

MEETING OF THE OCFEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

32nd DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Held on: Thursday, April 28, 2016

Reported by: Janet M. Taylor
CSR No. 9463
Certified Realtime Reporter
Registered Merit Reporter

1 Meeting of the OCFEC Board of Directors,
2 reported by Janet M. Taylor, a Certified Shorthand
3 Reporter for the State of California, with principal
4 office in the County of Orange, commencing at 9:03 a.m.
5 and ending at 11:44 a.m., Thursday, April 28, 2016, in
6 the Administration Building, Orange County Fairgrounds,
7 Costa Mesa, California.

8

9 APPEARANCES OF BOARD MEMBERS:

10 Gerardo Mouet, Board Chair
11 Nick Berardino, Vice Chair
12 Ashleigh Aitken, Member
13 Barbara Bagneris, Member
14 Sandra Cervantes, Member
15 Douglas La Belle, Member
16 Newton Pham, Member
17 Robert Ruiz, Member
18 Stanley Tkaczyk, Member

15 STAFF:

16 Kathy Kramer, CEO
17 Michele Richards, VP of Business Development
18 Ronald Wallace, VP of Finance & Administration
19 Jerry Eldridge, Director of Facilities
20 Jessica Zimmerman, Board Clerk

19 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL:

20 OFFICE OF THE CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL
21 BY: JOSHUA CAPLAN, ESQ.
22 600 West Broadway
23 Suite 1800
24 San Diego, California 92186-5266
25 (619) 645-2070
(619) 645-2271 Fax

24

25 (Public Speakers on the following page.)

1 PUBLIC SPEAKERS:
2 Beth Refakes
3 Theresa Sears
4 Reggie Mundekis
5 Jay Humphrey
6 Kevin Coleman
7 Mike Robbins
8 Kyle Woosley
9 Jennifer Farrell
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1 Thursday, April 28, 2016

2 Costa Mesa, California

3 9:03 a.m. - 11:44 a.m.

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6 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Good morning,
7 everyone. I'm bringing this meeting to order, calling
8 to order, and pointing out that all matters noticed on
9 this agenda may be considered today. Any item not on
10 the agenda cannot be considered.

11 The order of the agenda item, I don't get a
12 lot of privileges, but it's my discretion. So that's
13 the first item. We've called the meeting to order.

14 The second item is to focus everybody's focus
15 on the mission statement. It's a great mission
16 statement. Let me share about the mission statement.

17 So one way to think about a mission statement
18 is to ask the question what are we about. We are about
19 celebrating Orange County's communities, interests,
20 agriculture, and heritage.

21 But frequently when you focus on what are we
22 about, sometimes it's good to understand how are we
23 going to go about doing what we're supposed to be doing,
24 and that is pretty much told to us by the people of
25 California through a law called the Bagley-Keene Act.

1 It's on the agenda. That means that we should do the
2 people's business through this law by following this
3 law.

4 And this law sometimes is criticized as being
5 inefficient, awkward, it is in the way of making quick
6 decisions. But that's its purpose is to force us to run
7 this organization using a model called "consensus
8 decision making" as opposed to not -- not a "my way or
9 the highway."

10 So it's not my way or the highway. It's not
11 any Board Member's my way or the highway. It's not
12 staff members' my way or the highway. It's not any
13 members of the public my way or the highway. It's
14 called "consensus decision making." It's respect.
15 That's what it means. It's respect. And that's what
16 the Bagley-Keene Act is for. I'm the Chair. It's my
17 duty to make sure that we don't break that law.

18 So with that in mind, that completes agenda
19 item number 2.

20 Agenda item number 3 is a great way to start
21 a meeting in this country, if all could stand and pledge
22 our allegiance to this country. We have a brand-new
23 Board Member who's going to be introduced, Newton Pham.

24 If you can lead us, please, with the Pledge
25 of Allegiance.

1 (Pledge of Allegiance Conducted.)
2 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Newton, and
3 welcome.
4 Now we find out who's here, and that's roll
5 call.
6 Jessica, could you do roll call.
7 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Yes.
8 (Roll call conducted by Board Clerk Jessica
9 Zimmerman.)
10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you. So there is --
11 before we get to CEO's Operational Announcements, I did
12 get a card for public comment that actually says that
13 it's about this item, the CEO Operational Report.
14 Ms. Refakes, would you like to do it after
15 the report?
16 MS. BETH REFAKES: Yeah. That would be fine.
17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. I'll call on you
18 after the report.
19 MS. BETH REFAKES: Thank you.
20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Let me turn it over
21 to our great CEO, Kathy Kramer, for this item.
22 MS. KATHY KRAMER: All right. Good morning. As
23 you can see, we have a couple of new faces with us this
24 morning. I'd like to ask Board Chair Mouet to
25 reintroduce our new Board Member, Newton Pham. Maybe

1 give us a little background and welcome him to the
2 Board.

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. Well, it's my
4 pleasure to introduce to everyone -- I had the pleasure
5 of meeting him last week, but also we had coffee -- was
6 it yesterday or the day before?

7 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: The day before, yeah.

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: And he's a banker, and so
9 that immediately told me he could help us with finance.
10 But he's a young gentleman who is great to have to join
11 our Board here, and he works for California Bank &
12 Trust. He's been there since 2014. He -- he worked
13 before also in the financial world with Mitsubishi.

14 And the great thing is it's just great timing
15 because he and his wife have a six-month-old baby, and
16 this is -- what a best time to start being involved in
17 the fair.

18 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Exactly.

19 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: So anything you want to
20 say, Newton?

21 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yeah. I mean exactly what
22 Gerardo said. I have a newborn fresh out of the oven.
23 And with that, that got me started thinking how I could
24 contribute to the community for my son. And the future
25 and the fair is something I've always gone to growing up

1 in Orange County, and so this was first and foremost the
2 first thought in my mind. Yeah.

3 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Did you say you have a
4 daughter?

5 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: A son. A son.

6 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Well, we're going to help him
7 get his fair face on this year.

8 Thank you, Chair Mouet.

9 And on the staff side, I'm pleased to
10 introduce Ronald Wallace, our new VP of Finance and
11 Administration.

12 Do you want to give him a big Orange County
13 welcome?

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Ron has over 30 years of
16 experience in accounting, finance, and management. He
17 has worked as a CFO and a Chief Accounting Officer for
18 several private companies and publicly traded companies.
19 For over ten years, he was a managing partner with a
20 financial consulting company.

21 Ron has a MBA and has taught accounting and
22 finance courses at several universities over the past
23 ten years.

24 Welcome.

25 I can't tell you how thrilled I am to have a

1 completely staffed executive team.

2 So, Ron, nothing like jumping right in. Can
3 you please present the March financials?

4 MR. RON WALLACE: Absolutely. I'm more than
5 happy to.

6 In the March -- the three months ending
7 March 31 of 2016, we had revenues of over \$2 million,
8 2,081,422. Year-to-date expenses at that point were
9 4,320,589, which leaves us a deficit, which is normal
10 for this time of year before the fair. And -- but we
11 are -- according to budget, we are ahead of budget by
12 \$970,000 to the good, so that makes it much better.

13 As a result, one of the benefits of this is
14 we also have significant cash and cash equivalents. And
15 compared to last year, there was 28,139,000, this year
16 we have with cash and cash equivalents 31,893,837. So
17 we are doing much better.

18 So we're all working hard to keep everything
19 running smoothly, so --

20 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Great. Thank you, Ron, and
21 welcome again.

22 MR. RON WALLACE: Thank you.

23 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Our legislative representation
24 firm Gonsalves & Son has provided their update on the
25 status of AB 1907. AB 1907 was not heard by the

1 Assembly appropriations committee. Rather, recognizing
2 the projected one-time cost identified in the committee
3 analysis, Assemblyman Daly waived presentation, and the
4 bill was placed on suspense file.

5 All bills with identified costs exceeding
6 \$150,000 are automatically placed on suspense. And the
7 committee then takes up the suspense file prior to the
8 May 29th deadline.

9 We continue to enjoy bipartisan support, as
10 well as the support of the Governor's Department of
11 Finance and fully expect the bill to come off the
12 suspense and go to the Assembly floor for a vote on the
13 entire Assembly.

14 Once it's passed out of Assembly, it will go
15 to the Senate policy committee. We think it's likely
16 it's going to be the Senate Agriculture Committee, then
17 Senate Appropriations and Senate floor for a vote on the
18 entire Senate, and then finally off to the Governor,
19 which has to be done by August 31st. They are
20 optimistic this will be accomplished before the session
21 recesses in the fall. Sounds like quite a process.

22 At the Board's request, Chair Mouet and I
23 traveled to Sacramento. We met with the Department of
24 General Services director Daniel Kim and staff about
25 construction management options, and they indicated they

1 would research the issue on our behalf.

2 We also met with Assemblymember Daly, the
3 author of AB 1907, and thanked him for his leadership on
4 the bill. In our conversation with Daly, Chair Mouet
5 discussed the possibility of Assemblymember Daly
6 attending the OC Fair this summer and formally
7 celebrating getting the sale language repealed for the
8 AB 1907. Assemblymember Daly and staff are very open to
9 this idea, and we'll keep you posted as things develop.

10 We also stopped by Lieutenant Governor Gavin
11 Newsom's office and presented staff an invitation for
12 the Lieutenant Governor to get his fair face on and be
13 our guest at the OC Fair this summer.

14 Chair Mouet, any comment you would like to
15 share about our Sacramento trip?

16 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Well, I want to thank the
17 Board and, in particular, Stan because I think, Stan,
18 you were the one that suggested that we take the trip to
19 Sacramento, and I think it was very much worthwhile. It
20 was just a day trip on April the 19th.

21 And as Kathy mentioned, we did -- Gonsalves,
22 by the way, is a good public affairs firm. They did a
23 lot of research and helped make sure that we were in and
24 out of Sacramento and did what we have to do.

25 The main reason we went there was to meet

1 with the Department of General Services, as Kathy
2 mentioned. We met with the new director. His name is
3 Daniel Kim. He hasn't been there very long, but he's a
4 veteran in other state government. He was very
5 responsive. And his Senior Policy Analyst Jackie
6 Roberts also apparently used to work in the Governor's
7 office. She's very, very knowledgeable.

8 We made it very clear what we're after. What
9 we're after is is there any -- any other options?
10 "Would you let us know if the only way to manage capital
11 projects is through the California Fairs Finance
12 Authority?" We had a discussion about that.

13 And they promised that they were going to do
14 their legal research. And -- because they said they
15 were going to contact legal counsel and get back to us
16 in May. So I think our CEO's going to make sure that
17 Gonsalves -- and we -- we make sure that we hear back in
18 May. And probably I would say in the latter part of May
19 because we just had that meeting.

20 So I'm very optimistic that we at least will
21 be given options and understand what the things are.
22 Kathy's correct. We stopped by Assemblyman Tom Daly's
23 office, and he actually was very generous with his time
24 and met with us.

25 And there's a bipartisan support for AB 1907.

1 Senator Janet Nguyen is a coauthor. That's great. And
2 so -- I'm an optimistic person, and so I know that it's
3 going to become law. And we're going to get past it and
4 a new era's going to come. And that's why I suggested a
5 new -- a new era where we can begin our trusting -- a
6 relationship based on trust.

7 It's going to repeal the language that
8 allowed the sale of the land, and it will become law. I
9 believe it will be signed. And as we get a sense that
10 it's heading in the right direction during fair time,
11 why not have a moment in time to high-five ourselves for
12 going in the right direction.

13 But I think it will probably be made into --
14 the Governor will probably sign it, as Kathy mentioned,
15 by August -- by the end of August because it's just the
16 process. So that's really good news.

17 And I was -- and, yes, we said -- we didn't
18 meet Gavin Newsom, but we stopped by and gave him an
19 invitation to the staff. He wasn't available.

20 But, anyway, that was a great trip, very
21 worthwhile. So thank you.

22 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Thank you, Chair Mouet.

23 At this time, I would like to ask Michele
24 Richards, VP of Business Development, to provide her
25 updates.

1 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Well, I am so happy to
2 provide a recap of the Imaginology event that took place
3 here a couple of weekends ago. It was a wonderful
4 event.

5 Jessica, next slide, if you could.

6 We don't often -- one more, please. Thank
7 you.

8 We don't often receive unsolicited feedback
9 on our events of a positive nature through our OCF info
10 line, but we did receive some. And this one in
11 particular I wanted to share with everyone because it
12 really speaks to the spirit of the event.

13 It says, "Just want to tell you that the
14 Imaginology fair was excellent. This was our first
15 time, and we were unexpectedly surprised at the quality
16 of the event, especially since it was free. My grandson
17 had one of his happiest days ever exploring all the
18 things he could do here. Thank you for this event, and
19 please keep it going."

20 I saw lots and lots of happy kids. I did see
21 a few unhappy kids, but those were the ones that were
22 having to leave with their parents, some of them kicking
23 and screaming on their way out. So we were very pleased
24 with that.

25 To share some results with you, staff was

1 very excited to see a bump in attendance this year at
2 38,885 in attendance. Friday we saw over 12,000, over
3 12,000 on Saturday, and nearly 14,000 on Sunday.
4 Overall, it was a 9 percent increase in attendance year
5 over year. So we are very, very proud of that.

6 Some of the reasons that we noted for the
7 bump in attendance, we're beginning to get much better
8 outreach into the school districts where before it was
9 sort of like Fort Knox trying to get information about
10 the event into the school districts. And not only has
11 it become easier, but the school districts are really
12 embracing this as a key educational opportunity.

13 The event was, once again, designated as one
14 of the events promoted by Arts OC's Imagination
15 Celebration Program. We did an all-digital marketing
16 campaign -- advertising campaign this year, and we were
17 able to reach much further into L.A. County and
18 San Diego County, as well.

19 Social media through our communications
20 department was on fire this year about this event. It
21 was really very, very good. We had lots of mommy
22 bloggers that wrote about the event to help promote it.
23 We, once again, hosted a Little Yelpers breakfast, and
24 that was wonderful getting the word out.

25 We had more students on Friday who returned

1 with their families on Saturday and Sunday, and the word
2 is out about this event for sure.

3 If you could go back one more, Jessica.
4 Thank you.

5 On Field Trip Friday, we saw a 14 percent
6 increase in the number of busloads of kids that came in,
7 and we do ask teachers to register with us. We saw a
8 50 percent increase in the number of registered field
9 trips, and we were able to capture that contact
10 information from those teachers and those classrooms so
11 we could continue to communicate with them about our
12 educational programs.

13 On Friday morning as the gates were opening,
14 it was just a continuous line of yellow school buses
15 coming in off both Fairview and off the freeway. So it
16 was great to see.

17 In terms of community entertainment, there
18 were 17 different community acts that performed on stage
19 free of charge, and it's a great showcase for -- for
20 kids to bring their talents to the community. Lots of
21 great entertainment.

22 In terms of entries by students from
23 throughout Orange County, 3,354 projects were entered
24 into Imaginology, and those projects were judged by
25 content experts. We awarded 1,105 blue ribbons, 677 red

1 ribbons for second place, and 679 white ribbons for
2 third place. And there were overall 78 division winners
3 who received ribbons and medals. So it was a great
4 celebrated event.

5 In terms of media coverage, I don't think
6 that we have yet seen results like this for Imaginology.
7 It was a great promoted event through our communications
8 department.

9 The central column that you see there is a
10 figure that we look at when we evaluate the quality of a
11 PR effort. The ad value equivalency will tell you if we
12 went out and purchased that amount of coverage for the
13 event, that would be the equivalent dollar value.

14 So in terms of broadcast, it was over
15 103,000, print over 76,000, for a total of nearly
16 \$180,000 of ad equivalent. And you can see the number
17 of impressions that were created by that effort, over
18 2.3 million. So a great effort by our team.

19 We were also very proud to have hosted 174
20 volunteers who helped work the event and put in a total
21 of 772 volunteer hours. Those volunteers came from the
22 Irvine Youth Action Team, Centennial Farm docents who
23 volunteered. We had volunteers from UC Cooperative
24 Extension Master Gardeners Group, high school and church
25 groups volunteered, and we also had several of our own

1 staff members who gave up their weekend to volunteer at
2 Imaginology.

