

**Humboldt County Rodeo Board
Agricultural District #3 – Regular Meeting
March 11, 2026**

Board Members Present in Person: Kent Maher, Dale Owen, Dave Louk, Fergus Laughridge Katie Nuffer, and Ginny Hawkins

Board Members Present via Teleconference or Videoconference: None

Board Members Absent: Chris Bengoa and Becky Hill

Staff Present in Person: Mike Mieras and Darrel Field

Staff absent: Charlene Fetterly

Staff Present Teleconference or Videoconference:

Others Present in Person: Heather Nield and Cecil Shier

Others Present via Teleconference or Videoconference:

CALL TO ORDER

Kent called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cecil Shier asked the Board to consider hiring the Jeff Palmer Band at the next Ranch Hand Rodeo or similar event. Cecil noted that Jeff is an ACTRA roper and is often in town at our events.

Darrel asked for Jeff's contact information.

No action was taken.

MINUTES CORRECTION - APPROVAL

Dale moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2026 as submitted

The motion passed unanimously.

WINNEMUCCA EVENTS COMPLEX (WEC)

- a. Management restructure proposal.

Mike would like to reclassify Charlene's position since she performs many supervisory duties, signs contracts and coordinates events.

The new title would be Facility and Events Coordinator and would include a small raise, with a move from hourly to salary. He posits that this would also grant authority to make decisions that Charlene is already making.

Mike would also like to reclassify a WCVA position in this manner.

Mike plans to make the changes official on July 1, the start of the new fiscal year.

Fergus asked for the job description for the position.

Darrel will send the description to the board.

No action was taken.

b. Proposal to fill an open position

Mike noticed that we have an open facilities attendant position at the WEC, and would like to fill it as soon as possible.

He commented that we may be able to save some temporary labor cost by filling this position.

Kent cautioned that a full time position is about 30 to 35% higher than temporary labor due to the benefits of a County employee, and so the calculation of temporary labor savings might not be apparent.

No action was taken.

EVENTS UPDATES, REPORTS AND SCHEDULING

a. Ranch Hand Rodeo

Mike reported that we are still working on the final profit and loss statement. He commented that the Horse Sale overall average was the best in the last 4 years. He also noted that we sold a total of 22 horses with 2 no sales and 2 sifted from the show. He reported that he made some changes in the sifting committee and added 2 new Veteranarians who did an excellent job for the horse sale.

Mike commented that we will never compete with Red Bluff of the Norman sale but we should set a goal of 50 to 60 quality ranch or personal horses sold at our show.

Mike reported that the rodeo went well and that he did not hear any major complaints. Saturday attendance was very good, not completely sold out, but very good. Sunday attendance was off as usual but still quite good.

Mike commented that the Barrel Race was up a bit from last year but still a net cost instead of a profit. He plans to consider some changes for the event to possibly include a roping, or something to bring more people to the event.

Katie commented that the volume of the sponsor's commercials was very low. She also reported that the speakers on the east side were difficult for the cowboys to hear the announcer.

No action was taken.

Katie left at this time.

2025 - 2026 BUDGET REVIEW – UPDATE

Mike presented the budget report as of 3-9-26. At 80% of elapsed time, Ag District #3 revenue is at 128.11%, wage and benefit expenses are at 54.24%, service and supply expenses are at 80.38% and capital outlay is at 43.42%.

Event Center revenue is at 78.55%, wage and benefit expenses are at 56.34%, services and supplies are at 87.84% and Capital Outlay is at 0.00%.

Tax revenue is at 51.62% and room tax revenue is at 81.28%.

No action was taken.

- a. Proposal to spend remaining capital project funds, rebuilding the northern pens.

Mike reported as of yesterday, when we finished the door replacement and repair at the Exhibit Hall, we have saved about \$68,000 in or capital budget.

Mike suggested using this savings to replace the panels and alleyways on the north side of the Event Center. He has two quotes, one from Preifert and one from WW Manufacturing. The low quote from Preifert is \$58,000. He also comments that we had planned this in stages but doing it all at the same time will save on shipping.

Kent moved to accept the low quote of \$59,000 to replace the panels north of the Event Center.

The motion passed unanimously.

VOUCHERS – EXPENDITURES APPROVAL

Fergus moved to approve the outstanding vouchers consisting of the following:
\$4,499.21 for Ag District #3 through February, 2026.
\$5,014.56 for the Event Center through February 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION, PROPOSALS AND OR REQUESTS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS, INCLUDING

COMMUNICATIONS AND DEALINGS WITH OTHER BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS AND PLANNING AND SCHEDULING FUTURE EVENTS

Mike reported that we submitted our capital list last week. Some items on the list include new barn doors for our permanent barns, a newer tele-handler, and a mini loader for hauling panels.

Kent asked to see the list at the next meeting.

Dale asked to replace the announcer stand and stairs.

Mike reports that we are in process with the County's carpenter.

No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was presented at the end of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Dale moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Field, Secretary