybe when you are looking at
20	operationalizing these goals, you can incorporate that,
21	because I'm assuming there's going to be additional
22	research into what that means and bringing it back to
23	the Board for discussion.
24	And then if you can also include Director
25	 Cervantes's recommendation about including some members

1	of the public. They are always welcome to participate
2	in the strategic planning sessions as well, and I'm sure
3	the Chair, at that time, will be open to allowing
4	additional minutes for public comment, if that is the
5	case too.
6	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Director Cervantes
7	again.
8	One of the items that I am a little bit
9	confused about, too, is "entertainment to the public."
LO	I mean, that almost feels like when we had elephants
L1	that would, you know, come out and entertain. So that
L2	also doesn't feel good somewhere in there.
L3	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Perfect.
L4	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Director Bagneris.
L5	I'm thinking I'm thinking we were talking
L6	about horse shows and that kind of thing.
L7	MS. RICHARDS: Yes. That was in reference to
L8	horse shows for the public. So we can play with the
L9	wording on that to make that a little more clear.
20	I also might suggest, Director Kovacevich, I
21	think was the in brainstorming came up with the "best
22	in breed." And I don't believe he was referring to
23	horse breeds, but, rather, a business term of quality,
24	speaking to quality. So I don't know
25	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.

1	MS. RICHARDS: Director Kovacevich, if you
2	want to yeah.
3	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yeah. So, again, this
4	was sort of a brainstorming exercise, right? And I
5	think having a little bit of fun with words.
6	But "best in breed" meant to be a term to talk
7	about how we want to be a best-in-class operator. So
8	let's not read too much into it. This is not ultimately
9	going to be our final document.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Right. But I do
11	think it so "best in class" in that and I think
12	what Director Kovacevich had mentioned as well, that's a
13	big thing for me as well, is making sure that we have
14	state-of-the-art facilities. And I think we had public
15	comment related to that as well. So not necessarily
16	about the animals, but about the facility, the facility
17	the animals are being trained in and living in.
18	On Item 2, I think somebody mentioned during
19	public comment, that kind of caught my ear, was the
20	animal welfare and the welfare of the students.
21	So, you know, I know, when you are fleshing out
22	these operational items, Michele, if those can also be
23	incorporated, and not just in word format, but, like,
24	how are we actually going to execute those objectives?
25	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes. Director



1	Rubalcava-Garcia, I think that's really, really
2	important.
3	And, you know, this is just a draft. It's a
4	conversation piece. So it's exciting that we are moving
5	forward in this direction. And, you know, just
6	assessing the uniqueness of what's going to work out
7	best for the end result, which is really the reaching
8	out to the community and committing to our community and
9	engaging and bringing a lot of people that, you know,
10	felt like maybe this was not reachable, and they don't
11	even know that it exists. You know, that feel-good type
12	of concept.
13	So I think we're on the right track, and this
14	is just an additional conversation during a Board
15	meeting, the same way that we, you know, started with
16	the conversation and drafting it in small groups.
17	So it's exciting.
18	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Very exciting
19	and great. Thank you for everybody's comments.
20	Are there any additional comments before I ask
21	for a motion to approve this direction for CEO Richards
22	and staff?
23	(No response.)
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Can I get a
25	motion to approve this item?

1	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Rafiei.
2	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I second it.
3	MS. RICHARDS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia,
4	should we should we look at the OC Fair items?
5	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: I will like to
6	take them separate, Michele
7	MS. RICHARDS: Okay. Okay.
8	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: because
9	yeah, since we kind of discussed them separately.
10	So I had a first from Director Rafiei; a second
11	from Director Bagneris.
12	Can I get a roll call, please, Summer.
13	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
15	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
18	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
20	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
22	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
24	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Pham.
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1	DIRECTOR PHAM: Yes.
2	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
3	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.
4	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
5	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
6	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
7	MS. RICHARDS: Okay, then. Moving on to the
8	items related the statements related to the Annual OC
9	Fair.
10	Again, we took all of the brainstorming
11	statements and comments that were were made during
12	the the October 12th strategic planning workshop and
13	developed these four directional statements:
14	Number 1 is: The Annual OC Fair will establish
15	public-private partnerships designed to benefit and
16	increase accessibility to lower income residents of
17	Orange County so that all are provided a full fair
18	experience.
19	Number 2: The Annual OC Fair will create an
20	opportunity each year for increased local business
21	participation for merchants and concessionaires.
22	Number 3: Marketing and advertising plans will
23	focus on promoting and highlighting free-of-charge
24	programming at the Annual OC Fair in order to become the
25	number one destination of choice for family activities

