

## OCFEC Board Meeting December 18, 2025

- Nick Kovacevich** Yes, good morning, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, I would like to call the meeting to order all matters noticed on this agenda in any category may be considered for action as listed any item not so notice may not be considered. Items listed on this agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the chairperson. The mission of the ofcec is enhancing equitable community access to agriculture, entertainment, cultural and educational experiences. Now, if everybody would please stand, we will do the Pledge of Allegiance. All right, ready, begin.
- Everyone** I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
- Nick Kovacevich** All right, Summer, Please lead us in roll call, if you will.
- Summer Angus** Chair Bagneris?
- Barbara Bagneris** I'm here.
- Summer Angus** Vice-Chair Ruiz? I'll circle back. Director Kovacevich?
- Nick Kovacevich** Here.
- Summer Angus** Director La Belle?
- Doug La Belle** Here.
- Summer Angus** Director Rubicava Garcia?
- Natalie Rubalcava-Garcia** Here.
- Summer Angus** Director Bilezikjian?
- Tanya Bilezikjian** Here.
- Summer Angus** Director Jackson?
- Dimetria Jackson** Here.
- Summer Angus** And Director Ruiz is going to log on from a different device because he

keeps getting kicked out. So we'll announce when he...

**James Canfield** Will report when he joins the meeting again.

**Nick Kovacevich** Is that? Is that everyone okay? Thank you. All right.

**James Canfield** Director, yeah, since we don't have not actually approved the minutes, so that'll have to be continued.

**Nick Kovacevich** Do we have any discussion about the minutes? Okay? We will move to approve those when we have quorum. We'll move now to Agenda Item number six, which is matters of public comment. Public comment is allowed on issues not on the current agenda. However, no debate by the Board shall be permitted on such public comments, and no action will be taken on such public comment items at this time as law requires formal public notice prior to any action on an agenda item, speakers are requested to fill out and submit a comment card to the meeting Secretary prior to the start of the meeting, and are limited to three minutes. Comments will be accepted on all other agenda items at the time each item is listed on the agenda. Speakers wishing to address the board on items on the agenda are requested to fill out and submit a comment card of the meeting Secretary prior to the start of the meeting, and identify the agenda items on which you desire to address the board. Speakers are limited to three minutes. We do have any general comments?

**Summer Angus** We do not have general public comment, but director Ruiz has joined the meeting.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, welcome back, Director Ruiz, and we will go ahead and move on to the consent calendar, which will not be able to be voted on today, but if there's any items you'd like to discuss or or inform us on.

**James Canfield** They are all basic event agreements and can be continued over to the next meeting.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, great. We're not holding up any of your important initiatives. Sounds great. All right, so do. Quickly, we are now already at Agenda Josh's favorite item number eight, closed session, and we are going to break for closed session and be back as soon as possible.

**Summer Angus** For our board members on Zoom, we are creating a zoom breakout room, so hold tight and we'll get you in the closed session.

**Barbara  
Bagneris** Thank you.

**Nick Kovacevich** Welcome back everyone. We, the board met for closed session. We have

nothing to report. That's going to allow us to move on to agenda. Item number nine, which is the CEO's verbal operational announcements and updates, is the verb verbal in there to say that there's no accompanying slides. There are slides. Oh, great.

**James Canfield** They're always slides. I can't come to a meeting without slides. I was famous for my 84 slide present in a past life. I think the record should also note that Director Rubalcava-Garcia had to leave the meeting as well. Director Ruiz...

**Nick Kovacevich** I believe Director Ruiz is...

**James Canfield** I think he's still wrestling with his zoom.

**Barbara Bagneris** Yeah, he's trying to come back in. He will be in the meeting in just a minute.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, okay, great.

**James Canfield** So I will get started. I know I've been trying to keep everyone updated, and I know you've been watching with bated breath to kind of follow our entertainment announcements. We do have three shows on sale in the Pacific amphitheater, the first and at the board's direction, and working with our new Entertainment Task Force, we're working to kind of expand the Pacific amphitheater season beyond the fair. Please do to kind of share with you we've got Iration and Tribal seeds, which will be June the 26th so that will be pre fair. Midland is a great country act. They will be the opening day of the fair on July 17. We've added Allison Krause and Union Station on August 29 so again, that'll be a post fair concert, and then one of the favorite events for those of us that that like malt beverage we have, we're bringing back through Hee Haw, and I think that's two days, three days? Two days. And that'll be starting on July 17, again, with the opening of the fair. Still, lots of exciting announcements upcoming. I know we've got a number of great events that we're working to finalize now that and be able to announce. The big trip of the month was the IAFI Convention and trade show in Denver. Few exciting announcements there. The OC Fair did garner 13 International awards, which were very exciting. I know that we were going to try to get those plaques in here, and we will have those hung with pride so the board can kind of see those. There were dozens of sessions. We had a group of 12 representatives. From the OC fair there. And you know, we all attended multiple sessions. The trade show featured 243 exhibitors. We saw some, some incredible entertainment opportunities, both for the grounds as well as special events in our venues and some other vendors that we're looking at to provide some other services for us, be it staging or fencing or other hardware and equipment. Great networking opportunity to spend some time with every other major fair in the world. And one of the things that was remarkable to me, and a reminder to me as the CEO of the OC Fair,

is that we are a major fair internationally. We are one of the largest fairs in the world. So that was really great to have people recognize us, kind of for who we are and the value of our fair.

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, where do you think we are in the like, top 50 Internationally?

**James Canfield** I'll see if I can find more info on that. I mean, obviously some of them are national and in scope and what have you. But I'll see if I can dig that up. I'm sure that information is available. But certainly there are five divisions, if you will, within each of the award categories, and they're based on size. We're five which is which is the largest size. So Michelle, well, all of the team got a chance to see our previous COO Ken Karns, who was he finished his tenure as the chair of IAFE board. So that was kind of his swan song in that position, and it was great to catch up. And he did share his warm wishes for the board and all the staff here and and I got to tell you we needed warm wishes, because the photo to the right is, you know, I we got on the plane, it was 74 degrees and sunny in Santa Ana, and landed, it was 18 degrees and snowing in Denver. And I don't know about you, but I don't have the the clothes to deal with that. One of the other things I wanted to share was again as as an indication of our leadership in the industry. Evie, who heads our agriculture program, actually led a session at the International Conference, session on grants. So that was great to see, and again, another indication that we hold a place of honor in the industry. Couple other updates on the COO search, we have identified five new qualified candidates that the interview team will be meeting with between now and after the beginning of the year. Hopefully, with the goal of having someone in place early first quarter. You know, in February at the latest. We've got, they've all got, there's some fair experience, large venue and large event experience, as well as components related to, you know, ride management and Midways, large capital project management, really, all of The things that that are key for us. So coming back from IAFE the very next week, I had to go to Sacramento, there were two really incredible sessions. As the board knows, I'm on the board of the California Construction Authority, which is the joint powers authority that manages and oversees capital projects for fairgrounds, including ours.

