



## Minutes of the Oregon State Fair Council Regular Meeting

May 21, 2026

Oregon State Fair/Virtual/Zoom Meeting

Audio Recorded – Yes

- **Call to Order:** The meeting convened at 1:40 pm with Vice Chair Joel Conder presiding.
- **Roll Call:** The attendance via Zoom, was recorded as shown below:

**Present:**

Joel Conder, Vice Chair  
Soraida Cross, Council Member  
Geoff Hinds, Council Member  
Arnie Roblan, Council Member  
Travis Smith, Council Member

**Non-Present:**

Loyal Burns, Chair  
Shane Matthews, Council Member  
Tami Kerr, Council Member  
Lucy Escobar, Council Member  
Representative Paul Evans Advisor Council Member

**Other-Present:**

Kim Grewe-Powell, Director/CEO  
Jean Wheat-Palm, CFO and Director of Human Resources  
Maddie Kansky, Administrative Assistant and Contract Procurement  
Deborah Hall, Accounts Payable and Front Office

- **Pledge of Allegiance:**  
The Pledge Allegiance was made by all parties present.
- **Approval of Minutes:**  
Vice Chair Conder gave the Council time to review the minutes from the March 19, 2026 Council Meeting.

**No Vote:** A quorum was not present.

- **Reports:**

**Council Chair's Report:**

None

**CEO Report:** Director/CEO Kim Grewe-Powell stated the OSFEC team worked diligently to prepare and submit the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) '27-'29 Biennium budget request. A total funding request of \$36,661,480 was submitted, emphasizing the importance of the State of Oregon investing in and maintaining its facilities and infrastructure.

Deferred maintenance of critical building systems—including roofing, mechanical, electrical, and life-safety infrastructure—has increased the risk of system failures, service disruptions, safety concerns, and potential liability. These ongoing conditions reduce OSFEC's effectiveness as both an emergency response site and a functional public venue for daily operations and events.

The deteriorating condition of these facilities has significantly contributed to the increased OSFEC's liability exposure, as reflected in rising insurance costs through DAS. OSFEC's liability insurance premium is projected to increase from \$71,433 to \$1,046,575 per biennium—a substantial increase. This substantial escalation highlights the growing risks associated with aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance.

The OSFEC team also submitted a \$1,300,000 grant request through Travel Oregon to help transform the Pavilion into a competitive, year-round venue capable of attracting larger regional and national events.

Last week we began concert rollout. Each week we will be announcing 2-3 concerts.

**Financials:**

Director/CEO Grewe-Powell reported Profit and Loss from January 1 through April 30, 2026 the total income is \$959,285.68. Income is down about \$64,000.00 from about the same time last year. Expo revenue is down a little at this time, which is unfortunate.

Total expenses to date are \$1,479,491.57, expenses are up \$105,800.36, expenses are up, but this can be attributed to the purchase of equipment, two ADA stages, a large & small scrubber, which was all in budget. Net Ordinary Income to date is -\$520,205.89.

**No Vote:** A quorum was not present.

**Fair Foundation Report:**

None

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:**

None

- **Committee Reports:**

Executive Committee: Did not meet.

CEO Review Committee: Did not meet.

- **Old Business:**

None

**Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Next meeting scheduled June 18, 2026