1	each summer. The OC Fair will be a, quote, "A place
2	where you can break out with your family without
3	breaking the bank," unquote.
4	And Number 4: The OC fair will be the number
5	one fair in the state of California and in the top five
6	in the U.S. for providing an exceptional guest
7	experience, to include educational offerings, exhibits
8	that highlight the community, and activities that
9	promote traditions and family connections.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, CEO
11	Richards.
12	Any comment from the Board on this item?
13	(No response.)
14	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Hearing that
15	there are none at this time, I'm going to go ahead and
16	ask Summer if we have any public comment.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: No more public comment on
18	this item.
19	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
20	I'm going to go ahead and turn it back to the
21	Board.
22	Any discussion before I ask for a motion to
23	approve these Annual OC Fair goals for the 2022-2024
24	strategic plan?
25	(No response.)



1		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Can I get a
2	motion?	
3		DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Director Rafiei. So moved.
4		DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Second.
5		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
6	Director	Rafiei. Director Bagneris is second.
7		Can I get a roll call, please.
8		SECRETARY ANGUS: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
9		CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
10		SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
11		VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
12		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
13		DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
14		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
15		DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
16		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
17		DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.
18		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
19		DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
20		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Pham.
21		DIRECTOR PHAM: Yes.
22		SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
23		DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.
24		SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
25		DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
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1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Fantastic.
3	Thank you to everyone for your input on that topic, and
4	thank you to Michele and staff for getting us this far
5	along in the strategic planning process.
6	I'm going to go ahead and move on to Agenda
7	Item 8F. I'm going to go ahead and turn this over to
8	Director Bagneris and Director Aitken for the nominating
9	Task Force recommendation.
10	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Thank you very much. I'm
11	going to turn it over to Director Aitken.
12	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Thank you very much.
13	Thank you for the opportunity to serve on this
14	committee, and we met and had few recommendations for
15	the Board to consider.
16	First, as it relates to leadership for next
17	year, we are nominating Director La Belle, Vice Chair La
18	Belle, to take over as Chair, with Director Newton Pham
19	to assume Vice Chair.
20	One of the other things we wanted to just put
21	on the Board's radar and potentially agendize for an
22	upcoming meeting, is looking at our Board governance
23	policies and discussing whether the Chair should
24	potentially be a two-year position.
25	Both Director Bagneris and I had served as

1	Chair, and I'm sure Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia is
2	realizing that there's just a lot of work to do and a
3	lot to learn when you are Chair. And potentially just
4	to see some of the strategic goals implemented, we
5	wanted to just discuss whether the Board would have that
6	temperature to make the Chair seat a two-year term.
7	And that's our report. Thank you.
8	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
9	Great recommendations.
10	Any discussion from the Board?
11	And, Summer, do we have any public on this
12	item?
13	Okay. No comments.
14	Any discussion from the Board on this?
15	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Director
16	Cervantes.
17	I have a concern with Director Pham's
18	attendance. Unfortunately, you know, we all have jobs
19	that take us away from the items that we choose to be
20	part of.
21	And serving on this specific board of
22	directors, I know that going back and looking at
23	attendance, every year has been a pretty tough task to
24	attend Board meetings. And, also, I think our bylaws
25	read, there's a certain amount of meetings that you can

1	miss. And I you know, I'm not quite sure, but I
2	believe that he's missed more than all of the meetings
3	allowed on a yearly basis.
4	Other than that, you know, he's 100 percent
5	committed once he's in, but his work has taken him away
6	from being able to fulfill that other duty that all of
7	us on the Board need to fulfill.
8	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you for
9	your comment, Director Cervantes.
LO	Director Bagneris, you have your hand up.
L1	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes, I do.
L2	As part of the process for our committee, we
L3	actually talked to the candidates that we are looking to
L4	recommend. And in talking with Director Pham, he
L5	understands what the commitment is and he is willing to
L6	take that commitment.
L7	In the past, as well, the Vice Chair has moved
L8	into the chairship. Maybe that's something we should be
L9	looking at. But because everybody has served except
20	for just a few persons. So I'm excited that Director
21	Pham has agreed to this to step up to this position.
22	And I'm not sure we had any board policies as far as
23	attendance.
24	And I know that during the pandemic, it has
25	heen a different atmosphere for us. We're not coming