**James Canfield** And we did hire a new executive officer who has started, and we had a strategic planning session with the new executive officer, and are very excited about where we feel the direction of that organization is going and and how it can better collaborate with us on the grounds and further our needs. We also had a great session put together by Deputy Secretary Flores at the CDFA. There are monthly collaboratives, and this month were sessions with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, not only on construction regulations and plan checks and code compliance, but also related to event permits and some of the specifics that we need to be

working with on the grounds, made some great comment contacts with them that I think will be very fruitful for us as we continue to move forward with the growth of our year round events. So here we are. We're in our new board room. I don't know which version this is 3.0, 3.1, I don't know, but we're still in the process of moving into the administrative offices. As everyone knows. We did get conditional certificate of occupancy, and we've been moving folks over department by department, starting with, you know, the IT infrastructure and the network build and all of those other things. And this, this photo, it was in our E and E department on the wall and, and I thought, there, there's not a better, a better motto for us, as as we all come together and move into this new building, a big part of the impetus for doing this building was to bring the team together, to be create a much more collaborative environment. So I thought it was great. They they had the Better Together sign up on the wall. We're planning for a little broader and hopefully kind of a dedication ceremony, if you will, at the January meeting. Once we've all once everybody's in the building. We didn't want to do that until everybody got in but we have not developed a specific program for that. But I think that's certainly possible. It would certainly include the board and the staff and other key constituents in the community.

**Doug La Belle**

So I think our partners, CCA, LPA, and the contractor will play a significant part in helping us put that together. So I would the more we can bring in our our customers, if you will our clients to visualize what we've what we've done. I think would be great. Be a good, a good boost for the process.

**James Canfield**

Yes, absolutely it'll be. It'll be very typical, as you've seen, and kind of other building dedications, etc. And so we'll, we'll continue to discuss that and bring forth some information on the planning for that. The other thing we've done as an executive team is we've engaged with a consultancy to work with us on team building and collaboration efforts. Obviously, with everyone coming together after a period of being in multiple buildings and multiple areas on the grounds, we thought it would be great to conduct some exercises that focus on creating a more collaborative workplace and Making sure that the teams that we've now collect connected physically, are also connected emotionally, and are really working together to count on each other. So that'll include an engagement survey and working to build a collaborative environment, because the key is everybody in the organization plays a key role in our success.

**Doug La Belle**

James, a number of a number of years ago, I think Barbara and I and maybe Robert were the only ones here at the time, Kelly and Associates, Bill Kelly did a very comprehensive report. Obviously, that's a long time back, but I think you might want to resurrect that document at least look at what what came out of that and see what is still applicable.

**James Canfield** Gotcha, that's great. Thank you. I was not aware of that. This one's really going to kind of focus on the individual teams and team players that we have. And again, this will just kind of give you an idea. There'll be an engagement survey that will really include some 360 information, and then afterwards, we'll have a collaborative report put together that. At will really take us through each department and building the teams, breaking down some of the silos, etc. It just happened in any organization, especially when you have a huge geographic separation in the team. This one, one of the things that we've been talking about a lot is, you know, our our continued progress in in the Ranch community center and Michelle, do you want to run through these? Or would you like me to Okay.

**Michele Capps** We've held two of the branch discovery days and 864 participants. We have two more planned for this coming year as well. Thee large animal evacuations. As you know, last year the airport fire, we were ready to house the 90 animals, and then, although we weren't officially called upon as as an evacuation center, just recently, we were able to house the Tanaka Farms animals as well, and they stayed with us an extended period while they were fixing the roofing at their farms. So we were happy to help out. Also. I just wanted to note that we were able to with that after school program. We were able to expand and add College Park Elementary School as well. So the trainers and boarders Currently, we have citrus farms walk into it and equestrian and most notable with walk into it, they have transferred their entire equestrian operation to our property. So they are no longer in Orange Park acres. They have moved the entire operation to our property. So that's we're pretty happy about that. And additionally, over the past year, they have been keeping track of every session here, and that has been 1,761 sessions on site, just walk into it alone.

**Doug La Belle** What period of time again?

**Michele Capps** All year, January to just yesterday.

**Doug La Belle** So over 1,000 individuals?

**Michele Capps** That's actually just sessions. There could be between one to 10 participants per session.

**Doug La Belle** Thats good, very, good.

**Michele Capps** Yeah, so, and those are some of those sessions are free and paid. So, as far as helping the community and our mission to help the public, this is absolutely going towards that. If you go to their website, we are listed as one of the locations. You'll see the little horses next to all of their therapist, so they've redone their website, and they have all of their scholarship opportunities on there as well for people who want to participate. So we're very happy to be partnering with them as well. As

far as citrus hills are going to be starting horse shows. The first one will be coming up. We anticipate that in February, and then we're hoping that once a month after that, we will be having more shows on property with the Citrus Hill trainers and and that boarding facility.

**Doug La Belle** So they bring in outside equestrian?

**Michele Capps** Yes.

**Doug La Belle** Okay.

**Michele Capps** So the goal with that is to expand our reach for more borders and for them to to expand their businesses as well. So that would be just more exposure for both, bringing in more of the public as well, and so equestrian as well as the other company that we have. And, yeah, that's it next. So these are some of the before and after pictures that we have. We are 60% completed on all of the upgrades that we wanted on the private boarding side of the stalls, and we anticipate we will be 100% complete by the time fair starts. We've we've shifted some of the priorities as we've started some of the public programming. As you can see, we have. All new garden beds over on the the public side, and then we've moved the priority back over to the boarding side now, so we'll get all of that done before fair opens. And these are just more of the project update pictures. So we've cut down trees. We're just cleaned up everything, all of the electrical. Knots Berry Farm has swapped out the they had to take back the stagecoach, but got us another one.

**Doug La Belle** So is the stagecoach restored, or is it...?

**Michele Capps** Yeah, I'm not quite sure they needed the one that was here back and got us a different one.

**Doug La Belle** Got it.

**Michele Capps** Yeah, just a rotation.

**James Canfield** And it's been really a significant amount of work that's been accomplished there since the transition back to OC Fair management and just the, you know, having to to redo the footing and maintain that on an ongoing basis. I mean, there's some, there's a lot of very significant work that that's taken place, and the ongoing maintenance, as well as is a critical piece of what we do. Any questions on The Ranch Community Center update? So I think, what did you say we have 19.

**Michele Capps** Yeah 19.

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, I just have a comment. This is great. I think that we could be much further along if there wasn't, you know, such issues that we had to deal

with. We the board, got together, laid out, I think, a really compelling vision to allow for, you know, a lot of the activity that was already occurring there to continue, but also to expand it. We have licensed nonprofit equine therapy happening. We've got competitions happening. We've got student discovery days happening, and we have lessons happening. And this is what we said we were going to do. I think we could be a lot further along if there was buy in across the board on this, this plan from folks in the that were already on site there. But it's just great to see it's great to see it coming together. And I know there's a lot more to happen, and I look forward to where we're going to be at this point next year. And I think at some point we've got to get the media to update some of the reporting right, because I think there was some reports that were suggesting that this activity was going to cease, and that simply couldn't be further from the truth. So I think this is a great report. Again. I wish we were even further along, and I understand why we're not, but I appreciate your guys efforts to continue to invest in this in this programming, and continue to build both the private and public side of this new Ranch Equine Center. So thank you.

**Barbara  
Bagneris**

And this is Director Bagneris. I just want to ditto what Nick just said, and I agree we need to make sure we get this word out. I love what I'm seeing, and I'm appreciative to everyone who's involved in it. And we could have been further along, but now we're just going to go full steam ahead. So appreciate everyone on this activity.

