

STATE OF NEVADA



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEVADA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW BOARD

PRESIDENT: Matt McKinney VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Cates

Mailing: P.O. Box 8026, Reno, Nevada 89507

Physical: 1350A Wells Ave, Reno, NV 89512

Office (775) 393-9472 (message only)

Email: NJLSB@agri.nv.gov

Website: <http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/NJLSB/NJLSB/>

Approved Minutes

June 2, 2026, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Nevada Department of Agriculture, Large Conference Room

405 South 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431

1. Call to order, a roll call of members, and establish a quorum

Vice President **Tom Cates** called the meeting to order at **3:00 p.m.** A quorum was established.

Board Members Present: Sarah Chvilicek, Tom Cates, Travis Coombs, Alyssa Sowersby, Dennis Hellwinkel, Cara Goss, and Abbie Jaynes, Board Assistant. Sydney Botts and Matt McKinney joined at 3:30 p.m. Matt assumed the chair of the meeting.

NDA Members Present: Ciara Russel (Public Information Officer), Aaron Cuellar (Deputy AG, attended online), Juliana Hendrix (Executive Assistant), J.J. Goicoechea (Director, attended online)

Public Present: Hector Campos, Vanessa Campos, Bob Wosick, Bridget Black, John Black, Susan Rogers, Kris Royer, Ivy Royer, Colton Royer, Logan Royer. Public attending online: Tom Rammel, Sarah Shuster, Deena Paulick, Jen Carey Linderman, Taylor Laack, Lindsey Stockton, Heather Nield, Jen Derme, and Kaycee Paredes.

2. Public Comment:

None

3. Review and Approval of Agenda

Dennis Hellwinkel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Travis Coombs seconded – MOTION CARRIED

4. Review and approve May 5, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

Travis Coombs moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2026 Board meeting. Cara Goss seconded – MOTION CARRIED

5. Financial Report

The Board reviewed the current balance sheet and financial activity. It was noted that the most significant change is the increase in the cash balance in the Show and Sale checking account due to recent donations. The money market account has also grown, and approximately \$12,000 will be transferred to scholarships. Several scholarship account balances have increased. Matt McKinney will provide a final report on the total amount available for distribution this year.

As the show approaches, the Board reviewed an overview of current show-related income and expenses. At least three exhibitor payments were received earlier in the day. A small number of exhibitors will pay

the \$10 administrative fee at the show, at which time they will receive their packets, passes, and related materials.

The report also included scholarship donations, general show donations, and species-specific donations, with the latter being lower than in previous years. Major expenses paid to date include buckles, rosettes, banners, T-shirts, and other awards, as well as office and general show costs. All exhibitor T-shirts have been ordered, and 124 4-H Expo exhibitors were included in that order.

Additional expenses included the purchase of new trailer tires; three full sets were purchased, and the vendor provided a discount by charging only for the tires. ShoWorks fees were also paid and include both the annual subscription and conference costs. Sarah Chvilicek moved to receive and file the financial report, and Tavis Coombs seconded. MOTION CARRIED

6. Review any Correspondence

- Sarah Chvilicek moved to approve the Barbee family's request for their son to show their daughter's animal due to a torn ACL. Travis Coombs seconded – MOTION CARRIED
- Travis Coombs moved to approve the request allowing another exhibitor to care for and walk an exhibitor's animal through the sale due to a family obligation in Las Vegas. Dennis Hellwinkel seconded - MOTION CARRIED
- The Board reviewed requests from **Kris Royer and Vanessa Campos** for late entries into the show. Travis Coombs initially moved to approve the request, stating that the Board should not hinder the exhibitors' hard work. Cara Goss seconded the motion. Dennis expressed opposition, noting that the Board had not allowed any other late entries this year and had already turned away multiple families who requested the same consideration. Travis Coombs responded that exhibitors should not be excluded due to mistakes made by parents. Alyssa Sowersby added that although the situation is difficult, the rulebook clearly outlines deadlines, and the Board has consistently upheld them. Dennis Hellwinkel reiterated that several families had been denied late entry and suggested that the Rules Committee consider adding a late-fee option for future years. Travis Coombs agreed, emphasizing the importance of not excluding youth participants.

Public Comment

Public comment was opened.

- **Kris Royer** stated that this is their family's first year participating in NJLS, though they have shown goats in Sierra Valley. He emphasized that the youth should not be penalized for circumstances beyond their control, noting that the animals were tagged, cared for, and taken to camps. He asked why no one informed him when record books were submitted. Sarah Chvilicek explained that NJLS does not dictate county record book procedures and asked whether they had shown at the Washoe County Livestock Show, as that show often helps determine eligibility for NJLS.
- **Sarah Shuster**, Sheep Superintendent, stated that it appears all of the Royer children are entered, but the Board cannot accept every late request, and this issue should have been identified earlier.
- **Deena Paulick** reminded the Board that the rulebook clearly states the entry deadlines, and those deadlines should be considered.
- **Jen Carey Linderman** stated that children are not responsible for submitting their own entries, yet they are the ones who face the consequences. She encouraged the Board to bring all such situations forward for discussion rather than turning families away at the outset. She added that challenges arise every year and that the Board should show grace when possible, as life happens and youth should not be punished for it.