And maybe we do want to move our meetings to 1 onsite. 2 maybe start at 10:00 or 11 o'clock, because even I'm 3 late to most of the 9 o'clock meetings. But I do 4 participate. 5 So I am very excited about our recommendations. It's not like we did not talk to Director Pham. 6 7 has agreed to this, so that means he's committing to his 8 role as the Vice Chair. 9 So I'm hoping that the Board will go ahead and 10 take our recommendation. 11 DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Well, thank you, Director 12 Bagneris. 13 This is Director Cervantes. 14 I agree that he would be a great Vice Chair. 15 think that it's also important to document -- our terms are usually a four-year term -- and in the past four 16 17 years, how many meetings he has missed, Director Pham, 18 because of not being able to attend the Board meetings, 19 due to other commitments? And I think that is important 20 that it be on record. And it's one of the reasons that he hasn't 21 2.2 taken the consideration of being appointed because he 23 hasn't -- well, I think Director -- I mean, I'm sorry. 24 CEO Richards might even have that information on hand. 25 DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I would think, if it's a

1	problem, that the Governor's Office would have stated
2	so, because they are the ones who appoint us and so they
3	are the ones who make the rules when it comes to our
4	being appointed to these boards. So I would leave that
5	to the Governor's Office if that seems to be a problem.
6	And I would leave it to the person who wants to
7	step up to the leadership to say that that's what they
8	want to do.
9	What's happened in the past has happened in the
LO	past. What's going to happen going forward could be
L1	completely different. Let's see.
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
L3	Is there any further discussion on this item?
L4	DIRECTOR PHAM: I mean this is Newton am
L5	I allowed to speak during this time?
L6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Absolutely,
L7	Director Pham, please.
L8	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Please.
L9	DIRECTOR PHAM: Yeah. I mean, historically
20	speaking, I think we're all aware of the challenges I
21	have had to attend the meetings consistently,
22	specifically, you know, as part a big majority of
23	what I do is M&A, and so we have a lot of M&A timelines,
24	when companies acquire other companies. It doesn't
25	necessarily, you know, abide by your specific timeline.

1	There's certain things that you can't miss.
2	However, this last year has additionally been
3	additionally challenging with a good amount of turnover
4	in my teams. However, we had and like Director
5	Cervantes has stated, there's this this opportunity
6	has been broached to me in the past, several times, and
7	I just have always been hesitant to commit to it.
8	You know, this it's Barbara and I had a
9	pretty in-depth conversation on what you know, what
10	is necessary, and I fully understand that, as having
11	turned down the opportunity in the past, multiple times,
12	and now accepting it. So I do understand the time
13	commitment that is necessary for it. And so, you know,
14	this year, I am willing to commit.
15	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
16	Director Pham.
17	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Director
18	Cervantes.
19	That is fabulous.
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
21	Director Cervantes.
22	And thank you to everybody for your comments on
23	this topic, and, Director Pham, for acknowledging the
24	fact that you will be leaning into the Board meetings,
25	you know, more frequently. We certainly understand that

1	work comes first. At least in my household, that is the
2	case as well.
3	So thank you to Director Bagneris and Director
4	Aitken for your recommendations.
5	Can I go ahead if there is no further
6	comment from the Board, can I get a motion to approve?
7	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I so move that we approve
8	the recommendation of this committee.
9	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Second.
10	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Can I get a roll
11	call.
12	SECRETARY ANGUS: Chairperson Rubalcava-Garcia.
13	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yes.
14	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
15	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes.
16	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
17	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes.
18	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
19	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
20	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
21	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Yes.
22	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken.
23	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes.
24	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Pham.
25	DIRECTOR PHAM: Yes.



1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.
2	DIRECTOR KOVACEVICH: Yes.
3	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Rafiei.
4	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Yes.
5	SECRETARY ANGUS: Thank you.
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yeah. And I
7	just want to comment, I want to thank all of the members
8	of the Board who commented on this topic.
9	I know that, you know, sometimes we put our
10	we are in awkward situations, but that really is the
11	purpose of this Board. We are not always going to
12	agree, but we are adults, and we are able to have a very
13	good, lucrative discussion. I think Director Pham
14	acknowledges the fact that, you know, Director Cervantes
15	had a valid point.
16	There is also something in our bylaws that does
17	indicate that a board member can be removed after
18	missing four meetings. So I just think that we the
19	fact that got all of this out on the table is really
20	good, as a Board. We are mature and adult enough to
21	discuss these items openly, and I think that just speaks
22	to the great assets that we have sitting on this Board.
23	So thank you.
24	And I'm excited to turn the gavel over to
25	Director La Belle after this meeting.

