



**UTAH STATE FAIR PARK AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

February 19, 2026

Meeting Details

Time: 9:02 AM – 10:51 AM

Location: Utah State Fair Park, 155 N 1000 W, Salt Lake City UT

Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting Chair: Dave Lewis Recorder: Becky Knight

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Dave Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

Becky Knight conducted roll call.

Present: Dave Lewis, Ted Lewis, Jim Webb, Darrell Hunting, Kip Paul, Wade Garrett, Lillian Bayles, Tommy Joe Lucia.

Also Present: Brook McCarrick (AG Office), Becky Knight (Staff), Ben Buys (UFAIR).

Excused: Jennifer Seelig. Absent: Kelly Pearson, Sen. Sandall, Steve Lund, Paul Morris.

2. Oath of Office – Tommy Joe Lucia

Brook McCarrick administered the oath of office. Mr. Lucia introduced himself:

- Based in Heber City, UT and Texas.
- Works with Utah Days of '47 Rodeo and owns Piranha Productions, a Western-lifestyle entertainment company.
- Over 35 years of experience in national entertainment industry.

4. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of November 2025 and January 2026 meetings approved.

Motion: Ted Lewis Second: Darrell Hunting Vote: Unanimous

5. Closed Session

Entered closed session at 9:12 AM per § 52-4-205(1)(d) for development discussion.

Non-board attendees: Ben Bice, Becky Knight, Brook McCarrick.

Exited closed session at 9:46 AM

6. Financial and Budget Report

Highlights

- Projected revenue increase of \$681 K (\$10.6 M → \$11.3 M)

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- Growth drivers:
improved Hispanic event performance, new concert addition, enhanced ticketing system.
- Net Operating Income: \$1.6 M (+ \$139 K)
- Fair event revenue + \$960 K; expenses + \$440 K → net gain \$440 K.
- Non-fair revenue slightly reduced due to loss of X Games contract.

Upcoming Events

- Planning 10+ one-off concerts (3 confirmed).
- Exploring permanent indoor festival venue partnership.
- Red West Festival returning after 150 K attendance success.
- Considering October 3-week festival with major acts.
- Kilby Court renewed & proposed 10 extra 2027 shows.

Outcome

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve budget pending minor revisions.

Motion: Ted Lewis Second: Wade Garrett Vote: Unanimous

7. Committee Reports

A. Legislative – Larry Mullenax

- Procurement exemption for concessions included in pending legislation

B. Education – Steve Lund

C. Fair – Lillian Bayles

- Attended UAFE Convention.
- Launching County Banner Program to refresh county participation.
- Ongoing planning for America 250 celebration.
- Staffing needs: fiber and culinary supervisors.
- Acknowledgment of Aly and team for venue safety leadership.

C. Rodeo – Wade Garrett

- Bullfighter and contractor details pending.
- Volunteer Appreciation Banquet approved — to be organized by Lillian Bayles and committee.

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D. Livestock – Jim Webb

- Hiring: Final candidate confirmed pending acceptance.
- Drenching rules: Revisions to include Darrell Hunting's comments.
- Facility Design: Weekly sessions underway.
- Funding: ≈ \$150 K combined (state + Fair support). Showmanship split remains 60/40.
- Friends of the Fair: \$30–36 K contribution.
- Action: Launch press/publicity spotlights on youth recipients.

E. Safety & Security / Compensation – Ted Lewis

- Safety committee to reconvene after Aly's international conference.
- Compensation committee (Ted Lewis, Jennifer Seelig, Dave Lewis) reviewing Larry Mullen's package for next meeting's recommendation.

8. Staff Announcement

Holly (Finance Dept.) announced retirement after the 2026 Fair following 23 years of service.

Succession plan and job posting in progress.

Board thanked her for outstanding service and commitment.

9. Adjournment

No further business.

Motion: Ted Lewis Second: Darrell Hunting Vote: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned: 10:51 AM