3 So in conclusion, I would ask everyone to
4 please mark your calendars for April 21st through the
5 23rd, 2017. That will be Imaginology dates for next
6 year.

7 And I know that many Board Members were able
8 to attend the event. I'd like to ask what was your
9 favorite part of Imaginology?

10 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: I came by and I
11 brought my grandchildren and they had a ball. They were
12 so excited. And I was so surprised that the
13 six-year-old found tons of things to really enjoy, and
14 the one-year-old was so excited as well. So just a
15 little bit for everybody, and it's just an amazing
16 event.

17 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Great. Thank you.

18 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I know there were other
19 Board Members that went.

20 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yeah. My -- I really
21 enjoyed it. I thought it was fantastic, absolutely
22 fantastic. And I think my favorite part was to see the
23 fairgrounds as a public space being utilized as a public
24 space. And I think that is so important because there
25 weren't a lot of profiteers hanging around with, you

1 know, charging 14 bucks for a hamburger and, you know,
2 25 bucks for a fried Twinkie and, you know, tons the
3 kinds of stuff that happens here during fair.

4 I mean this was an opportunity to use the
5 public space for a strong public purpose, and that was
6 really heartwarming because I think it reiterated in my
7 own mind really when you take away what I think has
8 happened to our fairgrounds in terms of it being used by
9 profiteers in ways that are very difficult to monitor
10 and put your arms around, but see it as a place with
11 children where learning science and the basic kinds of
12 things that we need in this nation to be competitive.
13 And here we're offering that opportunity, and it was
14 free. I just -- that was just wonderful.

15 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Incredible event.
16 The thing I had -- a chief engineer popped his head into
17 my office. I hardly ever see this guy; right? He says,
18 "I went to that thing this weekend." He was talking
19 about Imaginology. He took his son and his wife went,
20 and he was so excited. He said, "I knew nothing about
21 it. Somebody -- I'm glad that you mentioned it, and
22 I'll go again."

23 And there was a Facebook post. A mother went
24 on and on, and they were thanking me like I created
25 Imaginology. And it was just a wonderful feeling that

1 the word is spreading. It's a wonderful event. If you
2 haven't been, you need to go.

3 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Also, I wanted to add
4 since -- you're right. Because it was free, there was
5 no sense of urgency. You saw families really enjoy, and
6 they took their time. And when they bought their food,
7 they found a place to sit. And it was almost like a
8 picnic-type of atmosphere. I know that we did that with
9 my kids and my grandchildren, and we had a ball. So it
10 was amazing.

11 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: I really enjoyed it. I
12 want to say, first of all, thank you, staff, for putting
13 together an event that was out there, but you rebranded
14 it and brought it back. And from the numbers, it looks
15 as though we're going to have close to 40,000
16 participants. That's pretty amazing.

17 What really took me, because this was my
18 first year going there, was the actual size of the
19 event. I had no idea it was going to take up as much
20 space as you did. And to see the volume of children
21 that were participating, as all of our other Board
22 Members have said, it was just a fun place to be.

23 I came back the second day. And the reason I
24 came back the second day, because there was something
25 there that I wanted to see. And that was the first day

1 they had piles of wood in the section, and I asked what
2 was going on with the piles of wood. And apparently the
3 building association people come, and they put together
4 and they built a small structure. And I just thought
5 that was amazing.

6 So I came back on Saturday morning, and I
7 wanted to see how far along these structures were. And
8 they were -- they were amazing. So the hands-on that
9 was available to the kids of all ages was amazing.

10 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: I also want to
11 compliment Michele and the entire staff on Imaginology.
12 It was a great event. I took two of our grandkids
13 there. The only downside was telling them that the
14 jumper was on the Marketplace and not in Imaginology.
15 So maybe next year we can look at putting a jumper
16 somewhere.

17 And for -- most of you on the Board know
18 Kevin very well, so he was there with his 12 million
19 questions. So it was a very good event. Thanks again.

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Good. Any other questions?

21 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yeah. I have a question.
22 On the 106 busloads, you did mention that was the
23 surrounding counties, as well? Riverside and --

24 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Yes. I don't think we had
25 any buses from Riverside. But into L.A. County, south

1 Orange County, and we -- you know, we're creating our
2 contact list now, so we'll be able to see how -- you
3 know, how far those buses came.

4 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Great.

5 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Newton?

6 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yeah. I thought it was an
7 amazing event. I went there. It's always great to see
8 that there was such engagement from the children on an
9 educational-focused, you know, event, and it's not
10 something you see every day.

11 You know, kids nowadays are so focused on
12 video games or being stuck inside, and this is an event
13 that was outdoors. It was open, focused on learning and
14 science, and everyone was really engaged and really --
15 you know, just to see the smile on their faces was
16 great.

17 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: I think next year when
18 your son is a year and a half he can grow up with
19 Imaginology; right?

20 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Right.

21 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Well, thank you very much
22 for all those comments.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. I was there, and I
24 actually was thinking I wanted -- of course, an amazing
25 job. But the engagement, as Newton mentioned, when --

1 when you do all those entries, those competitions, and
2 young people submit their artwork or their product or,
3 you know, some project with the farm animal, whatever
4 the case may be, or even coming and performing on the
5 stage with musical talent, it's -- it is a different
6 kind of learning. It's learning by doing. It's
7 engagement. It's interactive. It's the best kind of
8 learning for young people.

9 And -- and not -- not a lot of schools are
10 able to give that opportunity. They have a
11 teacher-student ratio that is -- this is a place
12 where -- that the family members come because they want
13 to see that award-winning piece of art or whatever, and
14 pride ends up providing a lot of -- lot of family unity
15 and self-esteem. It ends up becoming -- it becomes
16 something that's very important in their -- in their
17 memory books as they're growing up. They came over
18 here, and they were recognized, they participated, and
19 they engaged.

20 I do want to say something about the food. I
21 do believe that food needs to be very affordable. I do
22 believe from an operational thing -- because you know in
23 my day job I do a lot of events. The food lines were
24 too long, and people were going a little hungry. So
25 it's just a matter of figuring it out because you need

1 more options. And, you know, when you're -- you're an
2 adult with two or three kids that are hungry, yeah, you
3 hear it like it's an issue.

4 So I think my observations were on target.
5 Maybe staff has a different opinion on the food, but I
6 think there needed to be more food options.

7 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: No. We agree. The lines
8 were too long. There needs to be more of it. And the
9 more we can attract nonprofits to -- you know, to
10 provide food or affordable, you know, for-profit groups,
11 we definitely need to add more.

12 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Because you're growing.
13 It's a great event. And, you know, that's why we take
14 note on how to make things always better and improved.

15 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: So I think --

16 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah.

17 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: -- great idea. And
18 if we do expand the food options, I like the idea of the
19 nonprofits who are coming here because what an
20 opportunity. They can come and -- Boy Scout groups and
21 those groups were here.

22 But if we do expand it to vendors, I would
23 like to bring it back to the Board for a discussion
24 before that expansion is done because I think it needs
25 to be monitored. From my experience here on the

1 fairgrounds, that would need to be monitored very, very
2 carefully.

3 So, Mr. Chairman, please, if you could direct
4 staff for the next one when we're talking about food
5 options and bringing in private vendors, that we have a
6 discussion here at the Board regarding what our
7 standards would be --

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay.

9 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: -- prior to allowing
10 profiteers to come to that event.

11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Well, great job. Great
12 job.

13 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Thank you.

14 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: I have a question.
15 Unfortunately, this was the first year that I've ever
16 missed it, and I was in San Diego. But one of the good
17 things that came out of it is they had a local news
18 story about some of the public schools in San Diego in
19 poor income towns, and their biggest obstacle to going
20 on field trips anywhere in San Diego County is that they
21 really, truly can't afford a school bus to get the kids
22 anywhere.

23 And so Sea World on one of the days had
24 sponsored school buses. And it was not a large amount
25 of money. It was a couple hundred dollars to have,

1 like, five or six public schools come to Seaworld, and
2 then they covered the tickets. And I thought that was a
3 really heartwarming story.

4 I thought as we follow up with school
5 districts in Riverside, Inland Empire, L.A., Orange
6 County, if we can look into doing some school bus
7 sponsorships.

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: We did do -- we, staff,
9 ended up offering two low-income schools in Santa Ana.
10 Unfortunately, the schools at the last minute dropped --
11 they didn't do what they were supposed to do. We were
12 reimbursing them for the bus, and it was shameful that
13 they weren't able to do the paperwork. And they didn't
14 tell us, and they didn't get to come.

15 But I think -- I'm pretty sure that we're
16 going to continue that effort. Lessons learned. But we
17 had had a conversation, staff heard, and they were -- to
18 their credit, they did exactly that, and they connected
19 that. And, you know, it sadly -- it wasn't our fault.
20 Those two schools dropped the ball.

21 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Well, maybe we can
22 create some ownership on the schools' part by maybe
23 opening it up to several different counties and having
24 some type of contest where kids submit something, and
25 then everyone feels a little bit of a piece of pride,

1 and then we know how many people. If we only get three
2 applicants, we can do all three. If we get 30, then
3 we'll be in a little bit of trouble.

4 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: We definitely need to
5 figure out how to not have that problem again.

6 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Right. I should also add
7 that every year the Centennial Farm Foundation offers
8 bus scholarships to schools too. So it's a great
9 opportunity for us to expand that outreach through the
10 bus scholarship program.

11 So thank you for that. I think we have a
12 quick video clip too to show from some of the television
13 coverage.

14 (Pause.)

15 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: That's okay. We'll move
16 on. I know we have a lot to cover. But Channel 5 was
17 out here covering the event and did some really great
18 morning coverage. We feel that that was a big boost to
19 the event, as well.

20 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Just add to what
21 Ashleigh said, and I shared this with staff. In my past
22 life at Chino Hills, the L.A. County Fair was when the
23 school was in session.

24 So we had a program called the Big Yellow Bus
25 Program where we raised funds to take the school

1 children from Chino Hills to the fair on Chino Hills
2 Day, and we had a lot of exhibits set up there that the
3 city put on. And there were probably 900 to a thousand
4 students, so you could buy half a bus for X or all the
5 whole bus for Y. So the committee did a pretty good
6 fundraising effort to solicit funds that then went back
7 to the schools to provide transportation.

8 And that's something that we talked a little
9 bit about too as it relates to Heroes Hall in terms of
10 getting students to that program once it's open.

11 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Very good.

12 Okay. I'd also like to update everyone on a
13 very historic event that took place on Monday of this
14 week, and that was the moving of the former Memorial
15 Gardens building to her permanent foundation. We have a
16 few photos to share.

17 At about 7:15 on Monday morning, the former
18 Memorial Gardens building started her final journey to
19 her new home. Heavy transport, a company under the
20 direction of the lead contractor JRH Construction loaded
21 the building onto the transport equipment that you see
22 underneath the building. It's the same equipment that
23 was used to move the Space Shuttle Endeavour several
24 years ago. It was really an amazing sight to see.

25 Our staff unfurled the American flag and hung

1 it on the side of the building to accompany her on the
2 final leg of her journey. And off to the left, you
3 don't see it in this photo, but the crowd was awaiting
4 the final turn of the building.

5 In the background where that banner is
6 hanging on the fencing is the site of the permanent
7 foundation in between Centennial Farm and the Pacific
8 Amphitheater. So the building is about to take a sharp
9 right-hand turn to get her in position for the
10 foundation.

11 The gentleman that you see ahead of the
12 building in the shadow is operating the controls that
13 hung from his neck, and it was like the biggest video
14 game you could imagine. But he did a phenomenal job of
15 guiding the building where it stopped in front of where
16 the crowd was gathered, and we were all treated to a
17 wonderful speech by Senator Janet Nguyen.

18 Jess, the next picture, please.

19 Here's Senator Janet Nguyen. She spoke for
20 all that were in attendance on behalf of the Governor's
21 Military Council. Her speech was incredibly moving in
22 honor of veterans and praising the Heroes Hall project.
23 So she's been a great friend to the OC Fair & Event
24 Center and this project in particular, and I know that
25 she'll stay close to the project as we -- we move it

1 forward too.

2 And a few hours later, the building was very
3 easily lifted onto her permanent foundation. She will
4 be restored, renovated, and reborn into Heroes Hall to
5 be publicly dedicated on Veterans Day, November 11. We
6 have a great Veterans Day event here, and the public is
7 welcome to attend. We'll be getting word out about
8 details for the public unveiling of Heroes Hall.

9 And hopefully -- I don't think we're going to
10 have audio -- correct, Jess? -- for the clip?

11 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: I could check.
12 We had it earlier.

13 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: We can try. Okay.

14 (Pause.)

15 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: It's amazing in our
16 modern world, IT guys are like ER doctors. We need you
17 stat.

18 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: And we all secretly wish
19 we knew how to do what they do.

20 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Or had one in the
21 family.

22 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: As we're waiting, can Kevin
23 Coleman explain to me what item you want to talk about?

24 MR. KEVIN COLEMAN: Just open.

25 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: General comments?

1 MR. KEVIN COLEMAN: General comments, and then
2 also I believe it's 9B.

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Then you need to do an
4 additional card. General comment, and then an
5 additional card on 9B.

6 MR. KEVIN COLEMAN: Yes, sir.

7 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: I think we'll move on.
8 Maybe at the end of the meeting, we'll see if we can get
9 the audio.

10 As I do every month, I like to give a preview
11 on our upcoming events for May. We have a very, very
12 robust schedule in May. It's turning out to be our
13 heaviest event month of the year outside of fair.

14 Coming up this weekend is the OC Marathon.
15 Participants can register for the full marathon, half
16 marathon, 5K, or Kids Run. It includes a Health and
17 Fitness Expo on Friday from 4:00 to 8:00 and Saturday
18 from 9:00 to 6:00.

19 The Kids Run is on Saturday. The full and
20 half marathons and the 5K are on Sunday. And there's
21 still time to register if you want to strap on your
22 running shoes at OCmarathon.com.

23 Up next, the following weekend is the Gem
24 Faire featuring the finest in gems, beads, fine jewelry,
25 costume jewelry, minerals, crystals, and imports from

1 around the world. It will be at noon on Friday,
2 May 6th, noon to 6:00; Saturday, 10:00 to 6:00; Sunday,
3 10:00 to 5:00. General admission is \$7, and kids 12 and
4 under are free. Great Mother's Day gifts, I think,
5 there.

6 And then two dates for Costa Mesa Speedway.
7 On May 7 is the Spring Classic from 6:00 to 10:00.
8 General admission starts at \$20. And then again on
9 Saturday, the 21st, from 6:00 to 10:00 is the American
10 Motorcyclist Association National Championship.

11 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Is that their artwork --

12 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: It is.

13 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: -- the Speedway? I just
14 wanted to comment.

15 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: You didn't recognize it?

16 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: No, I did. I just wanted
17 to know whose it was. If you see, they have our
18 structure, they have our roof. And I always said it's
19 so iconic that those folks have incorporated that in
20 their artwork.

21 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Yep. Yep. And they are
22 synonymous with the Action Sports Arena.

23 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: It is. That's part of --

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Let's charge them some
25 more.

1 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Send a cease and
2 desist.

3 (Laughter.)

4 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: The following weekend,
5 May 13th through the 15th, is OC Night Market. This
6 three-night event is based on the famous night bazaars
7 of Asia and will feature hundreds of food, retail, art
8 walk, and live musical performances Friday the 13th and
9 Saturday the 14th from 4:00 to midnight and Sunday the
10 15th from 4:00 to 10:00. Admission is \$5, and kids six
11 and under are free.

12 Then our own produced event coming up on
13 Saturday, May 14th, is The Red Barn, a farm to fork
14 experience at Centennial Farm. It is a new exclusive
15 sitdown dining series hosted by the OC Fair & Event
16 Center in the Millennium Barn. This is the first in a
17 series.

18 Each event features a menu created by local
19 chefs using locally sourced foods that are paired with
20 wines selected by the Orange County Wine Society. And
21 that will take place on Saturday, May 14th, from 6:30 to
22 9:00. Tickets are \$150, which include a four-course
23 farm-fresh meal, beverages, parking, tax, and gratuity.