**Michele Capps**

You know, I just wanted to call out I missed a couple of pieces on that. Walk into it. Some of the programs that they have, there's a once a month open house, and then once a month they have these other free programs that they have. They have Horses and Hearts Connections, Ponies and Painting. They have Healing with Horses. So these are other programs and mental health sessions that they open up and other free events. And so you can just go on their website as well, but they partner with other the Sun County Wellness, mental health and drug alcohol rehab and the ocean recovery program as well, and they also have summer camp. So the exposure that they are giving us as well, not just within their own closed system, but they're bringing us more exposure as well. So we see the growth there will happen through them as well.

**James Canfield**

And what one of the other things that that's a priority and and we've made it a two year plan, and that is to incorporate more equestrian activities in the Ranch Community Center into the fair itself.

**Nick Kovacevich**

Oh, really?

**James Canfield**

Yes. And you know what? There are a couple challenges. One is geographic, because of where it's located on the ground. So we're looking at innovative ways to get folks down there. And you know the the



discussion about our partners doing some some horse shows and different things in The Ranch is really all part of that, because we'd like to have those continue to grow and expand so they can become part of our fair program. And for this year, we'll be bringing some additional equestrian activities over into the livestock area and potentially in ASA. The challenge in ASA is it's not the right foot for some of the performances and certainly any of the competitive but we're working on one of the things that we identified at IAFI was some equestrian related events and things that we can do again to just broaden the fair program and really expand it to include more equestrian activities.

**Doug La Belle** For larger events. And I think that's one of the things that we were charged with as the Dimetria and I were charged with as the entertainment Task Force, was to look at that the hangar and Pac-amp. So anything that we can do to to expand into that will obviously bring, not only bring revenue in, but bring users in that, yes, have that experience.

**James Canfield** And we're really, you know, there's certainly a focus on that related to fair time, but also to make all of those venues more dynamic in the year round events as well. And maybe beyond. What we've done has traditionally in those or historically in those venues. So...

**Doug La Belle** Wonderful. I just I might add on that, if I could, I've mentioned this before, Chino Hills has a very large equestrian community, and I will provide some names to Michelle of people that she can contact. They've had a number of horse shows out there over time, and you know, there's probably many, many equestrians that have uses out there. So I'll get some names and numbers for Michelle to kind of follow up with.

**James Canfield** Thank you. Director La Belle, that'll be very helpful. And again, anything that we can do to kind of expand and broaden those programs. Director Kovacevich, next item on the menu. Menu, geez all Pete's, but I must be hungry. Next item on the agenda is the presentation of the 2026 budget submittal letter. This, again, is an information item. It's one of the requirements that we have. So it's a statutory item that we're just presenting a budget recap letter to follow on the budget approval session that the board undertook at that November meeting. So that letter, which is a summary of the budget and the information that we shared is in the packets, and it is available at the for members of the public, in both the online documentation as well as here in the room. I don't believe we had any public comment on that item, so I think the budget process was incredibly effective and well vetted by the board, and the team really appreciates the board's support in that.

**Doug La Belle** I would compliment James and Melissa and the staff on that. I think it was, as always, an excellent summary of the budgetary process. And I think that goes obviously online and is available to be reviewed. So I

would again, thank you for a job well done.

**James Canfield** Thank you, Director La Belle.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, so that takes to 10 B, yes, okay, great. This is a review of the existing Master Site Plan we we do have a public comment on this item, I guess I'll you have a presentation on this.

**James Canfield** Yes, I was going to quickly run through the previously approved Master Site Plan. I did not make any modifications to it. I thought it would be very helpful. Able to run through the existing for just a quick view for the board and the public. And I know that there's an intent that the Facilities Committee will be taking that up. We've got some staff thoughts about, you know, priorities, additional things that potentially we could be looking at, and we're anticipating that the Board may want to consider running through that in more detail and discussing the status of it, modifications to it at subsequent meetings. So, this is really intended just to kind of kick that discussion off. Felt it would be helpful to run through it first remind everybody what's in the current plan, and then we can dig into the details. And when are we going to do that? I've got the review for set for today, okay to run through and again, at at as high a level as we need to, or as much in detail as we need to, but again, just as a reminder to to the work that was done several years ago by by board.

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, I think I actually have wanted to do this, but my only concern is we're missing some directors today, so I'd love to get everybody to be engaged on this, but let's go through it briefly. And I actually would like to take direction from the chair on this one, and maybe do a, do a brief preview, or do you want to punt this one chair?

**Barbara Bagneris** You know, I really want us, I agree with you, to be engaged in this, but whatever they have to present today, maybe just if it's very, very high level, then let's, let's move forward with that, unless any of the other directors have a opinion different than that?

**Doug La Belle** No, I agree with that. I think just a quick review of what we have and what the priorities are, then we can go from there.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, so why don't we do a quick review in your presentation? Then we'll take the public comment, and then we'll, we'll have some, some light discussion and and look to revisit this with more of a quorum.

**James Canfield** Perfect. Okay, thank you.o the the original, well, the current Master Site Plan, I can't say original, was approved by the board at the November 17, 2022, board meeting. So, this is a plan that's now four years old, and just

kind of thought it would be helpful to run through it. This, obviously, is the overall site, and that is at fair time. There were a number of assumptions that I mean, they're all very normal and appropriate. I don't think that we need to go through. Phase one is the administrative office building where we're sitting today. So obviously that is completed to the extent that we are in and beginning to effectively use it so that portion is completed. And you can see, this is the plan that was in place at the time. Some of the exterior renderings a nice fly around. It is a very nice building, and I think ultimately will be very successful for us to house our administration. Phase Two, in the plan which is underway was to build two restroom components, one for the campground, which is located just behind this building, and the other out in the midway, which is both of those areas are served today by portable restroom trailers. And quick update on these two the campground restrooms have gone through a full design and are out to bid. We will be getting bids, then in two weeks on that project, and we'll be able to evaluate those bids. The midway restrooms were put on hold because there were some there was some discovery done that was going to make it extremely difficult and expensive to build what was being designed in the location that it was. So that's been taken off the table, and we're going back. We're working with the Facilities Committee on that, CCA and and our team to identify better ways and potentially locations for that. So we will have some bids to review for the campground restrooms, though, as we move forward, when again, just some.

**Doug La Belle** James, how much is the campground restroom facility. It's a square footage?

**James Canfield** 1800 Yes, 1800 square feet.

**Doug La Belle** Thanks for the quick math.

**James Canfield** Yes. Thank you. I think it's, yeah, 1,895 square feet, and that's men's and women's restrooms. It's double sided to accommodate public restrooms as well as the campground, there are shower facilities, etc. So thank you. Don't need to go through that again. We'll know better where we are with the costs of that as as we get those bids. But it is, it is a significant cost. And, you know, I think the the bids will really give us a real test of where we are in the construction industry and where those costs will come in. The next phase in the project was the Centennial Farm expansion, and that was to remove the existing century book, century barn, replace it with a new barn and add additional, you know, pens and other areas, some canopy tack room and some other space, the barn being 2400 square feet, and then the other space Being an additional 540 square feet, and that project it is, is not in process at this point and would not be undertaken until Phase Two was complete.

