MINUTES OF OCFEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
HELD JUNE 25, 2026

The following Minutes are a summary of Board action and proceedings. For a full transcript please click on the link below or visit the ocfair.com website.
https://s3.us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ocfair.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/19095533/26_05_May_Transcript.pdf

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**
Chair Bagneris, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2. **MISSION STATEMENT**

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Director Tanya Bilezikjian. Roll call was taken by meeting secretary, Summer Angus.

4. **DIRECTORS PRESENT:**
Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Kovacevich; Director Pham (via Zoom), Director La Belle, Director Rubalcava-Garcia (via Zoom), Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson and Director Sanchez Cannady.

   Director Kovacevich joined the meeting at 9:56 a.m.
   Director Natalie Rubalcava-Garcia joined the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

   DIRECTORS ABSENT/EXCUSED: None.

   OTHERS PRESENT:
   James Canfield, OCFEC Chief Executive Officer; Melissa Au-Yeung, OCFEC Chief Administrative Officer; Michele Capps, OCFEC Chief Business Development Officer; Michael Searle, OCFEC Chief Operating Officer; Jason Jacobsen, OCFEC Production & Planning Director; Evy Young, OCFEC Ag Programs Director; Johanna Svensson, OCFEC Exhibits & Education Director; Allen Mesick, OCFEC Centennial Farm Supervisor; Summer Angus, OCFEC Executive Assistant; Josh Caplan, Office of the Attorney General; Reginald Joseph, transcriptionist; Reggie Mundekis; Ashley Felton

5. **PRESENTATIONS:**

   A. Presentation of Pride Month Proclamation by Community Affairs Committee
   Information Item

   Director Jackson, on behalf of the Community Affairs Committee, stated the committee was unable to connect with the recipient for the Pride Month Proclamation. She added the committee would like to present the proclamation to the recipient at one of the Fair Board dinners.

   B. Presentation of Orange County Community Member Recognition Proclamation by the Community Affairs Committee
   Information Item

Director Jackson, on behalf of the Community Affairs Committee presented the Orange County Community Member Recognition proclamation to Reggie Mundekis for her ongoing dedication to the community.

Reggie Mundekis thanked the Board for the recognition and shared that she initially became involved with the OC Fair & Event Center to advocate for the preservation of public property, later educating herself on the operations of the Fairgrounds and the fair industry. She emphasized the importance of members of the public reviewing agenda materials, asking informed questions, and offering constructive perspectives rather than simply opposing proposals. She encouraged community members to become informed and engaged with public agencies and to recognize their shared responsibility and voice in shaping public spaces.

6. MINUTES:

A. Board meeting held May 28, 2026
Action Item

ACTION: Vice Chair Ruiz motioned and Director La Belle seconded to approve the Minutes from Board meeting held May 28, 2026. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Pham, Director La Belle, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson and Director Sanchez Cannady. NAYES: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

7. MATTERS OF PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Standard Agreements: SA-146-26SP; SA-150-26SP; SA-151-26SP; SA-156-26PA; SA-164-26PA; SA-165-26PA; SA-166-26PA; SA-167-26PA; SA-169-26PA; SA-170-26PA; SA-171-26PA; SA-172-26PA; SA-185-26PA; SA-186-26PA; SA-187-26PA; SA-188-26PA; SA-189-26SP; SA-190-26SP; SA-191-26SP; SA-192-26PA; SA-193-26PA; SA-194-26PA; SA-195-26PA; SA-196-26GE; SA-197-26GE; SA-198-26PA; SA-199-26PA; SA-200-26BH; SA-203-26SP; SA-204-26SP; SA-205-26PA; SA-206-26PA; SA-222-26FT; SA-224-26YR; SA-225-26FT; SA-226-26FT

i. **Standard Agreement Amendments:** SA-129-22FT (Amend. #5); SA-216-23CT (Amend. #4)

B. Rental Agreements: R-011-26; R-094-26; R-097-26; R-102-26; R-103-26; R-106-26; R-107-26; R-108-26; R-110-26; R-112-26; R-113-26; OCC-2604; OCC-

2605; OCC-2606; OCC-2607; OCC-2608; OCC-2609; OCC-2610; OCC-2612; CC-2613; OCC-2614; RA-EQC022-26; RA-EQC023-26; RA-EQC024-26

i. **Rental Agreement Amendments:** R-051-26 (Amend. #2); R-080-26 (Amend. #2); R-097-26 (Amend. #1); R-112-26 (Amend. #1)

C. Commercial Rental Agreements: 26034; 26007; 26472; 26175; 26151; 26170; 26173; 26070; 26168; 26112; 26096; 26056; 26120; 26174; 26171; 26138; 26169; 26075; 26124; 26176