1	So let's go ahead and get this wrapped up.
2	Congratulations, Director La Belle and Director Pham.
3	MS. RICHARDS: Chair Rubalcava-Garcia, before
4	you pass along that gavel, I'm sure that board members
5	would like to make a few comments.
6	But there was a package dropped off to you
7	yesterday. And on behalf of the Nominating Committee, I
8	think they would like you to open that right now.
9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Let me take off
10	my background really quick so you guys can see it.
11	So here is the package. Thank you. So
12	beautifully wrapped. Thank you. It is the Chair gavel.
13	I appreciate and, first of all, I just want
14	to say, it has been a complete honor. And it was
15	unexpected when I was nominated initially, so it is a
16	complete honor to have been able to serve as the Chair
17	of the Orange County Fair Board.
18	I am very proud of the work that we have done
19	as a group. I mean, we have onboarded a CEO who has
20	done nothing but bring great success to the fair,
21	especially during the pandemic, and is really helping us
22	through this economic downturn that the County has
23	taken, and just everybody in general.
24	We were able to also have a successful fair
25	this year, in person, so I'm very happy about that as

1	well.
2	But thank you to everybody and all of the
3	support, especially Director La Belle. So and, also,
4	I would be remiss if I didn't mention Director
5	Cervantes, as I was able to serve as her Vice Chair when
6	she was Chair of the Board. Thank you.
7	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I would just I would
8	just like to say, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, you have
9	done an outstanding job. And I cannot thank you enough
10	for your commitment, your dedication, to this Board.
11	And I'm glad that you are still going to be around so we
12	can you can help see some of these things through,
13	that we're going to complete under Director La Belle.
14	He's done this before. He's an old hat. So I think
15	we're going to be in good hands. And I really do
16	appreciate your service. Thank you so much.
17	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
18	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yeah. I would like
19	to this is go ahead.
20	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yes.
21	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Go ahead, Robert.
22	DIRECTOR RUIZ: I would just like to echo the
23	comments of thank you. Thank you, Director La Belle.
24	Echo the comments of Director Bagneris. Two words:
25	Great job. Great job, Director Rubalcava-Garcia. You

1	know, you guided us through this pandemic.
2	You know, being the Chair of the Board, it's
3	not always what it's cracked up to be, until you
4	actually get in there and you find out, "Oh, my God,
5	what have I gotten myself into?"
6	And you did a fabulous job. You know, guide
7	pushing the meetings, moving the meetings along, so
8	we're not sitting in four-, five-, or six-hour meetings
9	like I have before in some of these meetings, in the
10	past. Great job in doing that. That's what the Chair
11	is supposed to do, and you did a fabulous job.
12	Great job during fair time. Again, you are
13	going to be missed as the Chair of this Board, but I
14	have no doubt that with Director La Belle and Director
15	Pham, we're going to be in good hands. Once again,
16	great job and thank you for the work that you did for
17	the OC Fair & Events Center.
18	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: And this is Director
19	Cervantes.
20	I wanted to say that one of the wonderful
21	qualities that you have is that you are willing to
22	duplicate yourself. And I think that's really
23	important, because as we move forward, you know, we
24	tackle new things and we support different items. And
25	it's just exciting, all the great work that you have

1	been able to do.
2	And I thank you for the wonderful relationships
3	that were built during your time as Chair. So thank you
4	again for all of your hard work.
5	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: I would like to
6	ditto all of comments of the other directors, and having
7	served on the Leadership Committee with Natalie, she's
8	very open, very communicative, and I really appreciate
9	the opportunity that I had to work with Natalie on this.
10	I think the strategic plan is a fantastic
11	effort that we have undertaken. I believe we have a
12	couple of additional study sessions that we're going to
13	be engaged in, and I'm looking forward to working with
14	Newton and with Natalie and the rest of the Board to
15	help bring about a conclusion to that planning process,
16	hopefully within the next several months.
17	So thanks, Natalie, for all of your efforts.
18	And, again, I look forward to doing what I can
19	to continue to assist the Board in carrying out our
20	objectives.
21	DIRECTOR PHAM: Yeah. This is Newton.
22	Again again, really respect what you have
23	done as Chair this past year, especially, you know,
24	doing what you think is right. Whether that's the
25	initially unpopular opinion or popular opinion, I really

1	respect that.
2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
3	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Thank you, Chair.
4	I know it's a tough job and a full-time job on
5	top of your already full-time job. And so thank you so
6	much for your service and for always bringing your
7	family to the fair. It's always nice when we have
8	people in leadership that you can tell just truly love
9	the property and love what we do here.
10	And so congratulations and thank you.
11	And congratulations to the new Chair and Vice
12	Chair.
13	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: This is Director Rafiei.
14	I'm the newest member here. So I've only been
15	able to see the wonderful leadership on this body for a
16	couple of months, but knowing you as long as I have, I
17	know that what you know, you have done so much here,
18	and you are going to continue to do work here, whether
19	you are the Chair or not, because I know you; you don't
20	sit still; you are not going to sit back. So thank you
21	for your leadership here.
22	And I'm excited to be working with the new
23	Chair and new Vice Chair and continuing my role on this
24	really exciting committee.
25	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you. And