**Nick Kovacevich** And can you refresh my memory? Is that largely driven by the current condition of the building or by...

**James Canfield** You know, mostly my understanding it was, is that it was due to the condition of the existing building, as well as adding a little bit of additional space and some other program areas. There may be other ways to do that. I have not had a chance to really understand the engineering or the review of the existing building, and if there are other options to either renovate that building or expand it in a way that would add the additional program space that that the team is hoping to have there. So I can't really give a full report on that at this point, but I think that would be part of what we would do as our overall review of the existing Master Site Plan, and again, just an overview of that now we can fly over it.

**James Canfield** Phase 3b is the construction of a 7800 square foot Education Center, which would be that's located, let's find out. So it's an open event space as well as storage, Wine Society offices. I mean, there were a variety of things there, but this also involved removing the existing ranch building. Is that correct? Michelle, yes. And again, in reviewing the condition of that building, it seems to be in very good condition. It's very usable. There may be an alternative to removing that and again, repurposing it, doing some slight renovation, restroom, approved improvements, those kinds of things, and continuing to keep a building that we already have on the grounds instead of demolishing it and replacing it with a new building, especially if we can provide the programming that the new space was important to Take so again, I think that would be something for the Facilities Committee and the Board to review.

**James Canfield** I love the flyovers. And again, that was those two. Facilities were significant financial impact, over \$14 million for those two. And again, I would think that those are two that we could really review the existing facilities and see if they can be maintained, salvage, improved to meet the programmatic needs that we identified. Phase four, is the show building additions. That's an expansion and upgrade to the east and west facades the existing show arena total of 2,284 square feet of additional space, addition of some facades and some other improvements there. And again, it's a relatively small scope. You can see it's just adding some storage and other program space on one side of the building. And again, that's a \$3 million project, not a significant scope, but again, I think something worth worth reviewing and determining if there are some other ways to meet those needs. Phase Five, And I know this that the Pacific amphitheater has been a topic of lots of interest, not only from the board, from the Facilities Committee, from the Entertainment Committee, but also from the staff as we work to make sure that that is a, I'll use one of those crazy words, a world class entertainment venue where we can attract year round programming With major artists and and high profile activities. So

currently, the projects that were in the plan were demolition and replacement of the box office, renovations to the outside Plaza, upgrade to the restrooms, adding a kitchenette, a meeting room, and exterior shade canopy to some of the space, again, a 2500 square foot project, which is was not substantial or Significant.

**James Canfield**

Isn't that a beautiful spot? Yeah. And then the second phase, some structural repairs and physical renovations to the entire facility, signage, sound walls, civil services and landscaping. Some of these projects that are listed here are actually also being carried, carried in the capital plan. Some of those were funded in the capital plan this year, again, because several of these are really more maintenance and upkeep as opposed to major construction projects or major changes. So the restrooms are in there. Work on the sound walls is in there, and a number of other items, landscaping is in there, etc, that will already be proceeding kind of separately. This is an area, the amphitheater is an area where there are many other potential opportunities for improvements, both within the seating bowl, looking at how we can provide VIP seating experiences, what we can do in the Club OC area to provide some more interesting backstage opportunities for both public as well as artists. The dressing rooms, sound system, the overall condition of the stage house, installation of a roof on that that would give us a better opportunity to do year round events. I think there are a lot of opportunities that that we have in the amphitheater to work towards making that a more substantial and again, making it a world class facility, if you will, that we can use to attract bigger and better artists. Phase six, action sports arena Director La Belle kind of touched on that that worked on the seating bowl, you know, putting a portable board system in it, much more along the the lines of a Dasher board system, see in in a nice arena, if you will. You know, the seating count would actually go down in this plan. And I think that's something that that we would, we would want to proceed with very carefully. I think removing seats from a venue where we typically sell out multiple events over the course of the fair may not be my recommendation, but certainly something for the board to review in the facility and entertainment committees to weigh in on.

**Doug La Belle**

James. What's the cost of that again?

**James Canfield**

Yeah, we'll get I, I'm sorry, Doug, that's in the next slide. And again, nothing wrong with the project. That's about \$3 million and again, my I think the board should, should really focus on whether that's what really needs to be upgraded in in the action sports arena, I think there are, I think, by design right now, the way the the arena itself is is very limited, limiting to the types of events that we can host in there. We rent all of the other grandstands are an annual rental that we have, both for fair time and then when we do other special events in there. So we actually have an

ongoing significant expense to rent all that equipment, and then they take it away.

**Doug La Belle** Some of the seating is, for lack of better term rent. It rather antiquated.

**James Canfield** It is. But again, that's the rental. Those blisters in the yeah, whatever, yeah, the two end grandstands in the opposite side from the main grandstand is all rental. And it's, you know, we're, we're kind of at the mercy of the the rental company, with some of the quality and things that we can get from that.

**Robert Ruiz** James, this is Director Ruiz, when you mentioned the action sports arena, the seating will go down. Do you know, do you have an estimate as to how many seats we would lose if that was the case?

**James Canfield** Yes, Vice Chair. Ruiz, yeah, 350. Seats.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, how many?

**James Canfield** We're at 1800 now, and we would go down to 1462.

**Tanya Bilezikjian** Keep in mind, when looking at the the cost of these projects, these numbers were run in 2022 Yes, fair amount of inflation since then, and these were very back of the envelope estimates anyways. So as you recall, the Admin Building went up by about \$5 million and then we're looking at some increased costs on phase two, the the restrooms as well. So take the numbers with a grain of salt.

**James Canfield** That's a great point. Director. Thank you. Yes, one of the challenges with building a long term plan that you know this is showing phase six targeted for 2030, 2031, obviously, even if that's what the number is today, it may not be that by the time we get there. And again, I think you know, some of the things the board will want to look at is, is the priorities of these projects, where they're slated to go, and then the best way for us to get there and get the greatest bang for our buck, if you will, making sure that we're focusing on generating more revenue that will help us fund these projects. Phase seven And the one that I probably know the least about is the new agriplex, and that is a significant building, 88,500 square feet, located on the grounds that would replace several of the buildings that that currently exists. And again, like I said, that that's the one that I have really the least understanding of the specific programming for that, for that building, but it also, you know, represents the largest construction project, and certainly the largest cost, which was slated for phase seven, and again, that would support the agriculture and livestock programs and any of our other year round programs that couldn't use that space and that piece of the the plan, by itself, is \$86 million.

**Doug La Belle** What was that number again?

**James Canfield** 86,601,932.

**Doug La Belle** To be exact.

**James Canfield** To be exact. Yes, sir. And I think there was some sense in there, and it was point oh, three cents for the back of the nap, back in the napkin, yes, sir. Well, it's kind of like that. The Price Is Right. You know, You're the next contestant, right, So. Phase eight, being just some overall property upgrades, landscaping, functional security perimeter fans, gate systems, and again, I think that these are certainly all needed, but would typically be more might be able to be handled just through kind of annual maintenance and upkeep and just kind of ongoing capital improvements that we make on the grounds. And, you know, landscaping can be broken up into individual areas and and done one area at a time. That's the same with fencing or other things. Yeah. Just yeah, yeah. And again, it just instead of saving up till 2032 2033 and trying to come up with significant project, I think we tackle some of this on an ongoing basis as part of our ongoing capital plans. And that may be something that the board would like to consider, again, that's another \$67 million and I would say probably this one is much more of a placeholder than than it there's definite scope that's been designed at this point. And again, I only have the documents and the information that I have. And then this is a just a flyover of of the whole thing that that was part of the the original presentation that shows all the new buildings and...