D. Platinum Rental Agreements: 26705

E. Active Joint Powers Authority Agreement (New)**:** None.

F. Judging Agreements: GF-001-26; GF-002-26; GF-003-26; GF-004-26; GF-005-26; GF-006-26; GF-007-26; GF-008-26; GF-009-26; GF-011-26; GF-012-26; GF-013-26; GF-014-26; GF-015-26; GF-016-26; GF-017-26; LS-011-26; LS-018-26; LS-022-26

G. Correspondence:

Communications to the Board from members of the public related to OCFEC business are identified below and included with the Board materials (available on the OCFEC website). Note that this agenda item includes only those communication(s) that were sent to the entire Board and CEO before the publication of this month's agenda. The deadline for correspondence to be included on the September agenda is September 11, 2026.

i. 6/7/26 Tony Flores - OCFEC Re PYM at the OC Mena Festival June 19-21 2026

H. CDFA Correspondence:

Communications to the Board from the California Department of Food & Agriculture Division of Fairs & Expositions regarding relevant topics at Fairs and Expositions.

i. None.

– End of Consent Calendar –

CEO Canfield pulled Rental Agreement R-112-26 related to a Club OC rental, stating the renter decided to revert back to the original contract (previously approved).

ACTION: Director La Belle motioned and Director Bilezikjian seconded to approve the Consent Calendar with Rental Agreement R-112-26 removed. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Pham, Director La Belle, Director Bilezikjian; Director Jackson and Director Sanchez Cannady. NAYES: None. ABSTENTIONS: None**

9. CLOSED SESSION (Closed to the Public)

The Board adjourned to closed session at 9:50 a.m. and returned at 10:31 a.m.

Items to report: None.

10. CEO'S OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

CEO Canfield shared the following:

- Pacific Amphitheater Update: 34 shows confirmed; two additional September offers pending, with a goal of 35 shows.
- Ticket Sales: 41% sell-through rate and ahead of last year's pace.
- New Events: Fuel Fest OC drew approximately 20,000 attendees and generated approximately $250,000 in gross revenue; OC MENA Festival generated approximately $500,000 in gross revenue and included strong Pacific Amphitheater performances.
  - Both new events are interested in returning and expanding in 2027.
- Juneteenth recognized and highlighted.

11. GOVERNANCE PROCESS

A. Master Site Plan Review, Consideration of and Vote on Updated Project Priorities and Entering into an MOU with CCA for Onsite Project Management Services
Action Item

CEO Canfield presented the updated Master Site Plan, incorporating Board Facilities Committee feedback and revised project priorities/phasing. He reviewed proposed projects for the Campground, Pacific Amphitheater, Show Buildings/Hangar, Action Sports Arena, Livestock Arena, Multi-Purpose Education Center, and ongoing infrastructure improvements. He described the plan as an evergreen document to be reviewed and updated annually as priorities and opportunities change. He also presented the proposed CCA MOU for a full-time, dedicated senior construction manager to provide on-site project management and coordinate CCA services; first-year costs would not exceed $300,000 and would be incorporated into individual project budgets.

Board and staff discussion ensued; items discussed:

- The scope and condition of Pacific Amphitheater restroom improvements.
- Questions were raised regarding the cost and logistics of bringing in and removing arena dirt for events.
- The need for improved perimeter fencing while maintaining an attractive appearance.
- The proposed CCA on-site project management structure and associated costs.
- Expressions of support for the Master Site Plan, including reprioritizing the Pacific Amphitheater and the proposed CCA project management approach.

- Evaluating a year-round commercial component for the Multi-Purpose Education Center to support education, revenue generation, and year-round use.
- The financial impact of project cost overruns and recommended Board representation in the hiring process for the CCA project manager through the Facilities Committee.
- Suggestions of exploring a multi-purpose trail system to enhance the Ranch and provide opportunities for equestrian use.
- Emphasis that OCFEC staff should retain control over project decisions and that the CCA project manager should report directly to the CEO and/or COO.

Reggie Mundekis expressed support for the Master Site Plan and its focus on increasing the competitiveness and business opportunities of the facility. She supported reorienting the Action Sports Arena and Livestock Arena, improving the Action Sports Arena bleachers, and reiterated her suggestion for a parking structure that could also accommodate airport parking during slower periods. She also expressed support for the CCA partnership and its potential to help advance projects, and thanked CEO Canfield for his efforts.

ACTION: Vice Chair Ruiz motioned and Director La Belle seconded to approve the updated Master Site Plan as presented, incorporating the comments and recommendations discussed by the Board, and approve the CCA hiring for on-site project management services, with the project manager reporting directly to OCFEC. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Kovacevich; Director Pham, Director La Belle, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson and Director Sanchez Cannady. NAYES: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

CEO Canfield, on behalf of the Entertainment Committee, presented a conceptual entertainment complex that could include a baseball stadium, ice and roller skating, family entertainment, food and beverage, and related services. He reported that the conceptual development would require approximately 13 acres and an estimated $55–$100 million in capital investment. He shared, based on committee discussions, and their recommendation is that the entertainment complex not be prioritized or incorporated into the Master Site Plan at this time due to the scale and cost of the project.