24 That same weekend, May 14th and 15th, is
25 Fitcon. This two-day fitness expo features

1 demonstrations and workouts and cooking demonstrations,
2 celebrity meet-and-greets, dance team performances,
3 training activities for adults and children, fashion
4 show, contests, and the Fitcon OC Games and other live
5 competitions, Saturday from 10:00 to 6:00, Sunday 10:00
6 to 5:00. Admission is \$25. Kids three and under are
7 free.

8 Okay. Next slide.

9 This is a first-time event coming to the
10 OC Fair & Event Center, the Brakes Teen Driving School,
11 free defensive driving program for teens 15 to 19 who
12 have a learner's permit or driver's license and have at
13 least 30 hours of driving experience. It will be
14 Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and
15 admission is free with registration.

16 And speaking as a parent of a teenager who
17 just totaled one of our cars, sign them up. She'll be
18 there.

19 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: The rest of us shall
20 avoid this area on the 21st and 22nd.

21 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Right.

22 Another new event to the OC Fair & Event
23 Center on Sunday, May 22nd, is the Quinceañera Magazine
24 Expo. It's a one-day expo featuring vendors and party
25 planning ideas for the perfect Quinceañera or Sweet 16

1 party. Noon to 5:00 on Sunday, May 22nd. Admission is
2 \$7, kids 12 and under free.

3 And the last weekend of the month of May, the
4 28th and 29th, is our annual Scottish Fest. This is an
5 event that's been at the fairgrounds for many, many
6 years. It's their 84th annual event featuring hundreds
7 of bagpipers and drummers, Scottish and Irish food and
8 vendors, Scottish clans, Highland dancing, and Scottish
9 athletes and lots of men walking around in kilts. Very
10 impressive. Saturday, May 28th, and Sunday the 29th
11 from 9:00 to 6:00. General admission starts at \$18.

12 Okay. And then, of course, a plug for our
13 ongoing weekly events. Centennial Farm is open and free
14 to the public Monday through Friday 1:00 to 4:00,
15 Saturday and Sunday 9:00 to 4:00.

16 Of course, the Orange County Marketplace
17 Saturday and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., featuring
18 Cars & Coffee every Saturday from 7:00 to 9:00.

19 And then we have our double dose of gourmet
20 food trucks Wednesday, 5:30 to 9:00, for dinner and
21 Thursday, 11:00 to 2:00 for lunch right out in front of
22 the Pacific Amphitheater Box Office. Also featuring the
23 food trucks -- I'm sorry -- Farmers Market, Thursday
24 9:00 to 1:00, also in front of the Pac Amp Box Office.

25 So that's our lineup for May, and quite a

1 good May it's going to be.

2 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Fantastic. Any questions
3 on the events?

4 If not, I do recall at the last Board Meeting
5 staff -- I think you can correct me if I'm wrong --
6 mentioned that the OC Marathon is on the last year of
7 the agreement.

8 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Yes. Correct.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: So I'd like to suggest to
10 our Tenant Liaison Committee to begin working with staff
11 at the right time to look at that agreement and to make
12 sure that it's a good agreement. And so that's that.

13 And I want to mention that the -- I bought my
14 ticket for The Red Barn, and I'm going solo. So if any
15 other Board Members are going, let me know so I can sit
16 with you guys. The -- but so I'm looking forward to
17 that.

18 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: We are, as well. Thank
19 you for that.

20 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Thank you, Michele.

21 One of the events not highlighted in
22 Michele's presentation was a last-minute booking for the
23 Pacific Amphitheater. I thought because of the
24 high-profile nature of this event, I wanted to introduce
25 it and provide some background.

1 If you haven't already heard on the media,
2 Donald Trump's rally campaign will be held tonight in
3 Pac Amp. This was a very last-minute booking for staff.
4 The event happens tonight. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m.
5 The event actually starts at 7:00 and is scheduled till
6 9:00 p.m. It is free to the public. Parking is \$10,
7 and they are expecting a full house, which will be about
8 8,000 people. And after the Board Meeting, staff will
9 be working to get that off.

10 Michele also shared the highlights of moving
11 the Memorial Garden building, future home of Heroes
12 Hall, and it was pretty special to see over a hundred
13 tons of building being moved to its location. I would
14 like to ask Jerry Eldridge, our Director of Facilities,
15 now that it's almost on its foundation -- right? --
16 almost on its foundation to give us a construction
17 update on the project.

18 MR. JERRY ELDRIDGE: Thank you very much.

19 So just, you know, to let you all know, I'm
20 extremely proud to be part of this program. My
21 grandfather served in the Army and the Air Force, and my
22 son's currently a Marine. So this is very dear to me.
23 Thank you.

24 So as you guys have seen, the building has
25 been moved. The picture below, left corner, is the

1 forms that formed up the footings, which is the stem
2 wall footing, and the forms have been stripped. They
3 were stripped on Saturday. Up in the top left corner,
4 those are the -- that's the concrete. And then the
5 structure was moved Monday onto its foundation, which is
6 the bottom right-hand corner picture. That's the
7 backside looking out into lot D -- or B.

8 So we are on budget, we are on schedule, and
9 we're still looking for a substantial completion by the
10 week of -- I guess that would be the 9th. So Veterans
11 Day is the 11th, I think.

12 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes, Nick.

13 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: First,
14 congratulations to Jerry and your crew and working with
15 the contractor. And I've had the opportunity to speak
16 on several occasions to the contractor to let him know
17 that I'm watching every single nail that gets hammered
18 into that building, and what a wonderful man he is.
19 He -- he brought his family, his, you know, children to
20 come and watch it.

21 Jerry, your team was fantastic the morning of
22 the move.

23 MR. JERRY ELDRIDGE: Thank you.

24 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: I mean they were
25 hustling and had everything under control, and what a

1 great job everybody did. If you -- and the contractor,
2 a real congrats to him. He decided that he wouldn't use
3 a house mover this time. He decided to go with riggers
4 instead.

5 And you saw what -- you saw this -- this guy
6 is moving this huge building standing in front of it, as
7 Michele pointed out, with a joystick. You know, hey,
8 wait a second. And the way you're managing this project
9 and watching this thing and -- it is so notable that
10 your heart and soul and your staff are in on this, and
11 it's gaining wide support in the community. And many,
12 many thanks here. Great job.

13 MR. JERRY ELDRIDGE: So I want to thank you for
14 being out there, Nick, at sunrise walking your baby onto
15 its -- onto its pad.

16 Nick was out there from the beginning until
17 we moved it onto the site.

18 So I thank you for that as well.

19 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yeah. I was just
20 standing on the side of the building there because I
21 thought if it was going to fall off this thing, maybe I
22 could push it back.

23 MR. JERRY ELDRIDGE: Any other questions?

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: You know, I -- unless -- I
25 have a comment. Is there any other question or comment

1 on Heroes Hall, the move?

2 I -- I agree with Jerry. Thank you very
3 much, Nick, for your leadership on this project. It's
4 not just Nick's baby. It's all of our baby. But I'm
5 particularly grateful to see Nick help us with this.
6 He's actually doing most of the heavy lifting on this,
7 so we're very appreciative of that.

8 I know there were other Board Members that
9 were there during the move, but it was a fantastic
10 thing. I -- I couldn't stop thinking that, actually,
11 when people come when it opens to see exhibits, it's
12 actually the first exhibit and will always be the
13 exhibit is the building. That's the first piece of
14 historical curated part of the exhibit. It's the
15 building and what has been -- and how it's been used and
16 its significance in all that.

17 There's lots of things that will be coming
18 into the building throughout the time with the exhibits.
19 But that building is really the core of the exhibit, and
20 so it will be such a cool thing when it's open. So
21 thank you very much.

22 Yes?

23 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Oh. Thank you, Jerry.

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. We'll continue with
25 the CEO update.

1 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Again, thank you, everyone
2 that was involved with that. I had the pleasure of
3 walking along with Nick and some of the staff. And,
4 boy, if you couldn't feel the pride and the emotions.
5 So thank you. It was a pretty special day.

6 Things have been very productive this month
7 in making connections both around the education and new
8 business development opportunities.

9 We hosted the California State Athletic
10 Commission Board Meeting earlier this month. At the
11 conclusion of the meeting we had an opportunity to meet
12 with John Carvelli, the commission chair, and their
13 executive director to discuss ways we could work
14 together to promote the fairgrounds to regional and
15 national combat sports promoters.

16 Tandem, our sales and sponsorship agency,
17 will continue business development outreach with the
18 Commission. So it was a fantastic meeting, aligning --
19 they have some initiatives to try to bring not only
20 regional but more national events into the Marketplace.
21 So they were very excited to just align with us, and
22 then we've got resources paying attention to that.

23 So we look forward to bringing additional
24 events to supplement all the great events that Roy and
25 Fight Night's been bringing and really making that

1 Hangar come alive with combat sport events.

2 So we also had some visitors. We invited
3 Sports Anaheim, Disney Sports Attractions, and GET
4 Travel Sports and Events for a site tour meeting. They
5 were very impressed with the diversity and flexibility
6 of the facilities.

7 We mutually agreed that there's tremendous
8 opportunity for our venue as well as all of Orange
9 County for new sports business development. If you
10 don't know, Sports Anaheim is a -- while it's a part of
11 Visit Anaheim, they're in the process of organizing a
12 sports commission to lead the sports development efforts
13 for all of Orange County.

14 And if you know anything about really who
15 does the heavy lifting on driving, it really comes from
16 the Sports Commission. You either have it from a state
17 agency or your tourism folks get around it, and their
18 focus truly is.

19 So they're in their infancy stage of that.
20 Their director for that program has been around for
21 about a year. So we're very excited to be partnering
22 with them. Before I even arrived here, looking from the
23 outside in, I said that this venue really had
24 opportunity to bring -- what did I say? -- a bat, a
25 ball, a wheel, a mat, a net -- mat to bring all the

1 diversity of the sports that we could do.

2 So it was really good to see the energy.

3 Albeit they are being driven out of the Anaheim -- Visit
4 Anaheim, their mandate is to bring sports to all of
5 Orange County. So we're very pleased to continue that
6 relationship.

7 I also want to thank Director Cervantes for
8 arranging a meeting with the MIND Institute. Their
9 headquarters are located in Irvine. They're a nonprofit
10 organization that for 18 years has been reinventing and
11 reimagining math education into effective education
12 programs which now reach over a million students in both
13 classroom and in-home learning.

14 We're going to be working with them to expand
15 their hands-on learning experience at Imaginology. They
16 were -- they've been a small footprint in the past for
17 Imaginology. And through this energy and our staff,
18 they have got so many hands on, if you didn't get a
19 chance to do that, where they make learning math fun,
20 and it relates to the use. So we're very excited to
21 continue that relationship.

22 They're also -- this fall they've got a new
23 concept. Instead of doing a traditional gala, they
24 are -- for fundraising they're doing what they're
25 calling A Taste of Math Gala. They're going to be --

1 we're going to be hosting that. So more to come on
2 that. Lots of chefs will be not only preparing their
3 food and showcasing it, but there will be an educational
4 math component.

5 Because, you know, if you do any cooking and
6 especially baking and want to be successful, you
7 probably better know something about math and follow a
8 recipe. So good news on that.

9 I was also introduced to High School Inc. by
10 a fellow Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce Board Member and
11 toured their facility at Valley High School in
12 Santa Ana. I gave everybody a copy of their brochure if
13 you want to take a look at it.

14 I couldn't -- I spent two hours there, and
15 I -- every emotion ran through me from, wow, I can't
16 believe this is here and how grateful that programs
17 exist for youth at risk.

18 This program is a catalyst for social and
19 economic change and changing the lives of high school
20 students whose dreams are at risk of being unfilled.
21 Both their president and program director shared a
22 statistic that really resonated with me that 40 percent
23 of their student population is homeless.

24 And when I say "homeless," it means that they
25 don't have their individual homes. They either are

1 living with relatives or friends. You can see that the
2 need -- and the school provided these six different
3 academies in a very communal living environment that
4 they're preparing them to not only enter in trade
5 positions but a college prep.

6 We have many opportunities to connect with
7 this organization, including providing student
8 internships with many of their academy tracks and
9 mentoring programs. I've invited the president and
10 program director to tour the fairgrounds in May and
11 start conversations on how we can partner with High
12 School Inc.

13 We continue to stay connected and assist with
14 volunteer opportunities at Taller San Jose. Did I say
15 it correct? All right. I'm learning. Very good.

16 About a year ago, Director Cervantes
17 introduced me to this program, and we stay very
18 connected to it. They're an organization, again, whose
19 mission is to help troubled youth work to develop skills
20 for a brighter future. Their particular niche is not --
21 is above 18 and people from probably 18 to 30 that maybe
22 have gone out into the work force or the community and
23 haven't had much success and reorientating them and
24 giving them education.

25 Two staff members participated in their

1 professional mock interview day earlier this month.
2 This mock interview process is very important for the
3 students as it provides their graduates a chance to
4 obtain feedback in a mock interview before conducting
5 their real job experiences.

6 I've had the pleasure of doing this on
7 numerous times, and staff both came back from their
8 respective interviews and found me and said, "Wow.
9 Thank you for letting me have that experience." So it's
10 pretty rewarding what we're able to give back to the
11 community. So thanks, staff, for making that
12 commitment.

13 So who knows how many days till fair? Any
14 guesses?

15 MR. JERRY ELDRIDGE: Not enough.

16 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Not enough. I'm looking for a
17 number, Jerry.

18 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Seventy-eight.

19 MS. KATHY KRAMER: How did you know that? You're
20 counting you're so excited?

21 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yes. This is my 23rd
22 consecutive fair.

23 MS. KATHY KRAMER: That's right. Well, very
24 good. Well, if you guessed 78, you're correct.

25 We just booked the last two acts for the

1 Toyota Summer Concert Series. The team has done an
2 outstanding job providing a great lineup and guarantee
3 there's something for everyone. I think it's fair to
4 say a few of us are excited about acts like Earth Wind &
5 Fire. Do I hear a --

6 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Woo.

7 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Frankie Valli -- another
8 "woo" -- and The Four Seasons. I can promise, myself
9 included, we're going to be dusting off our old records
10 and sing along with them. So 78 days and counting.

11 At last month's Board Meeting, staff was
12 asked to report monthly the number of staff hours
13 required to fulfill public records requests. This past
14 month 52 hours were logged, and we currently have a
15 part-time position posted to recruit someone to assist
16 us with filling these requests.

17 That concludes my report. I'll be happy to
18 answer any questions.

19 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. Nick, we have a card
20 for public comment on the CEO report. I'm going to take
21 that, and then I'm going to bring it back to the Board
22 for additional questions that the Board may have on the
23 CEO updates.

24 So, Beth, could you come? You have three
25 minutes.

1 MS. BETH REFAKES: Good morning. Beth Refakes,
2 Costa Mesa resident.

3 I just wanted to thank everyone that was
4 involved in moving the building. It was a great event.
5 I was out here most of the day taking a lot of pictures
6 and documenting it for the Historical Society. And I
7 know Bob Palazzola, who is also with the Historical
8 Society, was out there taking a lot of pictures too.

9 And it was really a marvel to see how they
10 were able to move this building because they had to
11 change directions several times. And then moving it
12 into place was, you know, just something that you don't
13 get the opportunity to see very often.

14 And so it -- you know, you guys did a great
15 job, and, you know, I'm excited about it. I know that a
16 lot of residents in the city are excited about having
17 the building finally in place where it's going to have
18 its new home.

19 So, once again, I think it was a -- you know,
20 a great effort on everyone's part, and really those that
21 have supported this from the beginning are very happy to
22 see it come to fruition. So I -- once again, I'm really
23 excited about it.

24 One other thing that happened to be mentioned
25 during the CEO's report is the political rally tonight.

1 And I don't have a problem with political rallies or
2 anything like that. We've had them here in the past.
3 They've always been peaceful.

4 My only concern is that some of Mr. Trump's
5 rallies have had a lot of violence associated with them,
6 so I'm concerned about the type of security and who's
7 going to be enforcing it to keep that type of
8 violence -- eliminating it from this property as well as
9 in the neighborhoods. Thank you very much.