**Nick Kovacevich** The \$200 million.

**James Canfield** This is the 200 plus million dollars, yes, with kind of all the things. And you can see some of the landscaping, the islands and the trees and the parking lots and and and again, some of the other things that were just really, I think, carried as placeholders at this point. Okay, so overall, 229 million plus with, you know, the two big projects pushed off phase seven and eight, which really wouldn't hit until after 2030 with another 79 slated through Phase six. And you know, I think the the board has an opportunity now to really go back through that, look at the priorities, look at the projects, potentially direct staff to do some review of some of the needs, see what if any of that has shifted from a programming standpoint, or if there are other more creative ways to solve some of this?

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, okay, great. Let's take the public comment now, because we do have one from Reggie Mundekis, and then we can do a board discussion.

**Reggie Mundekis** Hi, good morning, I'm Reggie Mundekis and thank you for letting me address you today. So I'm just going to run down my list, update the pack amp to increase revenues by being more attractive to talent and the ticket

holders. Evaluate a new building for the ranch and other education programs at that end of the property. The building that's on the master site plan now, is actually behind the Centennial Farm.

**Reggie Mundekis** So there'd be a building for Centennial farm programs, a new building for The Ranch, evaluate what equestrian facilities we need going forward. Examine the use and revenue potential of the action sports arena, and including if the space could be put to better use, because it's we love it, but we only use it very, very little. I would suggest keeping livestock shows, which are for five weeks a year, in temporary tents and structures because of ever changing requirements for those shows from a health and safety standpoint. Create an improved back of house corridor along Arlington drive to facilitate increased business and faster business. Create a parking garage and storage facility in the billboard corner of the parking lot that's. At fair drive in Newport. I am just going to lay it out. I have no idea what we're doing. What we would do with the agriplex building. We have livestock on the property for five weeks a year. We may be better served by multiple smaller buildings. That way we could have several different activities, one in each building. And I would ask that we do a detailed presentation on what bond financing really is, how it works with the state of California, and the financial impacts going forward? Once you get that check from the bond financing, it's a possibility, but we have to understand what we're getting ourselves into. So that's my list for today. Thank you.

**Nick Kovacevich** mind is that is to kind of rethink this, as it's a very big expense, only getting more expensive, as we've talked about with inflation. So I would really want to prioritize revenue generating. I think that obviously we the pac-amp is a good focus, focal point for that. I don't know if the plan that we have today is maximizing the opportunity to create more revenue, so I think we should look at that potentially move that up. I think that, as you mentioned, James, if there's not a dire need to replace a crumbling infrastructure. Might be better to use those dollars elsewhere. The action sports arena, I was thinking the same thing in terms of the location and the use if we're going to redo it, if we're going to improve it. I mean, it might be better just to move it, because I don't think it's going to cost that much more to relocate. It's mostly dirt. And I just think that that that location could be better used, and maybe we don't need it at all. So I think that that location action sports arena, I think we should, we should really look into that, and then last thing that I had was, I mean, just, I know we've talked about a lot, but that that bathroom cost, I just, we'll see when the bids come in, are there prefab stuff that we could look at?

**James Canfield** Yes, and, and we've, we're, we're, we're pursuing that as an opportunity as well, and, and definitely for the Midway restrooms, because we think that would be a better solution. And, and potentially for the campground



restrooms as well. And it'll really, you know, be incumbent upon the board to kind of review that as that information comes back in. But I think we can. We can certainly do it less expensively and more quickly if we pursue some of those other options.

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, if we spend 7 million on two bathrooms, we might, we might become an internet memes. So, okay, those are my thoughts. Anyone else?

**Tanya Bilezikjian** reordering some of these and adjusting some of them based on the needs of today, rather than the needs that were developed in 2022 is going to be important. I'd also be curious to have a staff workshop and understand, you know, what staff see as the priorities, since they are there every day of the year, and really work with these facilities, so understanding, in their opinions what what's needed. I also, you know, we have the strategic priority to focus on year round events. And so if we can, you know, the, for example, the educational building that I believe, is item 3b There's that set just outside of Centennial farm. It's a new building where classes can be done. I know how popular the Centennial Farm classes, Whether it's cooking or planting or whatever, people love those they sell out immediately. I think that's a really great way to reach out to the people that you know want to engage more. So there's, there's really a lot of opportunity here to to adjust and also to start to understand what the financial impact is going to be, which is something that the Finance Committee has has started to think about, as far as you know, understanding a cash flow projection for the next 10 years based on some assumptions and based on what the the new version of the facilities master plan is going to look like. To Reggie's point about bond funding, we really want to understand what's happening and make those predictions well ahead of when that might need to happen. So definitely a lot going on in the committee right now.

**Barbara Bagneris** Director Kovacevich, Director Bagneris, when we talk about other adjustments to the plan, you know there are new items that have come to our attention based on the meetings that we've had in Sacramento ,that we're going to want to figure out how they fit into this Master Site Plan as well. So I'm hoping that we can look at those adjustments as well.

**Nick Kovacevich** Yeah, I didn't mention that, but I think you know in our conversations with folks in Sacramento, first of all, and we're already moving in that direction, thanks to the leadership CEO Canfield, but with serve right and and the community resiliency, emergency response, so I think that needs to be definitely factored in. And then there's also some innovative revenue

producing opportunities that would be more of public private partnerships, and that could be a way that we could really fund some of the stuff, you know, the, for example, parking lot, you know, that's generating revenue. So you could get somebody to fund that, and that doesn't have to come out of our necessarily upfront budget. So I think that that's very good point Chair Bagneris, thank you.

**Dimetria Jackson**

And I just concur with regards to revenue generating assets that we have here in the property. We've discussed Pacific amphitheater. I know we did it in the entertainment Task Force. I noticed that others are doing the same. I feel like we should focus on increasing the revenue, increasing revenue streams through that venue, so kind of prioritizing it also, was it the ASA we need? I don't know what the cost to purchase, and I know because of the purchase we have to store, but I also wonder what that cost will be long term, versus the continued rental of equipment. And I know we only need it for a short period of time, but if we're going to go year round, they need to consider that as consider that as well. And losing 300, 330 some seats if the venue does sell out, is significant. And I think we need to revisit that. You know, four years after this, a plan was put in place. Obviously, things have changed, costs have changed, and like director Bill ezekien said, we're looking at, you know, numbers that are almost four years old now, so it really may become cost prohibitive and with regards to some of these measures that we want to put in place. So that's basically what I have.

**Robert Ruiz**

Director Ruiz, I also in agreement that we look at, you know, what is the revenues? I mean, the venue to bring us, you know, that are good resources of revenue outside of the fair, and that would be, obviously, the Pac-amp. We can focus in on that. And, you know, hopefully in the future, once we do do that, start bringing some, you know, major top acts into this venue. So so I think that's, that's one of the priorities I think we should be focusing on, because it's year round. It's just not doing fair time. If we start doing it, you know, year round, have 40x a year, that would be great. So if we can focus on that, that's one of the venues that I think we should prioritize. So that's just my take on that. But all the other ones are great too.