1	thank you, everybody. It's been a pleasure. It's been
2	a pleasure to serve as Chair and work with staff.
3	Really, you are the ones who prepare me for everything.
4	So thank you.
5	And thank you for all of your kind words. And
6	I do look forward to supporting everything as we work
7	towards getting our strategic planning done and
8	completed.
9	So I will be your thorn in your side, Chair La
10	Belle, to make sure that we push that along. So you can
11	guarantee that.
12	Thank you, everybody.
13	I'm going to go ahead and move on to the next
14	agenda item. We are actually doing making really
15	good time on this agenda today.
16	So Agenda Item F is I'm sorry. Agenda Item
17	G, are committee reports.
18	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to the
19	Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee. Director Pham
20	and Director Bagneris for their report.
21	DIRECTOR PHAM: Sure.
22	We during this last committee, we focused on
23	general financials. You know, we had we were able to
24	budget significantly, not surprisingly, by about \$23.6
25	million, because we actually had the fair and we didn't

1	budget that in initially.
2	We also received funds under AB 4199 of about
3	\$830,000.
4	And an SBA grant award of \$5 million, which was
5	recognized, so that's like a nice boost to the bottom
6	line.
7	We also had discussions regarding the RFP on
8	the carnival services, which was released on
9	October 18th after, you know, a good amount of internal
10	and legal review.
11	And that essentially concludes my report.
12	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you,
13	Director Pham.
14	Anything to add, Director Bagneris?
15	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I just like the numbers.
16	Year to date, ending September, proceeds favorable. Our
17	investments are at \$62.8 million, higher than when we
18	left in the pandemic. I'm excited this fair is managing
19	its finances. It's managing its operations. And it's a
20	pleasure to serve on this Board.
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Absolutely.
22	And thank you to staff for that as well.
23	Financial I'm sorry. Facilities Committee.
24	Director Ruiz and Director Aitken.
25	DIRECTOR AITKEN: Yes. I think it was focused

on the Equestrian Center contract that we have already 1 2 discussed, and the work that we have done on the 3 "Capital X" projects are in the notes attached to the 4 agenda. So we don't, I believe -- unless Dr. Ruiz --5 Director Ruiz has anything to add --6 DIRECTOR RUIZ: Yeah. No. I think you covered 7 it, Director Aitken. 8 Our reporter was covered under Item 8A, so I 9 don't have anything further to report. 10 CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Perfect. Thank 11 you. 12 Community Affairs Committee. Director Bagneris 13 and Director Rafiei. 14 DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Hi there. I think staff -this is where, Michele, you are going to be doing --15 16 MS. RICHARDS: Um-hmm. 17 DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I just have a quick qo-back 18 to the financial report. For the record, the 2020 19 financial audit was complete and we are expecting the 20 final report. I just want to make sure that's said out 21 loud. 2.2 And we can go to director -- we can go to CEO 23 Richards and then come back and talk about anything we 24 need to discuss after that. 25 MS. RICHARDS: Well, we -- we had a great

1	meeting with our new committee members. They as
2	reported earlier, we are moving forward with that public
3	art project to celebrate diversity. And as Director
4	Rafiei said, earlier in the meeting, October is Global
5	Diversity Awareness Month. And in recognition of that,
6	the committee wanted to share the following slide. It's
7	not terribly clear, but it's a very interesting map of
8	the U.S. and it's based on the 2020 Census redistricting
9	data. It measures racial and ethnic diversity by state.
10	And if you look where California is, right
11	here, the Diversity Index puts California at
12	69.7 percent. And what does that mean?
13	Well, the index tells us the chance that two
14	people chosen at random from that state will be from
15	different racial and ethnic groups. So you can see that
16	California is one of the highest in fact, second only
17	to Hawaii in diversity. And we thought that that was
18	worth recognizing for Global Diversity Awareness Month.
19	So that, combined with now the approval to move
20	forward on our public art project, on behalf of the
21	committee, we're very excited to celebrate diversity at
22	the OC Fair & Events Center.
23	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you, CEO
24	Richards.
25	Anything to add to that, Director Rafiei and