10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Beth. I mean I
11 saw you there at the move of Heroes Hall. I -- I agree
12 with you, and I'm really happy you were there because I
13 know you've been involved on that project from day one.

14 I'm going to bring it back to the Board for
15 any additional questions on the CEO, or comments.

16 Nick?

17 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yeah. On the 52
18 hours we're doing public records requests, and I think
19 we all appreciate public records requests and the
20 importance of transparency, you know, that -- I mean
21 it's critical. It's what keeps our democracy going.

22 Sometimes, though, I'm -- sometimes if we
23 could -- in this case, you know, the public records
24 request may be coming from a couple of individuals. If
25 there's a way to have the Chairman and the Vice Chair,

1 along with the CEO, to perhaps invite the folks that are
2 making the public records requests to come in and sit
3 down and just talk and answer these questions and answer
4 the concerns, I think that works really well.

5 Because, you know, being in the political
6 scene for 50 years and representing, you know, thousands
7 of public employees in every jurisdiction here in Orange
8 County over the years, what I've noticed -- and I'm
9 being on both sides of that issue.

10 I mean I've used public records requests
11 during collective bargaining just to -- I did it. I can
12 give you some examples. I got every judge's credit card
13 once in negotiations with the courts, and I saw that
14 where --

15 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: You don't need to do that.

16 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: I saw that -- I saw
17 that work so well that I tied up those negotiations
18 every year, you know, using public records requests.

19 And being the cofounder of Voice of OC, I'm
20 involved now in filing a lawsuit against the county
21 because they wouldn't share a public record.

22 So I'm very much an advocate for public
23 records requests and transparency of them. And having
24 been in the political -- I mean I've had a lot of people
25 make public records requests on me, things that I've

1 done, meetings I've attended. So I get it, and I
2 understand it.

3 But usually those questions can be
4 answered -- having been, again, on both sides, very
5 aggressive on both sides, not just on the margins --
6 these questions usually can be answered if somebody is
7 called in, they talk to the folks, answer the questions.

8 And I'm not implying that any of this is
9 being used as harassment like I've used it over the
10 years. Not implying that. But what I am saying is if
11 there's a -- I think people who make a lot of public
12 records requests, and if it is kind of -- the kind of
13 thing like, well, just kind of pushing back and that
14 kind of stuff, like, again, I'm speaking of my own
15 personal experience, what you hate to hear is you hate
16 to hear the person you're asking them -- say "Come on in
17 and we'll talk with you," you know, "Whoa. Wait a
18 second now. That isn't the purpose for this. But -- I
19 didn't really want to know all this stuff."

20 So I don't know. But I think it makes a lot
21 of sense to try to make that effort. Let's all sit
22 down. Let's talk. The questions that I've seen,
23 they're easily answered. Don't need -- and we want to
24 answer the questions. We want to answer them in a
25 cost-efficient smart way so that the public, most

1 importantly, understands and the transparency's there
2 and they get their questions answered. But, you know,
3 not playing PRA roulette, which I'm an expert at, there
4 ain't anybody better at PRAs.

5 So I would, Mr. Chairman, ask you to discuss
6 with the CEO and counsel about maybe inviting the folks
7 in and sit down and just say "What are your questions?
8 Here's our answers." And, you know, maybe it's a more
9 efficient way to be sure and ensure transparency without
10 in any way mitigating or imposing upon anybody's right
11 to do it because it's a good thing to do. I'm not
12 saying that. Just finding a more efficient way to do
13 it.

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. I -- I don't have a
15 problem. Let's schedule a meeting. Yes, sir.

16 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: I would just like to ask
17 Kathy have you done what Nick has requested?

18 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Previously with -- yes, we've
19 done that previously.

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: But I think Nick requested
21 with the Chair and the Vice Chair.

22 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: I just wanted to bring --

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I have not been in a
24 meeting --

25 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: -- bring it up for

1 information sake that during my time, I did attempt to
2 do that and -- as Chair, and I felt the same thing that
3 you felt. It would be nice to sit down and talk. And
4 they didn't want to talk. They didn't want to meet.

5 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Let's try it again.
6 I think it would be great to try it again and make
7 another effort at it so we can get all that information
8 out, everything that everybody wants to know, everything
9 that's available, and do it in a way that will satisfy
10 the request.

11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah.

12 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: I just want to interject here
13 for a moment. And I realize this discussion is in
14 connection with the CEO's report on reporting out the
15 hours they spent on Public Records Act request
16 responses.

17 If the Board wants to have a more full
18 discussion about what they want staff to do once a
19 Public Record Act request comes in the door, inviting
20 alternative ways to have a discussion with the public,
21 we need to put that on the agenda to have a fuller
22 discussion.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: No. I don't want to have a
24 further discussion. I just simply want to say go ahead
25 and set up the meeting. That's all I'm saying.

1 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Okay. Let me ask you
2 this question because in a previous meeting, I asked
3 staff to report back the hours and the cost and that.

4 So understanding what you just said, does
5 that somehow put it in a position to where it's
6 talkable?

7 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: The really only thing that's
8 reportable has been reported, which is the number of
9 hours of staff time that's been spent since the last
10 meeting.

11 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: So if we want to get into
12 open discussion, then it should be on the agenda.

13 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: It should be, and including if
14 there's going to be a directive from the Board to direct
15 staff to do something, that certainly can happen, and
16 the staff report back again at the next meeting.

17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I mean I can say it now or
18 I can say it during my ending comments, which I have the
19 right to say. I'd like to have a meeting. That's all
20 I'm saying, you know? I think I have the right to say
21 I'd like to have a meeting.

22 I don't want to have an in-depth discussion
23 as to whether it will be a successful meeting or not a
24 successful meeting. That's beside the point because we
25 haven't had the meeting yet. So that's all I'm saying.

1 I like your idea, and we'll do it.

2 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Mr. Chair?

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

4 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: I'd also like to know
5 what the dollars equate to for those hours. Did you say
6 that?

7 MS. KATHY KRAMER: I didn't do the dollars.

8 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yeah. How much is it
9 costing us to do this?

10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: That can be a follow-up.

11 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Because if we have to
12 agendize it, we should do that.

13 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes. Yes. Any other
14 questions -- actually, Beth did a comment. I now have
15 another public record -- I mean public record -- public
16 comment request on this topic. And I guess this topic
17 is the CEO report. And then I just got another card
18 that doesn't say -- is it -- Mike Robbins, is this
19 general comment?

20 FEMALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. It's for this.

21 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: It's for -- now, you're not
22 being called just yet. I just want to know what you
23 want to talk about.

24 MR. MIKE ROBBINS: The Trump event tonight.

25 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: That -- so I'll put that, I

1 guess -- general comment. General comment. We'll call
2 on you when -- but, Theresa, I think you wanted to talk
3 about the CEO update. Please come forward. You have
4 three minutes.

5 MS. THERESA SEARS: Thank you. I appreciate
6 three minutes.

7 Good morning, Board. I don't think anybody's
8 probably put in more public records requests than
9 myself, whether it be at the county, cities, the state,
10 water districts, whatever. I get why we do public
11 records requests. They're very important, and that
12 whole thing needs to be honored.

13 Generally, when you're doing public records
14 requests, PRAs, you have hostile agencies. You have
15 hostile city councils or the county. They're hostile.
16 But generally after things settle, if they settle,
17 sometimes they don't settle, but if they settle, you
18 form relationships with staffs, CEOs, city council
19 members, and you're able to just, as Nick says, ask for
20 things.

21 I have that relationship in Orange. I can
22 just call up the city and say, "Hey, I'm interested in
23 this. Can you send me this?" and I get it.

24 Sometimes, though, they'll say to me "Could
25 you put it in the form of a public records request?"

1 And I understand why they do that, because they don't
2 want to just start giving out information without the
3 needed documentation. So it's kind of a -- you know,
4 it's kind of a weigh-and-balancing situation.

5 The other issue and the cutting edge of this
6 is the Governor a couple years ago, I don't know if
7 people remember, but was proposing legislation to cut
8 the Public Records Request Act down legislatively where
9 it would -- it would really harm what we were doing.

10 And that was done because of the cost,
11 exactly what you're talking about, because the amount of
12 hours. It's really an unfunded legislative act. So it
13 becomes very costly to agencies.

14 So I recommend -- well, I use it judicially.
15 I don't use it just because. I'm not sure exactly what
16 the problem is here, but it's not me. I can tell you
17 that part.

18 But I -- I do think what Gerardo's talking
19 about, having a meeting, putting those relationships
20 together so it is not an expensive thing -- because we
21 have a cooperative board. We have a cooperative CEO.
22 We have willing people. We have the same issue in a
23 couple other departments at the county, and it doesn't
24 really need to be -- it could be easier.

25 On another note, I did get a positive e-mail,

1 if I can find it, on this Imaginology event that I do
2 want to share because last year I connected a couple
3 people in Orange Park Acres that had -- that interacted
4 with this event and kind of told them how to deal with
5 it, how to talk to the fair people and staff because
6 they were pretty pissed off about years prior.

7 I got this e-mail just out of the blue. I
8 haven't talked to this person for a year. It says --
9 let's see. "We reached out to them" -- that would be
10 staff here -- "months ago and had a meeting. We were
11 prepared with our needs and requests, and they were more
12 than willing to grant most of them. I used my skills
13 and worked with them, which made this year's experience
14 unbelievable."

15 So that was a positive, and I was really glad
16 to get this. But I know my friends in OPA are very
17 happy, and that's a positive. And so we just want to
18 keep forging those relationships.

19 So I do thank you, and I appreciate
20 everything. And welcome to our new Board Member, by the
21 way.

22 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Thank you.

23 MS. THERESA SEARS: Thank you.

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Theresa.

25 Any other questions on the CEO update from or

1 comments from the Board?

2 If not, I do have a thataboy, and hopefully

3 I'm not deliberating and going outside Bagley-Keene.

4 First of all, I want to thank Sandra Cervantes for

5 connecting staff to Taller San Jose and also High School

6 Inc., I think. Thank you so much. I know those two --

7 MS. KATHY KRAMER: And the MIND Institute.

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: And the MIND Institute.

9 Okay. I know MIND Institute. I know Ted Smith. But

10 MIND Institute, and I just want to say thank you for the

11 High School Inc. I also am a big fan. And the Taller

12 San Jose is within half a block from my office. They're

13 an amazing group. So it's a worthwhile effort. Thank

14 you. I appreciate that.

15 I wanted to also say that in the -- in the

16 report from the CEO from staff on the what I call

17 third-party events, that's when people come and they

18 want to do a quinceañera, they go and they pay. And if

19 it's available it's available.

20 The services for Easter at the Pac Amp, if

21 it's available, it's available. And there's no legal

22 basis. So good job. I'm saying good job on that.

23 And I understand that we got a report on

24 something that probably will make more news that's

25 happening tonight, and that's that rally. I understand

1 that if it's available, it's available. There is no
2 legal reason that we can deny.

3 I also appreciate the CEO saying that, you
4 know, there is an opportunity for improvement in
5 communication with regards to some of the -- some things
6 are like I don't know if I need to be aware in the
7 planning steps with regards to a quinceañera, but
8 perhaps something like this would be good because I
9 think it helps our role. I think that's the feedback
10 that I've gotten, and it's a thataboy. Good lessons
11 learned. I'm not deliberating is my thing.

12 Any other comments or questions on the CEO
13 update?

14 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Counsel, could you --
15 on this particular report regarding this event, could
16 you share your counsel to us, which is we cannot discuss
17 that event; correct?

18 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: Right. And like Chair Mouet
19 discussed when he was talking about the purpose of the
20 DAA and the mission statement, because the DAA is --
21 it's a state agency. State agencies are bound by
22 certain laws which might not make much sense, but it's
23 all about consensus building.

24 And so one of the most important ways to
25 build consensus is to provide sufficient notice to

1 members of the public before and discussion on any
2 particular item, in particular, as Chair Mouet
3 mentioned, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and that
4 essentially requires that the Board provide ten days'
5 notice before a meeting and within that notice is to
6 identify on the agenda the items and the only items that
7 will be discussed at that meeting.

8 Yes, occasionally things will come up. An
9 event may come up or an issue may come up within that
10 ten-day period. There are very, very limited
11 circumstances under which you can discuss something if
12 it comes up within that ten days.

13 This is one of the those issues that cannot
14 be discussed. Certainly, if there are -- following
15 public comment or following the event or the issue, if
16 the Board thinks it's important to have a full
17 discussion about it, while the discussion would happen
18 after the event, it could certainly be placed on the
19 agenda.

20 But as far as anything that's come up in the
21 last ten days since this agenda was posted to the
22 public, the Board simply can't discuss.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. And if I may, I mean
24 I told you, Josh, that I read the Bagley-Keene Act that
25 your agency published last night on the website. So I

1 do know that if there's an emergency, you can do -- you
2 can within 48 hours add something to the agenda. There
3 are a couple of exceptions.

4 But what I -- I really wasn't -- I'm saying
5 good job in the communication. Lessons learned on how
6 to improve the communication. And what I was really
7 trying to say and illustrate, because I manage -- one of
8 the many things that I manage is the 10,000-seat
9 Santa Ana Stadium.

10 So if I get a call from -- it doesn't
11 matter -- of any kind of presidential nominee that tells
12 me "We're thinking. Is it available?"

13 And I say, "It's available. You're
14 thinking." Can't tell anybody. I will lose my job if I
15 don't let the mayor and council and the city manager
16 know and say, by the way, you can't let anybody know
17 because it's just tentative because of the nature of the
18 thing. This isn't like a football game. This isn't a
19 quinceañera thing. It's just the nature of the thing.

20 Because the rumors sometimes get out, and
21 before you know it, a mayor or a councilmember is being
22 called. And it's just the appropriate way of helping
23 governance.

24 So that's the point that I -- that I wanted
25 to mention. Good -- good job on learning lessons with

1 regards to process improvement in communication. That's
2 really what I was trying to say.

3 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Right. And I think,
4 Counselor, too, that -- let's take this event aside but
5 bring the whole thing -- like you said, because of the
6 law, I'm responding on what we can't talk about things.

7 And so I think when we have events that may
8 be controversial, you know, or may have public safety
9 implications, that when the staff learn about those
10 events, even when it just jumps up on their radar,
11 whether it's confirmed or not confirmed but it gets on
12 the radar, I think it's a good idea to let the Chairman
13 know so that we can conform to -- you know, conform to
14 your direction here, which is good, so we can get it on
15 the agenda in an appropriate time and so that we have
16 the opportunity to weigh in. Otherwise, what happens
17 because of those rules as you articulated, which are
18 important rules, you essentially have the Board unable
19 to do its job.

20 So because we're following these rules that
21 don't make necessarily a lot of -- I mean make things
22 easy, so we'll follow those rules. Thank you very much
23 for your admonition on this and a great lesson learned.
24 And everybody knows, you know, whenever -- what those
25 rules are so we aren't basically getting the shovel

1 kicked out of our hands, so to speak.

2 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. That's a good
3 thought, Nick.

4 Any other question on the CEO report?

5 Well, we've had some public comments on this
6 agenda item number 5, CEO report. We're still in public
7 comments.

8 Now we're going to -- unless -- unless I'm
9 missing something, I think we now need to do the rest of
10 the public comments that are general because there are
11 some that are connected to 9B. And when we get to 9B,
12 I'll call on those. But right now these are general
13 comments, and I'm just calling the names in the order
14 that I received them.

15 So first up is Reggie Mundekis. You have
16 three minutes.

17 MS. REGGIE MUNDEKIS: All right. Good morning,
18 and thank you for this opportunity to appear before you.
19 By now the Board should be in receipt of a letter
20 regarding possible issues arising from the use of
21 NAFTA TN classification and H-1B visa statuses for
22 employment of full-time Civil Service employees at this
23 state agency. The Board has asked to review these
24 serious issues and take necessary corrective actions.

25 The current use of NAFTA TN classification

1 and H-1B visa status workers should lead to a public
2 discussion as an agendaized issue during a Board Meeting
3 of the appropriateness of bringing in foreign nationals
4 for employment at a state agency.