**Nick Kovacevich**

Okay, Director La Belle?

**Doug La Belle**

Director Yes, I agree with all those comments on Pac-amp, and I think that a couple of things just to get out on the table. Director Jackson and I met as the entertainment Task Force earlier this week with James and Michelle, and we were charged by the chair with looking at not only pac-amp, but the hangar and the action sports arena. I think we need to get pac-amp to a point where it is not 40 years old anymore, it's a current state of the art facility that we can maximize the use of. I think there's

some things that we can look at in terms of the hangar that's not currently on the plan at all. The Cerritos performing arts, they do three different configurations in their performing arts facility. They break down one area, set it up as a different, there may be some things that we can do inside the hangar. Obviously, we want the fight nights to continue in that but there may be some things that we can do inside the hangar, in terms of seating, that we could move in and out, that would enhance that as a theater in the round like a. Uh, the City of Anaheim used to have, or maybe they still do. For that matter, I mentioned Patti LaBelle. We need to get Patti LaBelle there for the PAC camp.

**James Canfield** I hear you.

**Doug La Belle** There we go.

**James Canfield** I think that's a different meeting.

**Doug La Belle** And I think there's a number of opportunities with the hangar is a smaller facility, and that sort of thing. I appreciate Reggie's comments. I think she's right on, as always, about 90% I would agree with what she said. She made a comment, I believe, at the last meeting about cleaning out the garage. And I think that's something else that we need to look at. There's probably some stuff out there that we just keep kicking around that we probably ought to just level and get rid of, probably costing us more to maintain it than it would be to remove it. And the other thing I would like to suggest the Facilities Committee look at is consolidating some of these projects, you know, like project two or three, of the buildings, you know, to design that all at once, and to do that all at once would probably make a from a cost benefit standpoint, make more sense, as Tanya would I think would emphasize is that costs are going up. You know, the more we can do now, rather than later, the better off we're going to be.

**Doug La Belle** I think the pac amp and to a degree, maybe the hangar, offers some revenue generating opportunities. I think we should take a very serious look at revenue bonds. The benefit of building these facilities out sooner rather than later is we do it at today's cost. The downside is there's obviously a cost of financing, and you're going to pay that. Bondholders get very, very uneasy if you don't have a mechanism for paying them back, and I think pac-amp and some of the other things we do, maybe even the parking lots become revenue generating opportunities that we can do sooner rather than later. There are a number of financial advisors out there that can work with the finance committee and staff and come up with, you know, the cost of of doing those kind of projects. When we did the government center in Chino Hills a number of years ago, we had four buildings to build. We designed them all at once by one architect. Built them all at one time by one contractor, the police facility, the fire headquarters, the library and City Hall were all built at one time.

Obviously the cost of that was consolidated into one moment in time. I do think we need to come back and have an action item on the agenda in January, February, March, whatever that would solidify what our recommendations are in terms of staff proceeding ahead. Director Jackson and I are going to be working with the staff to come up With costs for for doing stuff to pack amp and the other facilities, and we'll have some recommendations on that. I'm sure the Facilities Committee will and the Finance Committee will as well. But I'm glad we're revisiting this. I think things have changed. I think there's a number of things that we can we can look at that gets it done sooner rather than later, right?

**James Canfield**

If I could just to follow up on Director Kovacevich his comments, I think we also have a number of other financing opportunities, and whether it's, you know, public private partnerships that can bring some investment on the grounds we have some investment coming in as a for instance, from OVG as part of their upcoming agreement that might be able to resolve some of these issues, community resilience. We've got, you know, another key and one of the things that excited us, certainly excited me and the staff and I know the board, is the opportunity to go after some additional grants through the emergency response and resiliency programs, whether those are state funds, federal funds, etc, and Ultimately, anything that makes us more resilient and better equipped to manage emergency situations, also improves our venues for all of our other program uses. So, I think those are, those are great ways to do that. We're seeing that done on some of the other fairgrounds in the state where they've been. Able to tap into some of those. So I think the other piece of that, and certainly looking at financing, looking at at how do we fund some of this, through our reserves, how do we fund it, through public, private partnerships, and then also what grants are available to us, that I think all of those things will will come together in this and and and certainly continuing to build revenue streams in the venues is is the future of of the organization, because we are an enterprise fund. We are required to pay our own way, and wherever we get the money from, we're going to have to have revenue streams to support that. If we have debt service, we're going to have to have revenue streams to support that.

**Doug La Belle**

Great. I could just just add a little bit to that, just for the sake of background, in the city of Cerritos, their town square area where the performing arts center is at, where the hotel is at, where a number of office buildings are at, where there's a commercial center. All of that is on land owned by the city of Cerritos, under long term lease to the developers that had built those projects. The lease revenue that's generated to the city of Cerritos is their second highest revenue source, right behind the Cerritos auto square. And I think that's something

obviously we can't do any of that now without some action at the state level through general services and that. But I think we ought to look very seriously, and maybe that's part of the dialog that you're having, but I think there's some opportunities out there that we can look at that aren't going to necessarily, that aren't going to impact what our mission statement is, but we ought to be looking at it from a revenue generating standpoint.

**Nick Kovacevich**

One suggestion that I that I would think would be helpful, actually a couple things. And obviously I defer to the chair 100% but just my ideas would be, maybe that the that we could aggregate some of this stuff, probably James through you in terms of so we could look at because I know there's been, and I've been fortunate to be privy to some of this, right, but in terms of the the grant opportunities. I actually had an opportunity to go to Antelope Valley fairgrounds. They have, they put together \$90,000,000, 20 of it was from, from the from, you know, our department, from CDFA funds and and then they added a bunch but, you know, they're doing a lot of stuff that is centered around emergency response and evacuation. The Olympics are coming to that area, right? So kind of maybe looking at what some of the other fairgrounds are doing in that lane, where the opportunities might be to get some money for that type of stuff, and what the requirements would be in terms of when we build to be able to have that dual functionality. And then, you know, some of these revenue generating opportunities that may be more innovative. I know there's some ideas that are being discussed about building some temporary stages for some entertainment and stuff. So maybe, you know, the board could be made aware, and I don't want to, you know, put too much out there publicly in respect of the promoters that are exploring that right, but the board could be made aware of those opportunities. And then, you know, maybe some of the other stuff that is either been discussed with amongst other fairs or being, you know, pursued by other fairs. So you can kind of get all this in one page, let's say, right. So everybody can can understand, because these are the different lever, different pieces to this puzzle that can be incorporated to achieve what we're trying to achieve. So that would be one suggestion I have, and then the other suggestion, because I think this was a very good, informative discussion. I didn't realize we actually had six of the eight board members. So maybe it's an opportunity to clip this portion of the meeting with your presentation, and maybe James, you could do session with the two absent board members, just so that they're fully up to speed so we don't have to revisit because I think this is really the most important thing that we need to work on, because it's the facilities plan is essentially going to be an extension of our vision and the initiatives that we have right? We've got to match that to what we're what we're investing in on the ground. So I think it is important we move it forward faster, rather than slower. And so maybe, again, this is up to the chair, but those would be

my two suggestions into how we could maybe expedite this.