CEO Canfield discussed opportunities to increase year-round programming through existing facilities, including seasonal amusement activations, roller and ice skating, movie nights, concerts, community events, expanded Imaginology programming, Heroes Hall events, and amateur and professional sporting events.

Board and staff discussion included:

- Support of focusing on increased programming and activation of existing facilities rather than pursuing significant new capital construction at this time.

- Potential uses of the Hangar for movie nights, concerts, dinner events, roller skating, local bands, and other community activities.
- Opportunities to evaluate seasonal amusement activations and sporting events, as well as potential Junior ROTC programming in connection with Heroes Hall.
- Expressed support for maintaining flexible, fresh, and recurring year-round programming opportunities.

Reggie Mundekis expressed appreciation for the committee's work and support for a flexible approach focused on fun, fresh, and recurring events that utilize existing facilities.

B. Consideration of and Vote on Revised Procurement Policy for Capital Projects and Major Repairs/Improvements
Action Item

CEO Canfield presented the proposed procurement policy based on the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (UPCCAA), which provides additional flexibility for managing public construction projects. He explained that projects up to $75,000 could be completed through direct negotiation or informal bids, projects from $75,000 to $220,000 could use an informal bidding process, and projects exceeding $220,000 would remain subject to the formal procurement process. He reviewed requirements for maintaining an annually updated list of qualified contractors and complying with prevailing wage and other applicable public contracting requirements.

Vice Chair Ruiz left the meeting at noon.

ACTION: Director Rubalcava-Garcia motioned and Director Kovacevich seconded to approve staff's recommendation to opt into the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act and adopt a procurement policy for public projects with a value of less than $220,000. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Director Kovacevich; Director Pham, Director La Belle, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson and Director Sanchez Cannady. NAYES: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

C. Presentation by Staff of the Mid-Year Budget Review
Information Item

Melissa Au-Yeung, OCFEC Chief Administrative Officer presented the mid-year budget review.

D. Presentation by Staff of the 2026 OC Fair Preview
Information Item

Michele Capps, OCFEC Chief Business Development Officer, gave the 2026 OC Fair preview presentation.

Johanna Svensson, OCFEC E&E Director, discussed the competitive entries.

Evy Young, OCFEC Ag Program Director, discussed the livestock and agriculture competitions and new programs and areas near Centennial Farm and livestock.

Allen Mesick, OCFEC Centennial Farm Supervisor showed rabbits.

Director Sanchez Cannady left the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

E. Committee / Ad Hoc Committee / Liaison Report
Information Item

To assure compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Committee reports are only for the purpose of the Committee chair, Ad Hoc Committee members or Liaison to provide a verbal update. Should the Board want to discuss any Committee work item not already on the agenda; those would need to be agendized for a future Board meeting.

i. **Leadership Committee** (Chair Bagneris, Committee Chair; Vice Chair Ruiz)
ii. **Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee** (Director Pham, Committee Chair; Director Bilezikjian)
iii. **Facilities Committee** (Director Bilezikjian, Committee Chair; Director Kovacevich)
iv. **Community Affairs Committee** (Director Rubalcava-Garcia & Director Jackson, Committee Co-Chairs)
v. **Governance Committee** (Director Kovacevich; Director Sanchez Cannady)
vi. **Entertainment Task Force** (Director La Belle, Committee Chair; Director Jackson)

Chair Bagneris, on behalf of the Leadership Committee, reported:
- Committee met on June 10 to plan the June agenda
- Committee discussed recognizing a community member with a Board proclamation in recognition of their contributions and engagement with the OC Fair & Event Center
- Next meeting is scheduled for September 9

Director La Belle, on behalf of the Entertainment Task Force, reported:
- The Committee met on June 23 with a representative from RCS and discussed conceptual entertainment opportunities and year-round programming opportunities at the OC Fair & Event Center

12. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW

Michele Capps, Chief Business Development Officer, gave an update on upcoming events at OCFEC.

Evy Young, OCFEC Ag Program Director, reported Centennial Farm welcomed more than 43,000 visitors during the tour season and currently has approximately 122 volunteers, including several with 5–30 years of service. She also stated The Ranch Community Center continues to see strong activity, with approximately $51,000 invoiced for July and deferred maintenance projects nearing completion.

Directors Rubalcava-Garcia and Sanchez Cannady left the meeting around 12:30 p.m.

13. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MATTERS OF INFORMATION

Board members made concluding comments:
- Expressions of gratitude to staff for their hard work and recognized the successful and efficient meeting and preparation for the upcoming Fair.
- Expressions of support for the Master Site Plan and appreciation for the work involved in developing a focused and achievable plan.
- Appreciation was expressed for the Board Chair's leadership and guidance throughout the year.
- The Board recognized and thanked the departing transcriptionist for their service and contributions.

14. NEXT BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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Barbara Bagneris, Board Chair James Canfield, Chief Executive Officer