

**CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

**MINUTES**

A meeting of the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) Board of Directors was held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, May 6, 2025. The meeting was held via teleconference originating from the CARF Office, 1776 Tribute Road, Sacramento, CA 95815.

CARF Board Directors joining by conference call: Daniel Castillo, Dan Jacobs, Tom Keaney, Tom Martinez, Dana Stoehr and Kelly Violini.

Staff and Guests participating via conference call: Heather Haviland, Raechelle Gibbons, Juliana Gomes, Michael Flores Matt Cranford, Tiffany Loushin, Stacey Lapham and Allen Aldrich.

**Agenda Item 1 – Attendance Roll Call.**

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment.** No public comment.

**Agenda Item 3 – Board Member Comment.** Ms. Stoehr notified the board that Ms. Gomes would be leaving the organization effective May 12, 2025 and thanked her for her years of service to CARF.

**Agenda Item 4 – Approval of Minutes recorded on 10/9/24, 12/10/24, 12/16/24, 12/23/24 and 3/5/25.**

10/9/24 Minutes: {ACTION} Mr. Martinez moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 9, 2024, as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

12/10/24 Minutes: {ACTION} Mr. Martinez moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 10, 2024, as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

12/16/24 Minutes: {ACTION} Mr. Keaney moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 16, 2024, as presented. Mr. Martinez seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

12/23/24 Minutes: {ACTION} Mr. Jacobs moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 23, 2024, as presented. Mr. Martinez seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

3/5/25 Minutes: {ACTION} Mr. Martinez moved to approve the meeting minutes from March 5, 2025, as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

**Agenda Item 5 – Board Chair Update.** Ms. Stoehr notified the Board that the CARF live racing equipment and stalls have been sold for \$1.125 million. With the sale approved by the Executive Committee, Ms. Stoehr added that the funds were applied to the outstanding LOI with Alameda County Fair.

Ms. Stoehr added that Ms. Gomes had settled grievances with SEIU 1877 representatives regarding potential loss of Health & Welfare coverage for previous fair employees.

Mr. Martinez noted that Cal Expo's harness operator, Watch & Wager, hosted its final race card on Friday evening, May 2, 2025, and encouraged any fairgrounds to contact him if they are interested in hosting the Standardbred racing operation.

**Agenda Item 6 – Report of Recommended Dues Structure.** Ms. Violini and Ms. Stoehr agreed that more time is needed to create a document that summarizes the services CARF would offer as an umbrella organization. Ms. Stoehr added that CARF can be utilized as both union representation for satellite employees as well as the potential for legislative representation and legal coverage. Mr. Jacobs suggested that Ms. Haviland create three scenarios for dues and their potential inclusions. Ms. Violini asked that she be able to join a future Finance Committee meeting to discuss the dues in more detail.

**Agenda Item 7 – Financials.** Ms. Gibbons presented the preliminary financials through April and added that with the sale of the live racing tractor equipment, that \$1.125 million was transferred to the Alameda County Fair.

Ms. Stoehr added that she will continue to work with CARF staff on the process of negotiating any remaining outstanding invoices and receivables. **{ACTION}** Mr. Keaney moved to accept the financials as presented. Mr. Martinez seconded. YES Vote: Mr. Castillo, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Keaney, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Stoehr, Ms. Violini. Motion passes.

**Agenda Item 8 – New Business.** None.

**Agenda Item 9 – Closed Session: Pending Litigation pursuant to Brown Act. Section 54956.9.** Ms. Stoehr reported that the Board received an update and guidance regarding the status of anticipated litigation. No further action was taken.

**Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Juliana Gomes