5 The Board should also be in receipt of a
6 letter regarding the March 14th, 2016, California Public
7 Records Request, which is still pending. Executive
8 management is also refusing to fulfill a California
9 Public Records Request filed on April 13th, 2016. The
10 handling of these requests by executive management is
11 not in compliance with California law.

12 I would also add that I have reached out to
13 your CEO on multiple times with specific questions on
14 events, very narrow questions, and each time she has
15 refused to provide information about those events.
16 These are questions which are very easily answered, and
17 she has consistently stonewalled and refused to provide
18 necessary information on many events. And I have these
19 e-mails.

20 Regarding the Trump rally today, the event
21 falls under the 2012 Pac Amp settlement agreement. As
22 such, the contract binding the Trump campaign to follow
23 all of the settlement terms must be signed by both the
24 campaign and OCFEC staff before the event can start.
25 All sound monitoring and sound limits apply.

1 The Pac Amp has a capacity limit. All
2 attendees must have a seat. At no time can there be
3 standing room tickets or capacity over the limit
4 mandated by the court-ordered settlement. OCFEC staff
5 are legally responsible for monitoring and maintaining
6 the capacity limit of the Pac Amp.

7 And I would also just like to add regarding
8 the Trump rally because there are -- apparently we have
9 now just found out that there are no way -- there's no
10 way of regulating types of activities that go on on this
11 facility even if there could be a public hazard, there
12 is nothing that could be done if, say, the Ku Klux Klan
13 showed up with a check for payment in full to rent any
14 facility here, including the entire facility, to hold a
15 rally.

16 If the Klan came in with a check to buy out
17 the entire facility for a month, including the camping,
18 apparently there's nothing that could be done to protect
19 the public from any possible issues. And this really is
20 an unfortunate situation. It presents a very serious
21 public hazard. So thank you.

22 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Reggie.

23 Let me call on the next person. Jay
24 Humphrey. General comments.

25 MR. JAY HUMPHREY: Good morning, Board. Jay

1 Humphrey, Costa Mesa resident.

2 As you all know, I'm a very continuous and
3 strong supporter of the fair, of the events, the
4 services, the opportunities you offer the community
5 across the Board. And it's an important issue that we
6 always respect that.

7 The other factor that I'm very strongly
8 supportive of is being good neighbors. And my concern
9 always falls into when activities and what have you
10 become unneighborly, if you will.

11 When, in fact, we have projects and
12 activities that go on that, for one reason or another,
13 are not enforced effectively, i.e., there's no contract
14 in place to -- that is actually signed in place to
15 actually enforce the rules of that contract, I'm very
16 concerned about it not because of how you do your
17 business. Your business is your business, and, quite
18 honestly, how you do that is fine. But the way it's --
19 it spills over into the neighborhoods around here, then
20 I start getting concerned about it. And my concern is
21 always that we react to each other as good neighbors.

22 Consequently, I'm not a very big fan of
23 asking for forgiveness after an event. I'm much more
24 about getting permission before the event. So I would
25 ask that you guys always make sure that before an event

1 happens, that a completely signed contract that gives
2 you the authority, the effectiveness, and the policing
3 powers to make sure that that is completely
4 appropriately enforced. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you.

6 Let me call on Beth Refakes, please.

7 MS. BETH REFAKES: I am kind of following on with
8 Jay's comments because I -- on the Pac Amp contracts, I
9 have a concern because this issue's been raised before
10 that contracts for events are not fully executed and
11 signed by both parties prior to the event. And
12 contracts usually aren't enforceable unless they're
13 signed by both parties.

14 So I would have concern that if this signing
15 of the contracts by both parties does not occur prior to
16 the event and informs everyone of the terms of the
17 settlement agreement and the noise restrictions on the
18 Pac Amp theater that you will not be able to enforce any
19 of the restrictions during the event.

20 So, in other words, if somebody is exceeding
21 the sound limits or some of the other terms of the
22 settlement agreement, that you cannot go out there and
23 say, "Okay. You're exceeding this, so you need to turn
24 down the sound" or whatever the issue is.

25 So that's where I have some concern that not

1 everyone is fully aware of the terms of the settlement
2 agreement and has agreed to them in writing prior to the
3 event. Thank you very much.

4 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you.

5 Next up is Kevin Coleman on general comments.

6 MR. KEVIN COLEMAN: Good morning, Board. My
7 name's Kevin Coleman. I'm a 30-year resident and
8 business owner here in the city. I'm also on the Board
9 of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, and I lead the
10 Government Affairs Committee, chair that committee.

11 I wanted to come here today to say something
12 to you guys a lot of people forget to say, I think.
13 Thank you. You're doing a great job. You work hard.
14 You dedicate your time freely to serve this community
15 and to serve this fairground. And I wanted to kind of
16 thank you guys for your vision, your ability to look
17 forward and look to serve the veterans, to serve the
18 students and the youth of our county.

19 I want to thank you truthfully for your
20 vision in hiring the CEO. I've had the pleasure and
21 benefit to work with Kathy. I have been involved with
22 the High School Inc. situation, with KidWorks, with the
23 ability of this facility to serve this community and
24 really go out and reach out and use these grounds and
25 these facilities to help those kids that are in trouble,

1 in -- in need of that support, and you guys are doing a
2 great job of doing that.

3 The issues that you've done -- it's obvious
4 that your Imaginary (sic) Inc. has been a success. It's
5 obvious that the veterans situation is a great success.
6 These are all efforts that you guys have put out, and
7 Kathy and her staff have done a wonderful job in
8 elevating that to see your visions fulfilled into this
9 community.

10 The overall situation, High School Inc. has
11 the ability to come and partner with you guys, you have
12 facilities here that can help the kids expand a program
13 that was started in Santa Ana that can now migrate down
14 to this end of the county and service more kids and grow
15 more.

16 The same with KidWorks. KidWorks and your
17 ability to help bring those kids by doing the bus
18 opportunity and bringing and transporting those kids
19 here is phenomenal. And that's something I want to
20 commend you again for.

21 So in conclusion, I just want to say thank
22 you because you guys do a great job.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Kevin, for your
24 comments.

25 The last person I have for general public

1 comments is Mike Robbins.

2 MR. MIKE ROBBINS: I work here at the
3 fairgrounds, but we live in Anaheim. And just two days
4 ago just the name of Trump brought chaos to the City
5 Council chambers in Anaheim if you guys are familiar
6 with that or read anything in the paper about it.

7 Jeanine and I are community activists there,
8 and we're at their -- at every meeting. There were, my
9 wife said, about 50 -- I think about a hundred Trump and
10 a hundred anti-Trump people there, and it was chaos.

11 And the mayor who is a great guy and a great
12 leader knew how to handle it. He had a lot of police
13 officers there. There were at least 20 police officers.
14 We think a dozen -- in the chambers and a dozen outside
15 in riot gear and a helicopter circling overhead, and
16 that was for, we think, a couple hundred people.

17 And I would also like to come to say
18 something good about Tom Tait. When there was a problem
19 in the chambers, he pointed to the people and just said
20 "Those two people there, take out," a Trump supporter
21 and an anti-Trump supporter both ejected. He didn't say
22 "Beat them up and throw them out" or anything like that.
23 He just pointed to them and said, "Get them out."

24 We're probably going to need that here too.
25 And whether we're talking about 20 -- 20 or 25 sheriffs

1 or police at the Anaheim City Council chamber, here my
2 wife read in the paper there were going to be 20
3 sheriffs, and that's for 8200 people.

4 And we do think that there might be a real
5 problem with this. And I -- the candidates play to
6 that. They want the press. The people who are against,
7 they want the press. The candidates want the press.
8 And I don't know. With 8200 people, you might need a
9 hundred security officers.

10 I think that's our point here, and I hope
11 that this doesn't become chaos. And it's already
12 planned. I mean there are people all around the county.
13 We know the anarchists and we know the Trump supporters
14 too, and they're ready. They're getting ready for a
15 fight tonight, we believe. We believe. I hope not,
16 though. Knock on wood.

17 But having a lot of police there, as Tom Tait
18 did, to make sure nothing happens is going to be
19 something, to line them up and make sure that there's
20 nothing happening on either side. And I think that's a
21 really important thing to remember. Hopefully you guys
22 can cover that for us. Thank you so much.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Mike.

24 That concludes the general public comments.
25 There are some more public comments under 9B that I'll

1 get to in a bit.

2 Is there -- are there any questions from the

3 Board? If not, we'll move on to the next item.

4 Okay. The next item is the minutes.

5 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Move them.

6 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Second.

7 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Can I have roll call vote,

8 please?

9 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Chair Mouet?

10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

11 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Vice Chair

12 Berardino?

13 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yes.

14 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Aitken?

15 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yes.

16 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Tkaczyk?

17 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Yes.

18 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director

19 Bagneris?

20 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yes.

21 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director

22 La Belle?

23 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Yes.

24 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Ruiz?

25 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yes.

1 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
2 Cervantes?
3 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Yes.
4 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Pham?
5 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yes.
6 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you. Motion passes.
7 The next item is agenda item number 8, and
8 those are consent items, lots of agreements. Is there
9 anything that staff or Board Members or member -- well,
10 I didn't get a card from the public, so that staff or
11 Board Members want to pull?
12 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Not from the staff.
13 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Hearing none,
14 I'll -- I'm open for the motion.
15 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: So moved.
16 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Second.
17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Moved and second.
18 Could you call for a vote?
19 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Chair Mouet?
20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.
21 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Vice Chair
22 Berardino?
23 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yes.
24 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Aitken?
25 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yes.

1 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Tkaczyk?
2 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Yes.
3 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
4 Bagneris?
5 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yes.
6 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
7 La Belle?
8 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Yes.
9 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Ruiz?
10 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yes.
11 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
12 Cervantes?
13 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Yes.
14 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Pham?
15 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yes.
16 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Motion passes. Thank you
17 very much.
18 We're now into the Governance Process, so it
19 is 9A. This is the time for Committee/Task
20 Force/Liaison Reports. The first one -- I'm just going
21 in the order that you see up on the screen -- is the
22 Centennial Farm Foundation.
23 I was planning on going to the 3:30 meeting.
24 I was disappointed that we had to -- they had to cancel
25 because of another event that's going to bring in lots

1 of people. I don't like disruptions like that because
2 it's causing a problem. I was looking forward to
3 meeting with the Centennial Farm Foundation.

4 As you know, they are needing to get back to
5 us on the draft of the MOU that was submitted to them,
6 and I'm looking forward to that. But they're a great
7 group of volunteers, so there's really nothing to report
8 other than they're -- they're supposed to get back to us
9 on the MOU.

10 The -- the next thing, I'll call on Nick and
11 Doug if they have any updates on Heroes Hall Foundation.

12 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Well, let me kick it
13 off. You pretty much saw what we're doing. As far as
14 the Foundation is concerned, the Foundation is making
15 some wonderful offerings. For any group, some of the
16 offerings that the Foundation is making -- it's
17 wonderful that the Chamber is here.

18 For any business or group that wants to have
19 the -- their name associated with the Veterans
20 Foundation on the Jumbotron, the foundation is saying
21 you can do that for a mere 5,000 bucks, which is -- can
22 you believe the advertising to see -- 200,000 people get
23 to see your name. You don't get that anywhere.
24 That's -- the Foundation is working on that. And very
25 interested -- always interested to see community doing

1 that.

2 The other thing the Foundation is working on
3 is to have a costume ball headed by the Foundation's
4 guild on I think it's October 22nd. You know, dress up
5 in costume. I've been threatened that I can't go as an
6 Orange County business guy anymore. I actually got to
7 wear --

8 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: You can go as a city
9 manager. They look a lot like that.

10 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Not when I'm done
11 with them.

12 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Why do I do that?

13 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: And the Foundation is
14 very, very busy working. We -- the Foundation made a
15 presentation to the Newport Beach City Council. When
16 did we do that?

17 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Tuesday.

18 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Tuesday. We're
19 working with some other cities who are really stepping
20 up to help. And the Foundation is grateful for
21 everybody's support and looking forward to more support.

22 One of the things I think we're learning
23 through the Foundation is you'll get a lot of people
24 that talk about vets and helping vets and doing things
25 to vets. But when it comes to supporting vets, it's a

1 little tougher. It's a tough haul because putting your
2 money where your mouth is ain't always easy, you know.

3 So we're very, very pleased, though, the
4 Foundation. The Foundation -- for good reason. What
5 we've noticed is, though, the unions are kicking in lots
6 of money. And with businesses, it's more of a struggle.
7 So we're going to try to, you know, reach out more and
8 try to get more involved and, you know, join us in this
9 great effort.

10 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: I'll just add to what
11 Nick said. Michele and I next Wednesday are going to be
12 making a presentation specifically on Heroes Hall to the
13 Orange County City Managers Association, and Nick is
14 working on communication that he's going to forward as
15 chair or president of the Foundation to all of the
16 cities in Orange County. So --

17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: When is that again?

18 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: That's next
19 Wednesday. And the location, I -- we went there last
20 year, but what's the name of the restaurant? Do you
21 remember, Michele?

22 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: I don't. I'm sorry.

23 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Anyway, the meeting's
24 at 11:30. Gerardo, if you can attend, that would be
25 great as well.

1 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I'll look. Great. Thank
2 you so much for that report.

3 Next up is the Financial Monitoring Committee
4 that both Barbara and I attend. It was appropriate that
5 we met on April the 15th, tax day. But let me pass it
6 on to Barbara.

7 But, again, we had the pleasure of having the
8 first meeting with Ron -- welcome again -- our vice --
9 our new vice president of finance.

10 Barbara, is there anything you want to add?

11 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yes. And I have to
12 say I appreciate staff for allowing this meeting to
13 occur on my day off, although I'm finding out
14 everybody's found out my day off, and I have
15 back-to-back meetings on my day off. But this one I
16 look forward to. I believe that we've done great work
17 welcoming Ron into this position.

18 The finances of the fair are sound, and we
19 have new processes that we put in place, new things that
20 we're doing. It's an exciting time, and I think we have
21 a lot to look forward to. And the persons that were
22 standing in the stead of our CFO up to this point have
23 done an excellent job, so we got to meet with them.

24 We went through all the finances, and it was
25 a very good meeting. And I appreciate the input and the

1 reports that we received to help monitor our finances.

2 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: And I want to thank you,
3 Barbara.

4 She has a finance background, and she's so
5 good at doing this. I also want to make an
6 announcement. I'm going to step down from the Finance
7 Monitoring Committee because the Board is made out of
8 great people with lots of different strengths. And I
9 had a discussion with our new Board Member who has a
10 finance background, as you know, as a manager, Newton.

11 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: You said that twice
12 today.

13 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: He's really latching on to
14 the banker thing.

15 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. And he -- so I think
16 you're going to be great in working with Barbara and
17 staff, and I appreciate it. And so it's been -- I think
18 it's been the committee that I've been in since day one,
19 so I feel that I kind of have learned a few things, so
20 I'm good for a while on that. So I appreciate
21 everyone's involvement on that. So thank you for that.

22 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yeah.

23 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: You're welcome.

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: So next time around it will
25 be Barbara and Newton on Finance Monitoring Committee.

1 Now let me call on Nick and Ashleigh if
2 there's anything on Workers Memorial.

3 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: No. We have no
4 report.

5 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Thank you. Let me
6 call on Doug and Sandra if there's anything on City
7 Liaison.

8 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Michele, you might
9 want to give an update on the breakfast we had.

10 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Yes. Last Thursday we
11 hosted a breakfast here at the -- actually, in the lobby
12 of -- the new lobby of the Pacific Amphitheater for
13 North Orange County mayors and -- and city managers.

14 At the same time, our Director of
15 Communications Robin Wachner hosted a similar
16 presentation in South Orange County for the South Orange
17 County mayors and city managers. And it was our
18 opportunity to bring them back into the fold this year
19 for the upcoming OC Fair.

20 We celebrate the cities of Orange County
21 throughout the fair. Each city has a day here where the
22 elected officials and city staff come and help us raise
23 the flag in the morning with the performance of the
24 National Anthem.