1	Director Bagneris?
2	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Well, I just want to add that
3	it was great working with the CEO and with Summer on
4	this project. And I'm really excited to see what else
5	we can bring to the community as far as, you know, just
6	making sure that whether it's the artwork, the culture,
7	being the Town Square that you all had talked about,
8	imaging it being before I had joined, I agree with that
9	vision.
10	So thank you, Michele, for pointing that out.
11	And I will turn it over to Director Bagneris to
12	add anything else.
13	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: I concur a hundred percent
14	with what you just said. And if you ever have any
15	questions or need us to come up with some ideas of
16	things we can do, as we meet as a committee, you can
17	definitely bring those forth.
18	But we are we are going to have a great
19	DI&E DE&I Committee, and we are going to move forward
20	to make sure that the community is recognized in its
21	entirety, so that we can recognize all the great things
22	that happen in the Orange County community.
23	Thank you.
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
25	Moving on to the Centennial Farm Foundation



1	Liaison Report. Director Cervantes or Director
2	Kovacevich.
3	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Yes. This is Director
4	Cervantes.
5	So there was a meeting. And we discussed
6	the a proposal from a consulting service that was a
7	month-to-month subscription that would include grant
8	writing, website management, and social media
9	management. And it was a great experience because this
LO	specific consulting firm works with small- to mid-sized
L1	nonprofits and will give them an opportunity and ability
L2	to grow and bring in more revenue.
L3	The Foundation Board is also conducting an
L4	ongoing research for a spring fundraiser, so they are in
L5	fundraising mode.
L6	And then also the Board did discuss making a
L7	request to revise the current MOU to reduce its annual
L8	financial contribution to the OC Fair & Event Center,
L9	and this is because of the aftermath of the pandemic.
20	The next Foundation meeting is going to be
21	November 18th, 2021, with Centennial Farms.
22	And that is my report.
23	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Fantastic.
24	Thank you, Director Cervantes.
25	Heroes Hall Foundation Liaison Report from Vice



1	Chair Director La Belle I mean, Director La Belle
2	or Director Cervantes. I'm sorry.
3	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Director La Belle, can you
4	take over?
5	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Yes, I can.
6	The Foundation has not met since our last
7	meeting. We are sending out some letters to a number of
8	potential donors, and that process is currently under
9	way. And we are continuing to do everything we can to
10	raise funds to help support the programming and
11	educational opportunities at the Heroes Hall Veterans
12	Museum.
13	So I have nothing further to report, other than
14	that.
15	Thank you.
16	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: This is Director
17	Cervantes.
18	I'm going to add a little bit to it.
19	We did have an exhibit that was opened, and
20	that was pretty exciting, which is Through Their Eyes
21	artwork by active military and veterans, that I
22	attended, and that was October 16th. But the exciting
23	part is going to be the celebrating veterans at Heroes
24	Hall Museum, coming up on Thursday, November the 11th.
25	And I hope that everybody can attend and bring their

1	families.
2	And we have the All American Boys Chorus
3	performing some of the patriotic songs for that day as
4	well, and it's from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m.
5	So I hope to see a lot of you guys there.
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
7	That thank you for the wonderful update.
8	So that's November 11th. And if you have any
9	additional questions on that, contact Director
LO	Cervantes. I'm sure she has more details to come.
L1	So that concludes our committee reports for
L2	today.
L3	Now the Board will be going into closed
L4	session.
L5	So Summer, will you be putting us in a
L6	different room?
L7	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yes. Give me just a moment,
L8	please.
L9	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.
20	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay. I have assigned the
21	rooms. You should get a pop-up that says to accept the
22	room.
23	Okay. It looks like we're all in. Do we have
24	any directors that are still we need Robert.
25	DIRECTOR RUIZ: I'm not in.



1	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay. Robert. Here we go.
2	You should get a pop-up. There we go.
3	Okay. Any more directors left?
4	(No response.)
5	SECRETARY ANGUS: All right. Thank you.
6	(Closed session: 10:47 a.m. to 11:43 a.m.)
7	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: The Board met in
8	closed session to discuss pending litigation. I have
9	nothing further to report at this time.
10	SECRETARY ANGUS: We are it looks like
11	Director Aitken and Cervantes aren't quite back in
12	content. Five more seconds. It should kick them out
13	automatically.
14	Okay. I will go ahead and take roll.
15	Chair Rubalcava-Garcia.
16	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Present.
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: Vice Chair La Belle.
18	VICE CHAIRPERSON LA BELLE: Present.
19	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Cervantes.
20	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: Present.
21	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Ruiz.
22	DIRECTOR RUIZ: Here.
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Bagneris.
24	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Here.
25	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Aitken. Director
	07