**Barbara  
Bagneris**

Yeah, I. I appreciate your comments, Nick, and I would agree, because I would love to get this moving, and these other revenue sources are going to be important to that. So let's get that on the agenda when we can, as soon as we can, so that we can start exploring this a little bit more.

**Nick Kovacevich**

Okay, and then chair, would you like to maybe for CEO James Canfield, to kind of aggregate that and bring that first to the Facilities Committee, or just bring it straight to the full board?

**Barbara  
Bagneris**

I think, bring it to the board. Or maybe, maybe governance may want to deal with this. Or governance? Yeah? I was thinking, Yeah, I would think governance for right now. Okay, since you've been a part of those discussion.

**Nick Kovacevich**

let's, let's do that. And then in terms of getting the other two board members up to speed, you're okay with that, too?

**Barbara  
Bagneris**

Sure, yeah, I am. Because, yeah, you're right. We do have enough. And we had some great comment today, by the way, some great feedback. So we don't want to lose ground on any of that. So I agree, if CEO Canfield Can, can get with the other board members and talk to them and and let's, let's get this moving. Let's, let's keep the conversation going.

**James Canfield**

Absolutely wonderful.

**Nick Kovacevich**

Well, thank you guys. Any other comments on that before we move on? I think we have a good we have good momentum, at least now, right? And we're aligned at the importance. And thank you, Chair bonaris for getting this on the agenda. Okay, so next we have Agenda Item Number 10 C, which is a presentation of the 2026 OC fair theme and artwork, and I'm going to turn this over to Michelle Capps.

**Michele Capps**

And 2026 there's just a couple trees. Thank you. So in 2026 the OC fair will exemplify what a modern fair should be, innovative, community focused and unforgettable. The 23 day reunion that Orange County looks forward to annually, your adventure awaits is a motto that represents the individuality of everyone's adventure, whether it's food related, rides, art, ads, concerts, any entertainment, all of the above, it's your adventure. Creating your adventure begins when you step through our gates. Next slide, this is the look and feel that we are going with this year, so it's little lighter and brighter than I had shown you in the past. We have new photography, very vibrant and fun, and this is going to be the website banner. And so this is the look and feel that we're going to be going out with tickets and the everyday passport. We will put that on sale the first or second week of April, and you will start to see this design out there and

and on the corner banners as well. We had a meeting last week with RCS and Etix, and we're talking packages and technology and how we're going to make the guest experience, just a one stop shop, and the the scanning through the gate should be easier, and everything should flow. And that is our, you know, getting on board with the strategic plan of just making business easier for everybody and the experience for our guests. That's the goal that we're moving forward with. So the plans are rolling, and this is, this is your fair for 2026 wonderful.

**Nick Kovacevich** I love the we're tying into the America's birthday.

**Michele Capps** 200 more plans on that we had started partnership with America's 250.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, great. And then we're going to move to the committee reports here. And so first we do have a leadership committee report, which I'm happy to hand I'm happy to read, because it's very brief, and Barbara's on Zoom. So that's the leadership committee which I'm not a part of, did meet on December 5, and you know, obviously planned the meeting here, which has been a great meeting. So thank you. And it looks like they're going to meet again on January 14. Next, we have the financial monitoring audit committee. There is no report at this time for that committee and then moving on, we do have the Facilities Committee, and because my colleague, Director Bilezikjian is remote and a little under the weather, go ahead and handle that report for us as well. So the Committee met on December 5, discussed the following the capex projects, major expenditure projects were reviewed. The staff updated the Committee on the Status of 2025 projects. Nine remain active. 39 are complete. And then we looked at the we talked about the Master Site Plan, obviously, big focus on phase one, the administration building, and kind of just that final hurdle of getting our conditional COO and getting that move going. And I was fortunate enough to be able to actually attend a meeting in the new building, and it is amazing, and but I agree with the decisions post from the big reveal for the board to January, so everybody's willing. I'm excited for everyone to see it. It's, it's, it's phenomenal. And we do have those final inspections upcoming over those completed. And then phase two campground, restroom and showers staff updated the Committee on status of the project, which we just went through. So the bid package, the bid is opening today.

**James Canfield** No, it Actually got kicked out.

**Nick Kovacevich** All right, and then the committee will meet again. It's tentatively set for January 7, 2026 we are guys moving into the new year, next year and next we have, sorry, I forgot if there's any comments, we just went through the whole facilities thing. But okay, then the community affairs committee does not have a report this at this meeting. And last but not least the Governance Committee, which I am also on. So I'll just do the whole

thing. I'll take some here guys. Governance Committee did meet on 12 12. Discussed the need for an annual review of the OCFEC board policy manual, and the state and CDFA required board member training. And so it's actually great that I think everyone's on the same page, because I've heard from some other members of the board looking at this board policy manual, the committee's already on it. I know it's overdue, so that's good. And I know everybody's focused on training I hope, I hope everyone's focused on getting up to date. That would be a good New Year's resolution for some of the board members, if you're behind on training, and if there is any questions, comments or needs for assistance, Summer is, she does it all, and she will help you get through that training. So next committee meeting for governance is TBD. All right. Second, any questions on? Oh, we do have any questions on the governance twice and last, but certainly not least and new committee. That's why it slipped my, my mind, but the entertainment Task Force committee, we do have Director La Belle, the committee chair, and we do have director Jackson here. So which of you would like to.

**Doug La Belle**

Just a couple comments, and then then Director Jackson, and certainly anything that you'd like, but I think I pretty well summarized it during our discussion on the master plan. The one thing I did want to mention Director Jackson mentioned it at the last board meeting, the sponsorship of case, and that sort of thing we talked about that we do have the ability to do sponsorships. Correct me if I'm wrong, Josh. But in terms of naming rights, which we also talked about naming Pac amp, whatever the Honda Pac-amp center, whatever the case may be, that would require some sort of legislative action, I think, at the state level, if we were to be able to do something like that, is that correct Josh?

**Josh Kaplan**

Yes, that's my understanding, and I can, I'll confirm that, but yes, the last time we looked at the same question, that was our office's conclusion.

**Doug La Belle**

I think we would at least want to look at the paint. Might not be worth being, but James can certainly from his Birmingham and other experiences, there are some significant opportunities out there in terms of naming rights, assuming we would want to do that, but at least if the board has the ability to consider it, then that would be something we want to do. I think beyond that...

**Dimetria Jackson**

I thought overall, we had a very productive meeting. It's very wonderful first meeting. Potential opportunities out there. One of the things briefly that we talked about was maybe the use of the Hangar for other artists, maybe smaller artists who don't have can't fill the amphitheater, but would love to hear people love to see them. Maybe those artists on their way up, Director, maybe they can't fill the whole Pacific Amphitheater, but people still want to see them, and they may be local to this area, and



maybe put them in the Hangar. Find out ways in which we can do that. Use it more than just for the cover bands, which I do enjoy some of those cover bands, but maybe using it for other purposes as well. So we Yeah, just look up some ideas how we can use the sites that we have in place for maybe re-purpose them for other ideas.