25 We host the mayors and city managers,

1 councilmembers for dinner one night with the Board of
2 Directors, and there are lots of other ways that the
3 cities get involved, including the very popular \$2 city
4 discount coupon. So it was a great opportunity for us
5 to launch that for 2016. Everyone's very excited about
6 the fair coming up, and we'll take it from there.

7 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Great.

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. I was there, and I
9 joined you -- both of you -- it was great -- and Kathy.
10 It was a great event. I -- I had an opportunity to get
11 to meet both mayors, the mayor of Yorba Linda and the
12 mayor of Villa Park and the city manager of Yorba Linda,
13 who turned out was a lifeguard with my former budget
14 analyst.

15 So -- and then also, of course, Costa Mesa
16 was there and, I think, a representative from Supervisor
17 Steel was there. So it was a really good event. I
18 appreciate that.

19 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Huntington Beach was
20 there, as well.

21 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Huntington Beach was there,
22 as well. Very good.

23 Now let me call on Nick and Ashleigh if
24 there's anything on Legislative Monitoring Committee.

25 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: No. I think in the

1 CEO Report, Kathy updated us on what's going on with
2 Assemblyman Daly and his work on the bill. And I'd just
3 like to say thank you for over the month keeping us
4 informed as it was moving step by step. I know it can
5 change daily.

6 MS. KATHY KRAMER: It does.

7 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Very good.

8 Then let me call on Doug and Robert to update
9 us if there's anything on either the Organizational
10 Needs Assessment or the Master Plan.

11 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: No. We don't have
12 anything, Doug, unless you do. I know last month we
13 talked about setting up the meeting so we can bring a
14 report to the Board this time around. But I had a
15 situation at my local union.

16 Most of you don't know. We got hacked, and
17 that -- you know, our files were encrypted, and it was
18 just a nightmare. And I wasn't able to set up the
19 meeting with Kathy and Doug and I like -- I would have
20 liked to so we can have a report.

21 But hopefully we can do that pretty soon,
22 Doug, set up a meeting, just go over the progress of the
23 ONA and hope we have a report at the next meeting.

24 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Sure.

25 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I also think, based on

1 previous conversation, we were going to fold in
2 discussions with staff on the Master Plan. It made
3 sense. Organizational Needs Assessment -- so because
4 master plans are very important. So that's what I
5 remember.

6 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Right. We'll come
7 back next meeting with a specific report on both of
8 those, including a possible workshop on the Master Plan
9 concept and move forward.

10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes. Yes. Very good.

11 Let me call on Stan and Nick if there's
12 anything on Tenant Liaison.

13 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Yes. I would just like
14 to report to the Board and general public that the
15 Tel-Phil agreement and the Spectra agreement was
16 completed, and the transition has been made. And we
17 look forward to the new relationship with Spectra,
18 better known as Ovations to some of you.

19 And I was out there the other day at the
20 Swap Meet, and all I could say is it looked very full.
21 And I'm very happy to see the transition take place as
22 nicely as it did. I thank you all involved.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Fantastic. Yeah. Very
24 good.

25 I -- you know, I -- we mentioned earlier how

1 it would be a good thing to discuss in that committee
2 and I think that would be the appropriate, the
3 OC Marathon, and then -- next time that you meet or when
4 you have an opportunity.

5 Also, I think it's appropriate -- people can
6 tell me. There's this general -- there seems to be an
7 interest, and perhaps on the Board, to talk about the
8 possibility of process improvement if they're, indeed,
9 giving an opportunity for the contracts with tenants or
10 events to be fully executed before the event. I think
11 that was one of the things that you might want to ask.

12 And then also up -- as a policy decision,
13 the -- as a policy exploration for the tenant liaison to
14 think about whether -- within -- there's an opportunity
15 for this Board to have a discussion on -- on events that
16 may or may not have higher risks with regards to safety
17 and the public. That's what I heard. And I think it's
18 always important to make sure that things are safe.

19 So that -- I think that's what I -- I feel
20 that there seems to be a need for some -- some guidance
21 policywise there. Might be an opportunity. But thank
22 you on -- on that. If not, we'll move forward to the --
23 there's nothing else.

24 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Mr. Chair, so for the
25 Tenant Committee, you would like Stan and I to look at

1 the processes to be sure that the contracts are fully
2 executed before --

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. And you may end up
4 discovering there's really no issue. You may end up
5 discovering that there is an issue. I don't know. And
6 then the other thing is -- is kind of a risk management
7 policy discussion with regards to events that are more
8 high stakes and not because -- you know, I -- it's --
9 safety is a number one priority for us.

10 All right. Call on Stan and Barbara if
11 there's anything to update on the Consumer Initiative
12 Task Force.

13 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Nothing, Chairman.

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you. Call on Stan
15 and Barbara if there's anything on the ticketing policy.

16 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Nothing to report.

17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. I do want to, since
18 we're on this agenda, want to mention --

19 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Mr. Chair?

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

21 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: She just whispered in my
22 ear something to think about.

23 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: We do have the different
25 committees here, and right now the ticketing policy

1 really -- we have kind of completed our duties and
2 whether it be the Chair's option to keep us intact even
3 though there really isn't anything new to report or if
4 you see anything new on the horizon.

5 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I agree. Good job. You
6 finished. We can no longer -- we don't need to any
7 longer have it on the list.

8 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Just to simplify it.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I know this is consensus
10 building, but that is a little bit of efficiency. Let's
11 take it out so we don't have to ask every time.

12 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: So we won't meet next
13 month.

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Take one out, add one in.
15 Here you go. Add one in.

16 It is so clear, based on the lessons from
17 Los Angeles Expo, that we should have an agricultural
18 committee. I want to volunteer being on it, first of
19 all. It's so clear that we did this -- this Red Barn
20 event is a great thing. I'm looking forward to it. But
21 there's so much more things.

22 I see a variety of different things that were
23 mentioned. I mean it's there. And so it makes sense to
24 have a committee to help do -- go in the right
25 direction. So there's one Board Member on the

1 Agricultural Committee. No longer on Finance, but I'm
2 now on Agricultural. I don't know if it's the best name
3 for it, but I'm calling it that right now. Any -- yes.

4 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: I will do it.

5 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: I will join.

6 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Ashleigh joined. I don't
7 know if there's three.

8 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: No. We need to keep it at two.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: It's two? I don't have any
10 problem. You guys can --

11 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: I'm already on two,
12 so --

13 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Yeah. And I'm in.

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Very good. So I
15 guess I heard that it will be Sandra, and I'm looking
16 forward to working on that.

17 That concludes the Committee/Task
18 Force/Liaison Reports. And I'm now going to go to the
19 next item. And I think we're doing okay on time, so I'm
20 going to go to the next item. And that's 9B. And 9B
21 has one, two, three, four, five public comment requests.
22 And there is -- there's a staff report, and then I call
23 on the public comments and then the Board discussion;
24 right?

25 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Yep.

1 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: So Kathy.

2 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Okay. This agenda item, the
3 initiative to require voter approval on certain
4 development projects, City of Costa Mesa.

5 At the March 2016 Board Meeting, Director
6 Berardino directed staff to agendize for discussion an
7 initiative that was recently on the City of Costa Mesa
8 City Council meeting agenda. This initiative is
9 referred to as, quote, an initiative to require voter
10 approval on certain development projects.

11 Staff reported posting to the public for the
12 initial initiative, as well as the City Council report
13 and attorney findings. At this point, I'll turn it back
14 over to Chair Mouet for discussion.

15 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Before we -- I open
16 it to Board discussion, I'm going to call on the public
17 comment. First up is Kyle Wesley. I think it's Wesley.
18 Or is it Woosley?

19 MR. KYLE WOOSLEY: Woosley.

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Woosley.

21 MR. KYLE WOOSLEY: Thank you. I've actually been
22 called a lot worse, so thank you very much. I
23 appreciate it.

24 First of all, thank you for having me today.
25 Happy Thursday, everybody. Welcome new staff, new Board

1 Members.

2 I also want to congratulate you guys on a
3 successful Imaginology event and a successful Heroes
4 Hall. If there's anything that the Chamber can do to
5 help connect people or advertise or promote for you,
6 we'd be more than happy to do it. So let us know.

7 I wanted to talk a little bit about this
8 initiative. We, as a Chamber, have asked City Council
9 to look at the effects that this could cause on
10 attracting quality businesses and retaining employees,
11 and they brought back a report that was probably this
12 thick on the effects and everything.

13 So I just wanted to share your -- share this
14 information with you because this could have a vast
15 effect on businesses in our great city where we have the
16 largest revenue-generating retail center in the United
17 States. And with Kathy and I's vision, hopefully we'll
18 have the top five fair in the nation. So we just wanted
19 to share.

20 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Top one in California.

21 MR. KYLE WOOSLEY: Top one in California. So top
22 five in the nation and the best in California. So we
23 just wanted to bring this information to you because it
24 could have a drastic effect on our city. So thank you
25 very much. Have a good weekend.

1 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Thank you.

2 Then I'll call on Reggie Mundekis.

3 MS. REGGIE MUNDEKIS: Good morning. I appreciate
4 the discussion of the Costa Mesa ballot initiative. The
5 32nd DAA is currently under development restrictions
6 arising from the 1996 settlement with the City of
7 Costa Mesa over the 1991 Master Plan adopted by the
8 32nd DAA.

9 The settlement affirmed in the only joint
10 meeting between the Fair Board and the Costa Mesa City
11 Council on July 1, 1996, capped occupancy at 25,500
12 persons outside of the annual OC Fair and restricted
13 development of a hotel, restaurant, and off-track
14 betting parlor, among other limitations.

15 Members of the City Council who participated
16 in the agreement are current City Council members Sandy
17 Genis and Gary Monahan, current Coast Community College
18 District trustee Mary Hornbuckle, and former Orange
19 County Transportation Authority chair Peter Buffa, who
20 is also the father of Nick Buffa. All have served as
21 the mayor of Costa Mesa.

22 There's a great deal of potential in the
23 fairgrounds property by building on agricultural and
24 community use without resorting to becoming a convention
25 center, a gambling center, or becoming like the Fairplex

1 and building a hotel.

2 The new Master Plan process is seen as a way
3 to build on existing strengths, agriculture and
4 community use, to create a more sustainable fairgrounds.
5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you.

7 I think it's Jennifer Farrell.

8 MS. JENNIFER FARRELL: Probably Jennifer Farrell.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Jennifer Farrell.

10 MS. JENNIFER FARRELL: Sorry about the
11 handwriting.

12 Good morning. My name is Jennifer Farrell.
13 I'm the chair of the Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce.
14 I'm also lucky enough to both live and reside in the
15 city of Costa Mesa.

16 As you know or no doubt are aware, the
17 Chamber has taken the position opposing what we call the
18 no growth initiative largely due to the fact that it
19 would kill jobs and businesses in our community if it
20 passes.

21 I think it's important to take a step back
22 and think about what that really means for us. Without
23 a thriving business community, the city has less money
24 to spend on the things we need like fire and safety,
25 particularly important with Trump rallies coming up, and

1 also the things that we enjoy like public parks and open
2 space.

3 It also means that other things could be
4 impacted like the fairgrounds and your ability to
5 continue to grow into a year-round event center. Not
6 only could it mean that you would have less attendees
7 and individuals who would sponsor your events, but you
8 would have less businesses participating in your events
9 and less businesses sponsoring your events, as well.

10 In addition, imagine if each step of your
11 development process was subject to voter approval. That
12 would cost you lots of money, both real dollars and
13 staff time, in preparing the initiative and to pay for
14 the cost of the election.

15 I understand that this is -- the issue before
16 you today is just an informational item. But on behalf
17 of the Chamber, I would like to encourage you to do what
18 you can to join us in opposing the initiative. Thanks.

19 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you.

20 Let me call the next person, Kevin Coleman.

21 MR. KEVIN COLEMAN: Good morning again. This is
22 an issue that though it is a local city issue, though it
23 is a direct effect on the City of Costa Mesa, it is
24 definitely an issue that goes in direct conflict with
25 the long-term standing operations of the city and how

1 the city was developed and grown throughout the years.

2 This is an issue that will impact the
3 development, the growth and the benefits of this city of
4 which this city surrounds this fairground. We feel that
5 there is areas here that would be in direct conflict
6 with the growth and the benefits of this fairground, and
7 we look -- though it is a city issue, we'd look to you
8 guys to take an interest in working with this and seeing
9 what is affecting and how it does affect the
10 fairgrounds. Thank you.

11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you.

12 The last card -- Mr. Humphrey, you had
13 mentioned that you just wanted to be on standby in case
14 there were questions?

15 MR. JAY HUMPHREY: Yes, sir. Basically, after I
16 hear the presentation by staff.

17 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: That's done now. It's
18 going to be Board discussion. So this is your
19 opportunity to add anything, so let me call on you. Jay
20 Humphrey.

21 MR. JAY HUMPHREY: I'll speak, then.

22 Thank you, Board.

23 In contrast to some other comments, this is
24 an issue that is not meant to stifle growth. In fact,
25 the vast majority of the projects in the pipeline and

1 looking to be in the pipeline in the future will not be
2 affected by this initiative because this initiative
3 requires both change in general plan or zoning code or
4 what have you, which are the rules that we actually use
5 to entitle property. So we would be giving increasing
6 entitlement, increasing allowance to certain properties.

7 But it also, then, requires that triggers are
8 impacted, i.e., an increase in some activity over the
9 existing product. So if you were -- had a project that
10 was on housing, say, and the housing project had 25
11 units on that project and you, in fact, increased the
12 entitlement to allow them more -- and they added more
13 than 40 above that already existing, then, in fact, you
14 would kick in the initiative.

15 As the overlay zones in Costa Mesa happen,
16 right now the properties that exist in Costa Mesa can
17 add somewhere in the neighborhood of 2,000 additional
18 homes within Costa Mesa itself just straight forward
19 with the existing general plan that exists.

20 It also allows a great deal of increase in
21 commercial property within Costa Mesa itself because
22 they don't require a change in general plan, and they
23 don't require a change in zoning. The vast majority of
24 things that would happen, such as a new business coming
25 in to become a new restaurant, would likely not increase

1 the restaurant square footage of the area they were in
2 by 10,000 square feet. A large restaurant is -- the
3 largest one in Costa Mesa is less than 10,000 square
4 feet total. So it would not happen.

5 We just include the new Walgreens store in
6 Costa Mesa. That will not require -- under the change
7 in square footage, it's already 11,000 square feet, so
8 it's going to go to 14,000 square feet. The initiative
9 said you have to have an increase of 10,000 square feet
10 above what's there. So that means that that would not
11 draw a trigger.

12 However, it's going to add 900 trips --
13 pardon me. That's a wrong statement. It's going to add
14 600 trips -- transportation car trips to 17th and
15 Newport. That's 600 more trips. That would probably
16 trigger it because the 200-trip mechanism. But you guys
17 drive through Newport and 17th every day.

18 So you have to look at the impacts that are
19 going to happen from the project compared to what is
20 good for the character of Costa Mesa. This is in no
21 way, shape, or form going to stop growth. It's not
22 going to stop development. It's not going to stop
23 business in Costa Mesa.

24 So please keep in mind that the impacts that
25 you're going to see from this is not going to affect you

1 guys directly because you are controlled by the state.

2 Thank you very much for your time.

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes. Thank you,

4 Mr. Humphrey.

5 I'm going to bring it over to the Board with

6 regards to any kind -- this is an information item, so

7 it's not an action item. But I know that perhaps there

8 could be answers to Board Member questions from legal

9 counsel or Kathy.

10 But, Doug, were you about to say something?

11 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Well, if we're going

12 to have a presentation, I --

13 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Well, no. Do we have some

14 additional information?

15 MS. KATHY KRAMER: No, other than just for Josh

16 to weigh in I think is appropriate to what our

17 restrictions are as far as --

18 MR. JOSHUA CAPLAN: Yeah. It is an information

19 item. This isn't -- and not so much as the

20 Bagley-Keene. We've talked about it a lot today. The

21 only thing that I would bring to the Board's attention

22 is because the district -- DAA is state property, there

23 is an express prohibition on what we call grass-roots

24 lobbying, which, in other words, the Board can't take a

25 position one way or the other on whether to support a

1 local initiative.

