MINUTES OF OCFEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 22, 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/2026/11/18105130/26_10_October_Transcript.pdf

1. CALL TO ORDER:
Chair Bagneris called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Director Natalie Rubalcava-Garcia. Roll call was taken by meeting secretary, Summer Angus.

4. DIRECTORS PRESENT:
Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Director Jackson, Director Sanchez Cannady and Director Vakharia.

Director Bilezikjian joined the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

DIRECTORS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Director Pham and Director Murphy.

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; Summer Angus, OCFEC Executive Assistant; Josh Caplan, Office of the Attorney General (via Zoom); Glenn Johnson; Yesenia Rojas Cervantes; Christina Zabay-Fran; Reggie Mundekis

5. PRESENTATIONS:

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

Director Rubalcava-Garcia presented the Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation to Yesenia Rojas Cervantes for her public service, leadership, and advocacy on behalf of Latino families and working communities.

Yesenia Rojas Cervantes thanked the Board for the honor and discussed her family and work with farm workers.

B. **Presentation of Filipino American History Month Proclamation by Community Affairs Committee**
Information Item
Director Jackson presented the Filipino American History Month Proclamation to

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Christina Zabay-Fran for her professional leadership and contributions to the Filipino American community.

Christina Zabay-Fran thanked the Board for the honor, for recognizing the Filipino community and for celebrating all the different communities in Orange County.

Centennial Farm Foundation President, Glen Johnson presented the Board with a check for thirty-eight thousand dollars from their annual charity event to benefit Centennial Farm education programming.

6. MINUTES:

A. Board meeting held September 24, 2026
Action Item

ACTION: Director Rubalcava-Garcia motioned and Director Sanchez Cannady seconded to approve the Minutes from the Board meeting held September 24, 2026. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Directors Jackson, Director Sanchez Cannady and Director Vakharia. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: Vice Chair Ruiz.**

7. MATTERS OF PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Standard Agreements: SA-251-26YR; SA-253-26YR
- **i. Standard Agreement Amendments:** SA-216-23CT (Amend. #5); SA-036-26YR (Amend. #1)
- **ii. Standard Agreement Amendments (Exercise Option):** SA-084-23YR (Amend. #4); SA-006-25FTYR (Amend. #2); SA-009-25FT (Amend. #1); SA-068-25YR (Amend. #1); SA-070-25FT (Amend. #1)

B. Rental Agreements: RA-EQC030-26; RA-EQC031-26; R-013-26; R-104-26; R-136-26; R-139-26; R-140-26; R-141-26; R-142-26; R-143-26; R-144-26; R-146-26; R-001-27; R-003-27; R-047-27
- **i. Rental Agreement Amendments:** R-019-26 (Amend. #1); R-127-26 (Amend. #1); R-134-26 (Amend. #1)

C. Active Joint Powers Authority Agreements (New): None.

D. 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 November agenda is November 6, 2026.

i. None.

E. 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 –

ACTION: Vice Chair Ruiz motioned and Director Bilezikjian seconded to approve the Consent Calendar. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson, Director Sanchez Cannady and Director Vakharia. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

9. CLOSED SESSION (Closed to the Public)

The Board adjourned to closed session at 10:05 a.m. and returned at 11:37 a.m. Items to report: None.

10. CEO'S OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

CEO Canfield shared the following:

- Tandem is not renewing their contract option and is ceasing operations
  - OCFEC will bring the Sales team in-house, restructuring existing team
  - RFP has been issued for a new Sponsorship Sales partner
- The CCA embedded construction manager search continues
  - Multiple qualified candidates have been identified with screening and review underway
  - Working with CCA on a review of the Master Site Plan
- CBDO Capps and Talent Buyer Lisa Sexton attended the International Entertainment Buyers Association Convention in Nashville
  - Lisa Sexton won Fair Buyer of the Year
- 2026 Pacific Amphitheatre (Pac Amp) season review, highlighting $5.5M in net revenue
- New event at OCFEC, OC Auto Show and new motorsports event announced
- Eleven shows already confirmed for the 2027 Pac Amp concert series
- Campground Restroom project underway; encountered an issue with an underground Edison duct bank that will need to be relocated
- Pac Amp remaining restrooms renovation underway; engineering and design of stage roof and backstage also underway