**Nick Kovacevich** Great. And I will just say that to your point of the naming rights Director La Belle, I think that's a very important initiative, because we want to have maximum flexibility, especially when it comes to revenue generation, I think that could be a big opportunity, and I think it fits really well with some of the discussions I've been having in Sacramento, specifically with some of the alignment around the issues with the group with CERRVF, right so I think James definitely let's see what if you can work with Josh, he was confirmed, what's currently, sort of the status on that, and then see how we could get that discussion going with the sort of folks, because, you know, they're already pushing legislation up there. This seems like something that no one would really have pushed back to given the kind of general, overall desire to increase revenue experiments, okay, any, any other comments or questions on the report there? Thank you guys. All right, that brings us to upcoming events preview, and Michelle.

**Michele Capps** Yep, so we still have winter fest happening through January 4th. So they are out out front there and then this Saturday is our very last Centennial Farm class. It's called scents of the season. For \$40 participants will get a mason jar and a selection of fruits and herbs and spices, all of the decorating supplies needed for a beautiful, simmering blend of aromatics that will create a great gift, or a jar filled with a festive look that will look beautiful on your holiday table. And then January 3 and fourth, the OC card show is back. It is their one year anniversary show, and they have 350 tables filled with sports cards, trading cards and other kinds of collectibles. The early bird price for that is \$15 and then our later general admission is \$10 and then January 9, we have a discovery date over at Centennial farm, we are open for general admission for those but all of the reservations for the entire year for discovery days at Centennial farm, we are booked, so we are pretty happy about that, and we are now using Centennial farm as our leader over to the ranch discovered days and then January 17 extravaganza, and that is a huge cat lover shopping village, so come on down. It's \$30 and that goes to support local rescues in the area. And every Thursday we have the farmers market and at heroes Hall, we continue with echoes of conflict, remembering Vietnam exhibition, and that continues.

**Nick Kovacevich** Okay, whoa.

**James Canfield** I do that every time. So sorry, so sorry, but let's do it. Yeah. So so we do have a December birthday Director Kovacevich, and so obviously, happy birthday from the team at the OC fair Events Center.

**Nick Kovacevich** Thank you, the big 40.

**James Canfield** Oh, congratulations.

**Nick Kovacevich** I enjoyed it in Cabo. I figured this was the year to celebrate Mexico. Next year is our big birthday, right?

**James Canfield** Well, if you're out of the country, it doesn't count. I mean, you don't have to count the birthday, really. You know, you didn't get any older.

**Nick Kovacevich** That's a good thing. Yes, thank you. All right. Matters of information, let's go around the room. I, I do, I do want to note, Director Ruiz just had to drop off a few minutes ago. So we do have on the Zoom, Director Bilezikjian.

**Tanya Bilezikjian** Happy holidays to everyone. Thank you to James and Michelle and Melissa and all of the staff and you know, wish, wish you all time away with your family and then into my fellow board members. As well, and a happy birthday to Nick.

**Nick Kovacevich** Thank you. And if Chair Bagneris would like to go now or at the end your discretion.

**Barbara Bagneris** We can push till the end, then I'll go.

**Nick Kovacevich** Ok, Director Jackson?

**Dimetria Jackson** Oh sure. It was a great meeting. Thank you all, staff, board members, all the time, effort, energy, put in fair center. I know sometimes your work is not always recognized, but we understand. We know what you're doing behind the scenes. Know that if you don't say it every day, we appreciate them all. So thank you, and to your colleagues who are not here in the room. I want to wish you all a wonderful holiday season. Just enjoy your time. Enjoy your time alone with your families and get some rest. Overall, I said it was a really good meeting. I would enjoy working with Director La Belle on board. We had a really good first meeting of our entertainment Task Force. And thank you to Chair Bagneris for putting us both on that committee. I think work really well together, and hopefully get a lot done. And yes, thank you. Thank you all for supports. And I'm looking forward to the holiday season, time to rest, relax.

**Doug La Belle** Happy Birthday Nick. Happy Holidays to everyone. Merry Christmas.

Happy New Year. All the other holidays in between. Want to thank staff for an outstanding job. I think the review we did of the Master Site Plan was good. Got a lot of process going. Looking at the upcoming events reminded me, I have in my garage a couple of big crates of baseball cards that my son and I collected in the 80s. So there might be something in there worth something goes beyond that. Just a little personal note, my wife, Bonnie, and I are doing much better. We're getting there going for physical therapy. We celebrated our 62nd wedding anniversary. Got married the day before. So there's some good memories and some very bad memories that kind of go with it. But anyway, with that, happy holidays.

**Nick Kovacevich** Thank you, Director La Belle and I will close this out what everyone else..

**Barbara Bagneris** Chair Bagneris back. Alright, yeah, and I'm going to let you go last because you birthday boy. Wish you a happy, happy, happy, big year birthday, and thank you for all that you do, and thank you for sitting in this meeting that you were the perfect one. You got to take us to the governance because you're just about on everything. So appreciate you stepping in on that piece of that. I had to take another call. But I also want to say happy anniversary to Doug La Belle, 62 years. People don't stay married for 62 days. He's been 62 years. So just congratulations to somebody, we send our love and glad that both of you are on the mend. Also want to thank those who were able to visit me and whoever created this slide is just absolutely gorgeous on my phone, who created that summer I knew it. It is so engaging and just it makes me feel all tingly inside holiday season. Wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year. Feliz, Navidad, Happy Hanukkah, happy Kwanzaa and anything else that you celebrate. Happy, happy. Enjoy the holidays. Get some rest, rejuvenate, relax and come back ready to go, because there's a lot of work to be done, and we have the right team in place to get it done. So I'm excited for everything that is to come. So God bless everyone and enjoying yourselves. Be safe. Alright.

**Nick Kovacevich** Thank you, and this was a great meeting, appreciate the efforts from the leadership committee to get this, this agenda, worked out and get us focused on the right things. And I think that's exactly where we're at as a board. So I'm very excited about 2026 it's going to be a great year. We've got a lot to do. And. Nothing would get done without hard work for staff. So thank you guys for everything, and really appreciate the birthday

wishes. I do feel younger than ever. I made it more of a focus now it's good take care of myself, so I had been getting a lot of texts today because, as many of you know, I was formerly in the cannabis industry, and the President did reschedule by executive order cannabis from schedule one, where it, of course, did not belong, to schedule three, which is a big step, kind of opens up research, which I think is tremendous. I think most importantly, this can stop, you know, the discriminatory practices of throwing people in jail over this plan that's been happening around the country, thankfully not in our state, but in a lot of states. And so I think it's, it's really great for somebody who's been having that industry to see this historic milestone occur. And, you know, it just, it just shows what I know a lot of people behind this effort, and how hard they push with multiple administrations, and to finally get some of the finish line. It's huge, and it just shows it reminds me of what can be done when people make the effort, when people come together. And I've been thinking a lot about the opportunities that we have here at fairgrounds to do great things for our community, for the fairgrounds as a whole, throughout the state, to be the backbone, when we think about the emergency response and emergency preparedness and community resiliency, to be the backbone of the state we've had our fair share of natural disasters and fires to be able to build that infrastructure To support the whole state of California and our local community. It's great to be a part of that. So I'm excited everyone. Happy holidays. Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing everyone next month. Thank you. Next year. Next year. All right, speaking of which, January 29 2026 Meeting adjourned. Bye.