Public Comment ended and Discussion was brought back to the Board

Returning to Board discussion, Alyssa Sowersby reiterated that the show is ultimately about the kids, and if the Board can extend grace to some, it should extend grace to all. She emphasized the importance of improving procedures in the future. Travis Coombs amended his original motion to allow late entries for the **Campos family**, the **Royer family**, and **all other families previously denied late entry**. Cara Goss seconded the amended motion. Sarah Chvilicek reminded families that if their counties host local shows, they should make every effort to attend, as significant work goes into organizing those events.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Updates on Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Tom Cates reported that the water and sewer project is approximately 95% complete; however, work has been paused until after the State Fair and the Reno Rodeo. He noted that the asphalt resurfacing portion of the project must be completed by October 31. He also stated that bids for the remaining work are currently open and will be reviewed and awarded on the 11th.

8. Nevada Department of Agriculture Updates

Juliana Hendrix reported that exhibitor wristbands are expected to arrive this week and will be distributed to families once received. She stated that security for the event will include multiple law enforcement agencies, with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office as the lead, as well as REMSA. She noted that the general schedule of events has been posted and that an NJLS-specific page is also available for families. Juliana added that a drone show is scheduled for Saturday night following the sale, beginning at approximately 9:00 to 9:30 p.m., depending on when the drone team can begin. She also shared that contest entries for the Pie and Traeger competitions are available online, and the top ten entries will be invited to participate.

9. Nevada Western Heritage Center Alliance Updates

NO REPORT

10. 2026 Show Report

Committee reports – discussion of outcomes for the following:

- **Rules – APPROVED and POSTED • Show Logistics – Draft 2026 schedule APPROVED and POSTED**
- Grounds set up – Matt McKinney
 - Setup begins Monday and finishes Tuesday.
 - Additional porta-coolers will be located.
 - Scales certified Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
 - Exhibitors must be in line or have called ahead by 8:30 a.m. on Thursday.
 - Rabbit scale may be needed.

Release Forms: Dennis emphasized ensuring proper release procedures. The updated schedule states that **live release begins 30 minutes after the auction concludes** on Saturday night; release forms are required. Moved by Sydney Botts and seconded by Tom Cates – MOTION CARRIED

Abbie will create species-specific release forms; forms must be signed by Abbie or Dennis.

- Auction – Travis Coombs and Cara Goss - updates
 - o Pre-sale run-through planned. The Auction will live stream. NDA IT Team set up the communication links.

- o Champion sale followed by regular sale; bids may still come from upstairs. Buyer's dinner with Pinocchio's from 4–6 p.m.
 - o Awards list will be provided by Matt McKinney.
 - o Superintendents and interns will manage livestock flow.
- Donors and Awards – Dennis Hellwinkel and Sydney Botts – Updates
 - o Reserve Champions receive duffel bags.
 - o Reserve Showmanship received wagons.
 - o Weight divisions receive lunchbox coolers.
 - o Buckles for Round Robin Showmanship per age groups, and Grand Champion Species.
 - o Awards will be run during the show and stored upstairs.
 - o Sydney Botts will manage awards and thank-you cards.
- Media and Communications – updates
 - o Strong cross-posting and outreach; no issues reported.
- Scholarships – Matt McKinney - updates
 - o Interviews scheduled for end of week and early next week.
 - o Approximately **\$38,000–\$40,000** available for awards.
- Youth Advisory Council – Alyssa Sowersby – Updates
 - o T-shirts ordered.
 - o Friday Fun Night and dress-up planned; awards secured.
 - o Youth will assist with Saturday operations.
 - o Pizza party Saturday afternoon; ice cream social Friday night.
 - o Tom Cates asked about Show Interns – Abbie Jaynes will be scheduling the work of the interns.

11. Public Comment:

Kris Royer asked about entry procedures; Abbie will manually enter their exhibitors.

Vanessa Campos expressed thanks.

Jen Carey Linderman asked whether Sunday morning awards (e.g., rate of gain) will still occur.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Matt McKinney at 4:03 p.m.

13. Board Member Comment, Discussion of Future Agenda Items – NOTE: No

deliberation may take place on this item. – Schedule the 2027 Show Dates

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEVADA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW BOARD OFFICE

LYON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

WASHOE COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

CHURCHILL COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

PERSHING COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE NEVADA
PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE – [HTTPS://NOTICE.NV.GOV](https://NOTICE.NV.GOV)
<http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/NJLSB/NJLSB/>