11. GOVERNANCE PROCESS

A. Presentation of Proposed 2027 Board Meeting Schedule and Vote on Whether or Not to Approve

Action Item

ACTION: Director Bilezikjian motioned and Director Jackson seconded to approve the 2027 Board meeting schedule as presented. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson, Director Sanchez Cannady and Director Vakharia. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

B. Consideration of and Vote on the Board of Directors Nominating Task Force Recommendation and Election of Board Officers
Action Item

Director Rubalcava-Garcia, on behalf of the Nominating Task Force, recommended to nominate Chair Bagneris and Vice Chair Ruiz for a second term.

ACTION: Director Rubalcava-Garcia motioned and Director Jackson seconded, to nominate Director Bagneris for another term as Board Chair and Director Ruiz for another term as Vice Chair for the 2026–2027 Board Leadership term. **MOTION CARRIED. AYES: Chair Bagneris, Vice Chair Ruiz, Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Director Bilezikjian; Directors Jackson, Director Sanchez Cannady and Director Vakharia. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.**

C. 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 and Governance Committee** (Chair Bagneris, Committee Chair; Vice Chair Ruiz)
ii. **Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee** (Director Pham, Committee Chair; Director Vakharia)
iii. **Facilities Committee** (Director Bilezikjian, Committee Chair; Vice Chair Ruiz)
iv. **Community Affairs Committee** (Director Rubalcava-Garcia & Director Jackson, Committee Co-Chairs)
v. **Education Programs and Public Affairs Committee** (Director Sanchez Cannady, Chair; Director Murphy)

Chair and Vice Chair, on behalf of the Leadership and Governance Committee, reported the committee met on October 7 to discuss the October agenda.

Director Vakharia, on behalf of the Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee, reported:

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- The committee met on October 19 and reviewed and discussed the September financial reports (financials presented)
- Budget Study Session scheduled for November 12 at 3pm

Board and staff discussion ensued on open headcount positions and strategy to fill them.

Director Bilezikjian, on behalf of the Facilities Committee, reported:

- The Committee met on October 1 and discussed the following:
- Reviewed 2026 Capital & Major Expenditures projects: 25 active, 31 completed, and 6 on hold
- Received update on Campground Restroom & Showers project and SCE power line relocation
- Received update on embedded CCA Project Manager recruitment and upcoming interviews
- Administration Building project closed out, with approximately $743,000 returned to OCFEC
- Pac Amp sound wall painting completed; spotlight tower painting scheduled for completion by December 1

12. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW

Michele Capps, Chief Business Development Officer, gave an update on upcoming events at OCFEC and The Ranch Community Center. She also announced that OCFEC received numerous certificates of recognition from non-profit Regional Center of Orange County.

Director Rubalcava-Garcia left the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

13. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MATTERS OF INFORMATION

Board members made concluding comments, including:

- Appreciation for the proclamation recipients' participation at the meeting and for the community
- Words of support to for the Community Affairs Committee
- Congratulations given for the reappointment of the Chair and Vice Chair to another term
- Appreciation to staff and Board for all their efforts for the property and programing for the community
- Strong belief in the mission of OCFEC
- Birthday wishes to Director Bilezikjian
- Praise of the work at The Ranch Community Center
- Announcement of the Budget Study Session on November 12

CEO Canfield presented Chair Bagneris with a Certificate of Recognition in acknowledgment of her perfect attendance at all 23 days of the 2026 OC Fair.

14. NEXT BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 19, 2026

15. ADJOURNMENT

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The meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

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Barbara Bagneris, Board Chair	James Canfield, Chief Executive Officer

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