1	Aitken.					
2	(No response.)					
3	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: She might be on					
4	mute.					
5	SECRETARY ANGUS: Yeah. It looks like she's on					
6	mute. Oh, there she is. Director Aitken. We can't					
7	hear you.					
8	I will I will circle back.					
9	Director Pham.					
10	DIRECTOR PHAM: Yeah.					
11	SECRETARY ANGUS: Director Kovacevich.					
12	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: He had to jump					
13	off.					
14	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay.					
15	Director Rafiei.					
16	DIRECTOR RAFIEI: Here.					
17	SECRETARY ANGUS: And Director Aitken, one more					
18	time, for the record.					
19	DIRECTOR AITKEN: (Unintelligible; Zoom					
20	malfunction.)					
21	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Yeah. We can					
22	hear you, barely.					
23	SECRETARY ANGUS: Okay. Got it. Thank you.					
24	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Thank					
25	you.					

1	We're going to go ahead and turn I made the					
2	closed session statement, but I will do it again for the					
3	record.					
4	The Board of Directors met in closed session to					
5	discuss pending litigation.					
6	I have nothing further to report at this time.					
7	I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to CEO					
8	Richards for her update.					
9	MS. RICHARDS: Okay. I just indicated to Ken					
10	Karns and Joan Hamill, we are we've been given five					
11	minutes for this very brief CEO update. So lots going					
12	on here.					
13	I'm very proud of our rankings for the Pacific					
14	Amphitheater and for The Hangar during the Fair. The					
15	amphitheater, Pac Amp, ranked number 3 for ticket sales					
16	worldwide during the fair time period. And Hangar,					
17	number 4. So that's really great. Great work by our					
18	entertainment department.					
19	Director Cervantes referred to the new exhibit					
20	that opened October 17th at Heroes Hall, Through Their					
21	Eyes. It's a juried show, featuring artwork from 23					
22	U.S. military veterans from Southern California. Please					
23	go by and see that.					
24	Centennial Farm public tours are on again.					
25	We've been open to the public since September 7th for					

1	tours. We're getting about 50 to 60 tours per day, and					
2	our Open Discovery Days for students are back and					
3	beginning in November. So we're really happy about that					
4	as well.					
5	If you didn't catch the premier, there was a					
6	documentary that was made during the 2019 fair about th					
7	OC Fair's table setting competition, if you can imagine					
8	that. It was part of the Newport Beach Film Festival.					
9	I was joined by several members of staff for					
LO	the premier last weekend. It was funny and kitschy and					
L1	really amazingly interesting. It's going to be					
L2	premiering on Discovery+ here very soon. So check your					
L3	listings and check it out.					
L 4	And then we're also very proud to announce that					
L5	Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris of the 74th District					
L6	will be hosting her Veteran of the Year in-person event					
L7	on November 3rd at the American Legion Post 291. And					
L8	one of our employees, Kimberly Millet, who served in the					
L9	U.S. Army as a public affairs specialist during					
20	Operation Iraqi Freedom, will be honored as Newport					
21	Beach's Veteran of the Year. And her photography work					
22	was featured in a previous exhibit at Heroes Hall. So					
23	yea, Kimberly.					
24	The Finance Committee gave a very good update.					
25	 We're doing really, really well. We're exceeding the					

1	budget on both revenues and expenses. And we are also				
2	doing extremely well on our cash and cash equivalents.				
3	As Director Pham indicated, we have replaced				
4	all of the losses from 2020 and early 2021, and then				
5	some. So we have a year over year increase of				
6	39.2 percent in our cash and cash equivalents.				
7	So I will turn it over to Ken Karns for a quick				
8	operations update.				
9	MR. KARNS: Thanks, Michele. And I will try to				
10	go real quick.				
11	So our berm project, undertaken by Barbara				
12	Gregerson, our landscape supervisor, is going very well				
13	And anyone that was in or around the Pacific				
14	Amphitheater this summer knows that our four-legged				
15	landscape crew was the hit of the fair.				
16	But Barbara reminds us all, although the berm				
17	has never looked better, she's got to move on to the				
18	next phase. So our animals will be going back to their				
19	respective homes. Knitty, our llama, and Herb, our baby				
20	donkey, stay with us, so they will go to the farm to				
21	educate over there.				
22	Then what will happen is, we will rehydroseed				
23	the berm. We need extensive growth to get roots deep				
24	down into the soil to carry water through. It's going				
25	to look a bit like a meadow, perhaps a little weedy, to				

