



NEBRASKA STATE FAIR BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 22, 2025

The Regular meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was held on Friday, August 22, 2025 at 9:00 am at Nebraska State Fair Administrative Offices in Grand Island, NE. Public notice of this meeting was published in the Grand Island Independent newspaper on August 15 & 16, 2025; posted to the Nebraska Public meeting calendar website; and on the Nebraska State Fair website. The public was invited to attend in person.

Roll call was read with the following Board members present: Boyd Strobe, Chair; Tom Shellpeper, Vice Chair; John McKeever, Secretary; Lanna Hubbard, Treasurer; Dawn Caldwell; Anna Castner-Whiteman; Tom Dinsdale; Ryan Hassebrook; Kevin Havlovic; Kevin Jorgensen; Alan Kale; Kathleen Lodl; and Beth Smith.

Others in attendance:

Jaime Parr, Executive Director; Breanna Kozisek, incoming Business Administrator; Tammy Baker, Business Administrator; Joe Stump, AMGL; Cindy Johnson, Consultant; Kourtney Lingeman, Competitive Exhibits Manager; R.J. Post, Grand Island Independent.

The August meeting of the Nebraska State Fair Board was called to order by Chairman, Boyd Strobe. Boyd announced the meeting had been properly advertised as an open meeting and informed those in attendance of the posting location of the Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion made by Alan Kahle for Approval of Consent Agenda with one correction, which included Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2025.

Second by Kevin Havlovic.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve consent agenda passed unanimously.

Kourtney Lingeman, Competitive Exhibits Manager, explained and distributed Board Member Choice ribbons to place on exceptional exhibits.

Financial Report by Joe Stump

Beth Smith moved to approve July Financials as presented.

Second by John McKeever.

Upon roll call vote, motion to approve passed unanimously.

Board Committee Reports

Events Report by John McKeever

- No report

Facilities Report by Tom Schellpeper

- No report

Agriculture Report by Dawn Caldwell

- Dawn Caldwell presented a special ask of 4-H Superintendents to put their pens back as they found them.
- Lanna Hubbard asked for signage to call attention to this housekeeping matter.

Finance Report by Boyd Strobe for Lanna Hubbard

- Discussed the non-covered ARPA Project expenses.

John McKeever moved to approve the \$1.5 million from capital and operating reserve accounts for ARPA Project non-reimbursable expenses.

Second by Alan Kahle.

It was noted by Jaime Parr that we are still seeking other funding to participate in these projects, but funds are not yet secured, and bills are coming in. Much of the work is done. We are cutting back where we can. This will allow us to stay current with contractors and construction companies that have already performed work.

Upon roll call vote, motion passed.

Tom Schellpeper motioned to add Breanna Kozisek as a signatory authority on the State Fair's bank account at 5 Points Bank.

Second by Lanna Hubbard.

Jaime Parr announced that upon Tammy's departure as Business Administrator, Breanna Kozisek will be fulfilling the duties of that office and therefore will need to be authorized as a signer.

Upon roll call vote, motion passed.

FFA Report by Ryan Hassebrook

- Entries are at about 400 – 420
 - FFA 180 – 190 entries
 - 4-H about 210 – 220 entries

4-H Report by Kathleen Lodi

- Will welcome about 42,000 different exhibitors in person, from all Livestock and Static Exhibits.
- Exhibits will be displayed and judged within 48 hours.
- Sunday is 4-H Day. From 2 to 4 pm in the Party Pit there will be free Dairy Store ice cream.

Executive Report by Boyd Strobe

- Discussed Board etiquette regarding code of conduct in communications.

Dawn Caldwell motioned to adopt the Board of Directors Code of Conduct in Communications.

Second by Lanna Hubbard.

Upon roll call vote, motion passed.

1868 Foundation Report by Terry Galloway

- Great Steak Debate at VIP tent tonight.
- Sunday VIP reception 4:00 pm at 5 Points Loft (during Grand Drive).
- Wednesday Corn Dogs and Cocktails move to 5:00 pm.
 - Marshall Tucker and Daryll Worley Concert to follow.
- Financials – best year we ever had.

Executive Director Report by Jaime Parr

- 1868 Pizza Party was last night for vendors, board, and staff.
- Pump & Pantry Party Pit décor will be left for use during the remainder of Fair.
- Interviewed at 5:00 am today at Party Pit.
- Daily briefing meetings
- Marathon taking place tomorrow. Parking lot #5 will be closed until 2:00 pm, please use alternate Lot 5 until then.
- Announced nomination of Jim Rutledge for Lifetime Pass Award and read bio.

Lanna Hubbard motioned to approve nomination of Jim Rutledge for receipt of Lifetime Pass Award.

Second by Kevin Havlovic.

Upon roll call vote, nomination approved.

Recess

Motion made by Dawn Caldwell to recess.

Second by Beth Smith.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of August 22, 2025

Nebraska State Fair Approved:

Date: August 26, 2025

By:



John McKeever, Board Secretary