2 Certainly, the Board, as it's done in the
3 past, can hire a lobbyist to go up to Sacramento to work
4 to change legislation that affects all the district
5 agricultural associations across the state. But because
6 it is state property, the Board can't take a position on
7 whether to support or oppose any particular initiative.

8 Certainly, the Board can have a discussion
9 about what effect it might have on state property. And
10 I think -- and the Board may well -- may already know
11 this. But because we have the state property sitting in
12 the middle of the city of Costa Mesa, sovereign immunity
13 does afford protections to the state. And specifically
14 what I mean by that is so long as the district is
15 engaged in sovereign activities -- and we can talk about
16 that more specifically if there are specific questions
17 about what that term means -- then it is not -- it's not
18 subject to any local zoning or building ordinances.

19 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: I guess my question
20 was just kind of a general one for Jay. So you kind of
21 understand exactly what this does, I used to deal with
22 this stuff every day a long time ago. And I'm sure
23 there's been some changes since then.

24 But right now change in the general plan in
25 any community under state law requires a public hearing

1 and a process where it has to go before a planning
2 commission, city council. Same way with a zoning
3 change.

4 What exactly would this do that's different
5 from what the state laws currently provide?

6 MR. JAY HUMPHREY: Well, like, say there's a
7 zoning change to a project that had grandfathered in,
8 let's say, industrial work. We'll just use that as an
9 example.

10 And the change would be to, A, bring it into
11 conformity and, B, change that industrial to commercial.
12 And the industrial already had 30,000 square feet of use
13 under it, and the -- what they were going to do is what
14 happened in Costa Mesa in a couple places. They are
15 going to convert that industrial into a retail format
16 under the same 30,000 square feet.

17 This initiative would have no effect on it at
18 all. None. Because it would not trigger anything that
19 would require a vote of the public. Vote of the
20 public's required to say, look, we live here. This is
21 our city. So, consequently, are we willing to put up
22 with the impacts that are going to happen from any large
23 project as it gets put into the process?

24 So directly to your question, is those kind
25 of projects that would have increased the amount of --

1 would cause that trigger. I mean that's the impact it
2 will have.

3 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you. Let me bring it
4 back to the Board for questions.

5 Nick?

6 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: So I asked that this
7 item be placed on the agenda for a couple of reasons.
8 One is the fact that we are the stewards of this
9 property. We are the trustees of this property. We are
10 the fiduciaries of this property, and this property is
11 owned by all the taxpayers. It's not owned by -- it
12 isn't owned by any single group or any single city.
13 This is -- our job is to look out for the people that
14 own this property, which are the taxpayers.

15 Our job is to analyze and ensure that
16 nothing, nothing negatively impacts all of the taxpayers
17 who own this property or in any way inhibits or hurts
18 this property. So that's why -- and balancing that, of
19 course, is being a good neighbor with the people that
20 are around you. I mean we have a huge piece of
21 sovereign property with a lot of sovereignty right in
22 the middle of a major city.

23 And so that's why -- and I understand we
24 cannot take a position for it or against it, but here
25 are my concerns for the taxpayers that own the property.

1 One is -- and I think we need to understand it more --
2 that it's clearly understood what we do here is totally
3 exempt from what's going -- if we want to put -- if we
4 want to put -- if we want to put something on this
5 property that's for the public good, I mean we want to
6 put a library here, you know, a historical agricultural
7 library, and it would draw a thousand more cars, a
8 thousand more trips into this every -- every day to get
9 this agricultural library, I want to be sure and
10 understand for -- on behalf of the people that own this
11 property, the taxpayers, they're not going to be
12 impacted. We can have a thousand, 2,000 more trips here
13 if we want to. And so --

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: No, no, no.

15 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: And so -- and I
16 think -- I think that needs to be made clear so that the
17 people that own this property, we're watching out for
18 them.

19 As I understand it, Counsel, that is
20 accurate, that we are totally sovereign and that we're
21 exempt.

22 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: I don't want to say totally
23 sovereign.

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. So -- you know, so
25 the Board will continue having the questions. We'll ask

1 questions to staff and our legal counsel. For example,
2 on this issue, Josh's response of "I don't want to say
3 totally sovereign," I think it's very clear, at least
4 from my perspective, that we should find out more about
5 what kind of impact it could potentially have, bring it
6 back -- agendize it, bring it back, and do a real good
7 objective analysis.

8 I'm with Nick. We need to make sure that the
9 sovereignty and our ability to do what we're asked to do
10 by the people of California we can continue doing. This
11 isn't the time and place to come up and draw conclusions
12 in a discussion, which is why no -- no disrespect to
13 you, but I can't really allow that to be happening at
14 this time.

15 Yeah, Doug.

16 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Just to expand on
17 Director Berardino's comments, I guess my question would
18 be if we decide to build an agricultural library of X
19 square footage.

20 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: By the way, I'm not
21 proposing it. I've built enough.

22 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: No. I understand.
23 We would have to go through the same sort of process we
24 do on that as Heroes Hall, on Pac Amp. We have to
25 approve CEQA. We have to make some sort of

1 determination which would ultimately be a determination
2 of the Board here. If at the end of the day we took
3 final action to approve that project based upon the
4 environmental review and everything else, we would have
5 that ability without any restriction --

6 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: I mean it --

7 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: -- in theory.

8 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: In legalese, it's an incomplete
9 hypothetical. Based on what you've explained, it sounds
10 like, yes, building a library that caters -- that
11 focuses on the history of agriculture, yes, you're
12 accurate, Director La Belle. So long as you go through
13 the state processes in terms of having a licensed
14 contractor here going through the CEQA requirements, it
15 would not be -- that construction would not be limited
16 by any local ordinance.

17 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Yeah.

18 (Overlapping simultaneous speakers.)

19 MR. JOSH KAPLAN: Probably as good as a piece of
20 it. Yeah.

21 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: So I think it's clear that
22 we need more time to understand the impact.

23 So a little while ago -- a little while ago I
24 made reference that there is some kind of report that
25 the city has that is this thick that has an impact.

1 Does it mean that we believe on the conclusions in that
2 report? But I'd like to read it. I think it's
3 important. By the way, I don't want a hard copy.
4 Electronic copy.

5 Robert?

6 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yeah. I just have a
7 question. I know we want to do research. Do we want to
8 create another task force, or can we put this under the
9 Legislative Monitoring Task Force so we can get more
10 research for the Board?

11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah. So I think we could
12 decide to do another committee. I mean if it is, I
13 think it's more of an ad hoc in nature because this
14 isn't like an ongoing thing.

15 The -- the -- I think there's enough
16 direction right now that the Board needs more
17 information. And I'm -- I'm willing to say, if we want
18 to right now, say let's create an ad hoc because we're
19 not -- this has a beginning, middle, and end; right?
20 There's a point that it's like it either passed or
21 didn't pass.

22 So we can do that now if there's people
23 interested in serving on that ad hoc. I don't know if
24 there's an existing task force that can be added to
25 that. I don't want to necessarily add to people's

1 workload. But I do need -- I do believe that I'm
2 sensing that the Board wants more information.

3 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Right. And --

4 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Ashleigh?

5 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yeah. I think it's
6 pretty clear that we can't take a position on this
7 initiative one way or the other.

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

9 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: So instead of focusing
10 on this initiative and singling it out for special
11 attention, I would suggest that we look at just
12 generally what are restrictions with previous settlement
13 agreements, with state regulations, in general, if we
14 wanted to build any structure on this property. If we
15 want to do a parking structure, we wanted to put
16 commercial something, if we wanted to do a hotel, which,
17 obviously, we're not going to do, but I would be more
18 interested in more general and not just focusing on -- I
19 mean this, obviously, would be a component of that --

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I think you have a very
21 good point, Ashleigh. I believe, based on what I'm
22 hearing and based on what I know, the scope of interest
23 for the Organizational Needs Assessment that's now
24 looking at the Master Plan, that I think it would be an
25 okay appropriate conduit or committee where staff can,

1 hey, these are what we're finding and et cetera,
2 et cetera.

3 It's clear that we can't take a position. I
4 understand that. But it's also clear that it's our
5 responsibility to find out if it's going to have an
6 impact on us and that -- we wouldn't be doing our job.

7 But I agree with you. I don't think there's
8 necessarily a need for creating a new ad hoc. I think
9 we probably have enough committees.

10 Yeah, Nick.

11 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: And following on
12 Director Aitken's -- because I think you're right.

13 The reason why I'm very concerned about the
14 impact to this property is let's -- we had a -- you
15 know, we had a theater, Pacific Amphitheater, that was
16 on this property that was for the public good and met
17 all the criteria that was closed for ten years, I mean
18 sitting there. The taxpayers of this state who built
19 that, invested in that, had their property shut down for
20 ten years.

21 And I, as a fiduciary of this property, find
22 that abhorrent. I really do. The thing should have
23 been fixed. But you know what happens in those
24 situations. And this is not for any lack of affection
25 for you, Counselor, but lawyers get involved, and they

1 see a way they can make a lot of money on slowing down
2 public works stuff and doing a lot of stuff. It happens
3 and I've seen it and you've seen it and I've
4 participated.

5 I mean I personally filed lawsuits, tried to
6 stop it, almost did stop the sale of the Angels, you
7 know, to Disney and came very close until the judge
8 called us into chambers and said, "Mr. Berardino, you'll
9 maybe win this lawsuit. So it's going to be a bond."

10 And I said, "That's no problem."

11 He said, "The bond on a public works project
12 is this side of \$30 million."

13 In that case, let me just say I was only
14 kidding. So I know how -- and we were stuck with a
15 great facility shut down for ten years.

16 So these kinds of initiatives have very
17 unintended consequences that can be very harmful to the
18 taxpayers. And so I like the idea of looking at all
19 those things in context of what has been, as you
20 mentioned and you mentioned -- very smart here, another
21 lawyer. I don't want to offend the lawyer.

22 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: I'd like to mention
23 all lawyers have clients. It's usually the clients that
24 come in, not the lawyers.

25 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Please.

1 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: You're someone's
2 client.

3 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: I'm lots of people's
4 client.

5 But they have unintended consequences. And
6 studying what's happened here, I think, is very, very
7 important, very instructive. And so while we may not
8 take a position or be able to take a position one way or
9 another, we do things to indemnify ourselves from, you
10 know, people whose intention is -- may not be in line
11 with the best interests of the people that own this
12 property. So I like that view. Very smart.

13 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Well, I'm looking forward
14 to becoming better educated on the issue as we move
15 forward.

16 Anything else on this item? There's really
17 no action, so I think we're done on that.

18 Next item is 9C. That is an action item.
19 I'll turn it over -- Megan's Law. I'll turn it over to
20 staff.

21 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Michele will provide the
22 report on this.

23 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Just to give some
24 background on this policy, at the June 2006 meeting, the
25 Board of Directors adopted a policy requiring that all

1 persons seeking employment with, employed by, conducting
2 business with, or volunteering at the OC Fair & Event
3 Center during the annual Orange County Fair will be
4 required to provide staff with all necessary personal
5 information sufficient to conduct a search on the
6 California Department of Justice's Megan's Law database.

7 A year later in April of 2007, the policy was
8 modified by the then-Board of Directors requiring
9 contractors to assume responsibility for screening and
10 certifying their employees and volunteers were in
11 compliance with the policy and did the search on the
12 Megan's Law database.

13 So as our year-round events program has grown
14 incrementally since the Megan's Law policy was first
15 adopted, we would like now to recommend that the
16 following language be added to the existing policy,
17 allowing management to require certain year-round
18 promoters to abide by the policy, as well.

19 Jessica, do we have the language?

20 It's in the staff report. I'll read it.
21 We'd like to modify the language as follows:

22 "In addition, all entities conducting
23 business with OCFEC during the annual OC Fair,
24 Imaginology, other future OCFEC self-produced events, or
25 at the discretion of management select year-round events

1 that attract attendance primarily by children and
2 families will be required to conduct screening of each
3 of that entity's employees, agents, servants,
4 volunteers, subcontractors, and/or independent
5 contractors who will be performing job-related duties on
6 OCFEC premises."

7 Essentially, it expands the policy to allow
8 management at our discretion, if an event has a large
9 attendance by children or families, that we can also ask
10 for compliance with the Megan's Law policy.

11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Very good. Thank you.

12 Any questions from the Board?

13 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yeah. How do we
14 verify? Because I notice that we're putting it in
15 the -- it's the responsibility of the contractors to
16 self-screen. So is this something that's in their --
17 obviously, the contract to -- for rental, the rental
18 agreement?

19 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: That's correct.

20 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: And then what type of
21 verification do we get back from them as to whether they
22 run -- I mean I was just thinking, you know, volunteers
23 is such a large group of people that -- are they giving
24 us a list of names of their employees --

25 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: Yes, they are.

1 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: -- beforehand, and
2 then we're double-checking or they're self-reporting?
3 MS. MICHELE RICHARDS: No. That's the way it was
4 first adopted in 2006. Then the Board in 2007 changed
5 that to put the responsibility on the contractor to
6 certify that those employees have been background
7 checked against the Megan's Law database. So they
8 provide to us a list of all of those employees and
9 certify that they have all been background checked
10 against Megan's Law.
11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Any other questions? If
12 not, I'll call for --
13 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: So moved.
14 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Second.
15 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: It's been moved and second.
16 And I think you can do a roll call vote.
17 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Chair Mouet?
18 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.
19 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Vice Chair
20 Berardino?
21 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yes.
22 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Aitken?
23 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yes.
24 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Tkaczyk?
25 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Yes.

1 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
2 Bagneris?
3 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yes.
4 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
5 La Belle?
6 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Yes.
7 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Ruiz?
8 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yes.
9 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
10 Cervantes?
11 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Yes.
12 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Pham?
13 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yes.
14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you. Motion passes.
15 Next is 9D, and it's the -- I think this is
16 the annual delegate authority for agreements.
17 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Not quite the annual.
18 Actually, this agenda item is administrative, and we're
19 requesting to add our new Vice President of Finance
20 Ronald Wallace to the signing of -- delegation signing
21 authority.
22 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Move it.
23 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Second.
24 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: I have a question.
25 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.

1 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Is it necessary to
2 have the names? Can we not have the names and just the
3 position so if people change, we're not locked into
4 names? Or does that lock you into names --

5 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Good question. Yeah.
6 Could you have titles only, and then if there's --

7 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Well, as people come
8 and go, you don't have to change the names, position.

9 MS. KATHY KRAMER: I'll confer with legal and
10 make sure there's no legal implication on that. I'm
11 pretty confident we've got the team. We're not letting
12 them go anywhere. But no. Thank you.

13 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: That will be looked into,
14 but I think we can still probably vote on this; right?
15 I think pretty much it's just to make sure that our VP
16 of Finance, also known as Ron, can be -- it's all about
17 the signature; right? I think it is.

18 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Yes.

19 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: And then we'll get a
20 follow-up on the, perhaps -- it's a good idea, I think,
21 instead of using names.

22 Is there a motion?

23 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: We did already.

24 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yeah. That was just
25 a comment.

1 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Oh, it was a comment after.
2 I'm sorry. I'm tired.
3 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Discussion on the
4 motion.
5 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I guess on to the next
6 thing; right?
7 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: We have to vote.
8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. I thought that's
9 what I was asking, for the motion and then --
10 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Motion was made and
11 seconded.
12 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Oh, the motion was made.
13 Okay. Call for the vote. Sorry.
14 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Chair Mouet?
15 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yes.
16 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Vice Chair
17 Berardino?
18 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Yes.
19 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Aitken?
20 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yes.
21 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Tkaczyk?
22 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Yes.
23 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
24 Bagneris?
25 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Yes.