1	some. However, we believe we will create some new					
2	opportunity for education. Some new ecosystem could					
3	develop with some additional birds and butterflies and					
4	whatnot.					
5	It will stay like that until next summer, when					
6	we bring the animals back to redo it all over again.					
7	I'm happy to answer any questions. But, anyway, that's					
8	a that's a quick version of what's happening over					
9	there.					
L O	MS. RICHARDS: All right.					
L1	And, Joan, tell us about some of the upcoming					
L2	events.					
L3	MS. HAMILL: Very quickly.					
L 4	Well, we have a lot of upcoming events as you					
L5	can see. Promoters are very enthusiastic about coming					
L6	out. Our whole team is very busy, and the public is					
L7	thrilled.					
L8	I do want to highlight the Boo Ha Ha Haunted					
L9	Oktoberfest. That is our third self-produced event that					
20	we copromote with or coproduce with Brew Ha Ha					
21	Productions. It takes place Friday and Saturday night.					
22	It's a 21 and over event. Tickets are going very fast.					
23	In fact, VIP tickets for Friday and Saturday are sold					
24	out. So it's going very, very well. It will be a very					
25	fun event and it's very spooky.					

1	The rest of the events that you can see here,				
2	very busy, all through the next couple of weeks.				
3	I did want to mention that I, unfortunately,				
4	missed putting up Fight Club. There will be a Fight				
5	Club on November 11th.				
6	But a lot of activities taking place in the				
7	next couple of weeks. Michele referenced the veterans				
8	event, which also includes the reopening of the Santa				
9	Ana Army Air Base visit, refreshed and beautiful on the				
L O	second floor, on November 11th.				
L1	And the next slide is our other events that I				
L2	mentioned before, was a Through Their Eyes exhibit that				
L3	recently opened. It was referenced a couple of times.				
L4	And Centennial Farm. Tours opening. Discovery				
L5	Days, the first one taking place today. So very excited				
L6	about welcoming back students and teachers and the				
L7	public and our docents.				
L8	And then upcoming are some workshops on				
L9	November 20th. We have the charcuterie workshop.				
20	There's two sessions for that.				
21	And then, in December, we will have a truffle				
22	making workshop for the holidays.				
23	So that is just a very brief overview. More				
24	information can be found on our website, of course, at				
25	OCEair com				

1	And that concludes my report.					
2	MS. RICHARDS: Thank you, Natalie. We are					
3	done.					
4	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Great. Thank					
5	you. And thank you for all the work that you do.					
6	CEO Richards, you and your staff do a					
7	tremendous job. And I just have to highlight, again,					
8	the great work that you have done on the financial side					
9	and keeping OC Fair & Event Center operating, and, you					
LO	know, the positive, especially during a recovery year.					
L1	So great job.					
L2	MS. RICHARDS: Thank you. Thank you.					
L3	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: And on to a					
L4	couple of the last two agenda items.					
L5	Board of Director comments. And I'm going to					
L6	go ahead and just open it up to any board member who has					
L7	a final comment. If you don't, we'll go ahead and move					
L8	on.					
L9	(No response.)					
20	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Okay. Hearing					
21	that there are none, I just want to mention or wish					
22	Director La Belle, or Chair La Belle, and Director					
23	Aitken a happy birthday. I know they just celebrated a					
24	birthday, so happy birthday to you.					
25	Our next board meeting will be November 18th at					



1	9 a.m. on Zoom.					
2	And at this point, I would like to say thank					
3	you to everybody for a wonderful meeting.					
4	And meeting is adjourned.					
5	DIRECTOR BAGNERIS: Thank you, Natalie.					
6	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you.					
7	DIRECTOR CERVANTES: And congratulations to					
8	Director La Belle and Vice Chair Director Pham, and I					
9	want to highlight what an amazing job you did, Director					
LO	Rubalcava-Garcia. Your commitment and, obviously, your					
l1	dedication was obviously amazing. Thank you.					
L2	CHAIRPERSON RUBALCAVA-GARCIA: Thank you. I					
L3	appreciate it. Have a great day, everybody.					
L4	(Proceedings concluded at 11:54 a.m.)					
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	
3	I, KATHRYN S. SWANK, a Certified Shorthand Reporter
4	of the State of California, do hereby certify:
5	That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6	foregoing proceedings were reported, to the best of my
7	ability, in shorthand by me, Kathryn S. Swank, a
8	Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California,
9	and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.
10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11	attorney for any of the parties to said proceedings nor
12	in any way interested in the outcome of said
13	proceedings.
14	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
15	this 8th day of November 2021.
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