1 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
2 La Belle?
3 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: Yes.
4 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Ruiz?
5 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: Yes.
6 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director
7 Cervantes?
8 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: Yes.
9 BOARD CLERK JESSICA ZIMMERMAN: Director Pham?
10 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yes.
11 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Motion passes.
12 Sorry for that lapse there.
13 Do we have closed session? Oh, that's good.
14 We don't have closed session. I think pretty much we
15 are done; right? Directors' comments. Except for
16 directors' comments.
17 So that -- now it's time to do Board of
18 Directors Matters of Information. Let me call on Doug.
19 Anything to report, Doug?
20 DIRECTOR DOUGLAS LA BELLE: First of all,
21 congratulations to our new Board Member Newton.
22 Welcome, and I know you're going to be a great addition
23 to this Board, a lot of good ideas floating around. And
24 also to Ron.
25 And we talked about Imaginology earlier, and

1 it was a great event. I think my grandkids enjoyed the
2 photo op there in the barn. I remember last year
3 Barbara and Stan and I went through that routine, and it
4 was really well received. The line was quite long to go
5 through.

6 Robert and I will get together with Kathy and
7 talk about not only the ONA but the Master Plan process
8 and have the specific report back to the Board at the
9 next meeting. With that --

10 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: I'd also like to
11 welcome Newton and Ron. Look forward to working with
12 you both.

13 I've got my fair face on, and I'm extremely
14 excited. I sent a 2:00 a.m. e-mail expressing how
15 excited I was when I learned that Earth Wind & Fire was
16 coming.

17 MS. KATHY KRAMER: My phone dinged next to the
18 bed, by the way.

19 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Sorry about that.
20 But I'm very excited about that. If anybody has extra
21 tickets you want to pass my way, I'm open.

22 I also would like to thank you, Kathy, who
23 has been with us a year.

24 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Fifteen months.

25 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Fifteen months.

1 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: You're three months
2 late.

3 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: And just thank her
4 for all that she does and how our events have just
5 picked up and all you have to do. And I know you guys
6 stay up late nights. You don't work a normal day, a
7 normal shift. So I just appreciate you. And saying
8 thank you to the staff, and welcome on board, Ron, as
9 you pick up your activities.

10 DIRECTOR STAN TKACZYK: Ron, Newton, welcome
11 again. I really look forward to building our
12 relationship, and I look forward to seeing you enjoy
13 your first cycle of the fair.

14 And I think both of you are coming on board
15 at a great time because you're going to be here in time
16 to see the fair. This time next year you're going to
17 see it, I think, with a different set of eyes. It's
18 pretty interesting.

19 That's it. Thank you.

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Stan.

21 Ashleigh?

22 DIRECTOR ASHLEIGH AITKEN: Yes. I'd also like to
23 welcome Newton Pham. I look forward to getting to know
24 you and your family better as we spend a lot of time
25 together this summer.

1 And I know we touched on this earlier, and
2 just I would like to say, not as a Board Member but as
3 an individual, I apologize to the community about what
4 is happening tonight. If I could build not one wall,
5 not two walls, but three walls between this property and
6 the person that's coming tonight I would. But I don't
7 have that in my ability.

8 I feel as a steward of this property we are
9 to represent all people in our community, and that
10 includes women, that includes people of color, and that
11 includes people of diverse religious faith. And it
12 breaks -- it's disheartening to me that it is happening.

13 But as a lawyer and as a study -- student of
14 the Constitution and, frankly, as an American, I really
15 do respect people's free speech rights. And this
16 community is about respecting the free speech rights of
17 everyone, although however we feel about it personally.
18 But I do want to just put that faith out there and that
19 message out there.

20 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Ashleigh. Well
21 said.

22 Nick?

23 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: A couple things.
24 One, first I want to thank everybody for all their hard
25 work. Staff has done a marvelous, marvelous job on

1 the -- certainly all the projects here and the events,
2 and Michele is very helpful in working with us on the
3 Heroes Hall stuff. And Kathy's been also very vigorous
4 in terms of doing -- taking care of our fairgrounds, and
5 it's much appreciated.

6 Number 2, I -- in light of what's happened in
7 L.A. County, I want to ask counsel and the staff to look
8 at every Fair Board member -- we need all-access passes.
9 And when I say "all-access passes," I mean to be on this
10 property that we're fiduciaries of.

11 We have the policy now, which everybody
12 abides by, which is we can come on, and we just notify
13 in advance. And we -- I don't know if we got one
14 time --

15 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: They had an
16 expiration date.

17 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Did they have an expiration
18 date? We'll check on that. Absolutely.

19 (Multiple simultaneous speakers.)

20 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: That's number two.
21 So Board Members know in light of if you're following
22 what's happening in the L.A. County and the hearings
23 that have taken place.

24 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I just want to make -- all
25 access during the fair or for third-party events?

1 DIRECTOR BARBARA BAGNERIS: Year-round.

2 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: No. No. And there's
3 this idea that's been floating around here that I think
4 is wrong, is that -- and we've talked about it before --
5 when there's third-party events, "Well, we don't control
6 those. We don't rent the -- we just rent the space." I
7 think you better, then, begin to follow the testimony
8 and see what's happening in L.A. County.

9 So with that, I want to be sure that
10 everybody that puts on an event here, whether it's Roy,
11 whether it's -- whoever's putting on an event, the Fair
12 Board member -- and this does not include guests or
13 anybody else. You can't bring anybody -- has access to
14 that event and is not placed with an artificial barrier
15 saying "You can come into my event. It's going to cost
16 you 50 or 60 bucks. You can come in." That's an
17 artificial barrier to our fiduciary responsibility.

18 So make sure that that is included and that
19 everybody that puts on an event here -- I don't care if
20 it's a gun show. I don't care if it's a golf show. I
21 don't care what it is -- Fair Board Members -- only Fair
22 Board Members. This isn't a thing to bring your family,
23 bring your friends. You know, you want them to come,
24 you got to shell out. But the Fair Board Members will
25 have access to this property 24 hours a day unlimited

1 with the -- with the caveats that we have, which is
2 "Please notify security in advance" because we need to
3 be respectful of the security.

4 And that everybody that's putting on any kind
5 of event here, this policy somehow exists where "No, we
6 just rent the stuff," you know. No, no, no, no, no, no,
7 no. We don't just rent the stuff. We rent the stuff,
8 but we will -- Fair Board Members will have access to
9 entry to any event that's happening, period.

10 So if you could look at that, and, you know,
11 maybe we can agendize that for the next meeting because
12 people better get smart very quickly about how this
13 public space is going to operate.

14 And private contractors and people that come
15 here, what they do here reflects on us whether you like
16 it or don't like it or say legally this or legally that,
17 it's baloney. Baloney. It reflects on us. And I want
18 to make it very, very clear.

19 So that's number -- and number 3, I want to
20 give a special thank-you to Josh. I will tell you he
21 gives us answers I don't like, by the way.

22 MR. JOSHUA CAPLAN: Most of the time.

23 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Most of the time.
24 But what an outstanding job you're doing, Josh. I mean
25 your responsiveness to our questions, the thoroughness

1 of your response, the judicious way you approach it,
2 and, you know, the way that you have such balance and
3 not influenced by one other way, I really, really
4 appreciate it. I really -- don't like your answers, but
5 I really very much appreciate it. So thank you very
6 much.

7 And welcome to everybody else here as we
8 continue -- and we're in a growing phase.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Yeah.

10 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: We're going to take
11 this to the next level. That's uncomfortable for -- I
12 mean I get it, you know? It gets uncomfortable for
13 staff. It gets uncomfortable for, you know, former and
14 current employees. It gets uncomfortable for the
15 vendors. It gets uncomfortable for everybody else.
16 When you have change and you have energy, it gets
17 uncomfortable for people. But we're moving. I mean
18 this thing -- this is a public space, and -- and
19 everybody's going to respect it.

20 And, lastly, to your comment, I'm not going
21 to comment. I guess we can't comment. She can because
22 she's a lawyer. She can defend it. But I'll say this.

23 This is a public space and regardless of the
24 kind of stuff that happens here. At this event that's
25 coming up, people better behave themselves because --

1 let it go out to everybody, you know, this idea of
2 punching people and on both sides of the situation
3 acting like jerks, you can go act like a jerk at a
4 private venue. That's fine. You want to be a jerk and
5 punch people and scream and tell people to punch people
6 and tell people "I'll pay for" -- you can do all that, I
7 guess.

8 But I hope that the people that are renting
9 this facility understand behavior on a public space is
10 important. And they need not go any further than to
11 look at that Heroes Hall and understand that this is a
12 public space. You come, and all kinds of views that
13 make that -- make the country whether we agree with them
14 or not.

15 But I hope that the word will get out. If
16 you fool around here -- we respect everybody's opinion.
17 We respect -- not necessarily everybody's opinion, but
18 everybody's opportunity to express their opinion,
19 everybody's opportunity to debate their issues. But I
20 hope it's very, very clear. You come on this property,
21 in this public space, you act up, that people that do
22 act up aren't going to get away with just a slap on the
23 hand, a slap on the wrist saying "Oh, you know, it's
24 just the way it goes." No.

25 You came on public property and you acted

1 like a jerk when we were allowing you to exercise your
2 right of free speech, I hope that we, being the people
3 that are the -- the fiduciaries that run this property,
4 the message is very clear.

5 And you're a law enforcement official, a
6 badge-carrying law enforcement official to the Attorney
7 General's Office, that we expect people that act up are
8 not going to get a slap on the wrist, that they're
9 taught.

10 Express your views all you want. There's no
11 need for violence or any of the other kind of nonsense
12 that accompanies this particular whatever it is that's
13 running for office.

14 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Very good. Thank you.

15 We'll go Robert and then Sandra and then
16 we'll leave --

17 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: I don't have much other
18 than 78 days and counting.

19 MS. KATHY KRAMER: Very good.

20 DIRECTOR ROBERT RUIZ: I'm keeping my fair face
21 on.

22 I want to welcome Newton and Ron, and looking
23 forward to working with you guys.

24 DIRECTOR SANDRA CERVANTES: All right. I'm
25 excited about the 78 days and counting also.

1 And I want to go ahead and certainly welcome
2 Ron. Very excited to have you on board.

3 And Director Pham, looking forward to working
4 with you and getting to know you, as well.

5 And then also, most important, I want to be
6 able to go ahead and congratulate our CEO, Kathy Kramer,
7 for the outstanding work that she does day after day and
8 her commitment to the community. So I'm really excited.
9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Thank you, Sandra. I'll
11 end with my comments.

12 But, Newton, anything you wanted to say?

13 DIRECTOR NEWTON PHAM: Yeah. Thanks to everyone
14 for the warm welcome.

15 Congrats, Ron. Looking forward to going
16 through this first cycle with you. Seventy-eight days
17 and counting.

18 Thanks in advance to everyone for having
19 patience as I'm a firm believer in kind of sitting back
20 and observing and truly absorbing and learning things
21 before I start contributing. And, you know, as time
22 goes on -- I probably won't be able to contribute too
23 much this first cycle. But as time goes on, hopefully
24 my contributions increase as I learn more and more about
25 the organization and the impact to the community and

1 everything like that that goes along with it. So --

2 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Good approach. Good
3 approach. Very good. Thank you for that.

4 So the -- on the all-access pass, I agree.
5 And we were talking about the gun show. I went and I
6 bought my own ticket because I felt I needed to do a job
7 to do some research. And I bought my own ticket and I
8 went and I walked. I didn't buy anything. I didn't go
9 there because I wanted a gun. I wanted to just get a
10 sense.

11 I met the owner. I established a
12 relationship. I had a further understanding. It helped
13 do my job as a Board Member.

14 I already told Kathy that I'm going to be
15 there tonight. I don't want a comfortable seat. I want
16 to make sure things are safe. I'm the Chair. I think I
17 want to be there in case something happens.

18 VICE CHAIR NICK BERARDINO: Absolutely.

19 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: I'm going to be there. And
20 because I want to be waiting in the wings because during
21 my day job, I do this kind of stuff. I want to be with
22 staff. I don't want -- I'm not asking for any kind of
23 special treatment, but I want to see.

24 I'm very interested in diversity in
25 third-party events in what we have and celebrate. I

1 went to the Tet Festival. I didn't -- it wasn't -- I
2 didn't take my family or anything like that. I just
3 wanted to walk around and see how effective it was. It
4 was a great event.

5 I think that's part of doing our job, being
6 able to just go and walk. It doesn't mean that we're
7 going to be there for all the time. Just kind of see
8 how it was laid out.

9 For example, we used to have that car show
10 that was a great revenue. What was it?

11 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Barrett-Jackson.

12 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Then we heard didn't pencil
13 out. They said good-bye to us, but they might come
14 back. Hey, listen, I would have liked to have walked
15 and seen, you know. Because maybe it was true that it
16 didn't pencil out, but maybe it was some other issue
17 that maybe we could have found out and helped the
18 situation or at least learned how to bring them back.
19 So it's important.

20 The other thing about tonight's event, safety
21 is a very important thing. We started off -- at least I
22 started making comments about the Bagley-Keene Act, and
23 really it's a way to approach on how to manage an
24 organization, consensus decision-making model. That's
25 really involve the public. It's not my way or the

1 highway.

2 And in order to do that effectively, you
3 really have to value respect. You do. You have to
4 respect people's opinion and not hit them over the head
5 with a stick or something like that. That's not
6 consensus building.

7 So as we develop policies on what should we
8 welcome in -- in open arms, it is okay -- I'm not saying
9 denial. It is okay to tell people what we're all about.
10 This place is the county's square where people come and
11 celebrate and build positive things. This is a place
12 for respect.

13 This is a place -- and if you're going to do
14 that, you're welcome. If we can't -- if you're not
15 going to do that and we can't say no, I understand. But
16 people should know what we're all about, you know? This
17 is a place to celebrate community, to celebrate
18 diversity, to celebrate history, and it's not really to
19 marginalize people, to make people feel bad for whatever
20 different agenda.

21 And you -- and, you know, now, if people want
22 to talk to me about my own personal opinion outside of
23 this role, I -- I have them. But the point that I'm
24 saying is that this is an important place, and we have
25 to make sure that it has a reputation of being very

1 family friendly and safe and it's a place where you come
2 and the county builds community.

3 So I wanted to end with that. It's ironic
4 that we're about to hit Cinco de Mayo. A lot of people
5 think that Cinco de Mayo is about going somewhere to
6 have a great meal, Mexican food and a margarita.

7 (Multiple simultaneous speakers.)

8 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Wrong. Wrong. It's not
9 Independence Day. No. It's not Independence Day. It's
10 when the United States was having its Civil War, the
11 greatest, most powerful army in the world, led by
12 Napoleon III, decided to take advantage of America being
13 at war, and it invaded Mexico.

14 They sent royalty to be the new emperor of
15 Mexico. And a 4-foot-5 full-blooded indigenous Zapotec
16 Indian, president of Mexico, Benito Juarez, Mexico's
17 Abraham Lincoln, said, "Among nations, as among
18 individuals, respect for the rights of others is peace."
19 One of my favorite quotes. And the Mexicans beat the
20 French. And that's what Cinco de Mayo's all about.
21 It's celebrating a battle that against the odds we said
22 "No, thank you, Imperialist France," and they lost.

23 And it's about respect, and peace and respect
24 go together. So that's what this place is all about. I
25 wanted to share with that. I'm going to -- I'm going to

1 try to do some logistical things because I want to go
2 home and then come back, and I don't want to be locked
3 out and not be able to come in. So I want to make sure
4 I can come back.

5 But thank you very much for your patience,
6 and we'll see you at our next Board Meeting in May. By
7 acclamation, is it okay to adjourn?

8 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Yes.

9 CHAIR GERARDO MOUET: Okay. Meeting adjourned.
10 Thank you.

11 * * *

12 (Whereupon, the OCFEC Board of Directors
13 meeting was hereby adjourned at 11:44 a.m.)

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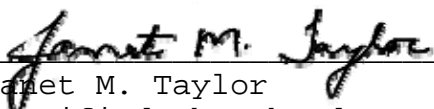
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of
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The undersigned certified shorthand reporter
of the State of California does hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings was taken
before me at the time and place therein set forth and
was recorded stenographically by me and thereafter
transcribed, said transcript being a true copy of my
shorthand notes thereof.

I further certify that I am neither
financially interested in the action nor a relative or
employee of any attorney of any of the parties.

In witness whereof, I have subscribed my name
this date, May 11, 2016.


Janet M. Taylor
Certified Shorthand Reporter
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