

Rodgers Committee Meeting : 5/6/25

Minutes taken by: Jessica Marquez

Attendees: Miguel Barriga, Jason Armstrong, Tony Turri, Jim Bingham, Dave Tinker, Alice Johnston, Bob Safford, Emily Brown, Eric Moxon, Tony Rosiles, Sarah Richardson

Student Ali Curiel

1. Welcome : Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. There is Tuesday Night Market and Art Show so Miguel would like to try to keep the meeting to an hour.
2. Review Minutes from 2/11/25: Minutes were reviewed with no recommended changes.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Endowment Update: Eric Moxon shared the following:

- Total Value \$3,091,334
- Target Par Value \$3,300,000
- Cash Flow Projection is \$153,168 and the target is \$160K
- \$6,278 moves to checking 6/1/25
- Total Value of the Ranch account is \$174,706

The account has held up well, muni bonds don't move around much.
Called Securities in August are \$30,000-Coalinga USD 5.43%
Feds to drop another ½ percent and will likely drop in July

5. Student Update- Ali Curiel reported on the following:
 - Banquet
 - Green house
 - Plant sale
 - Mother's Day baskets

All is going well with projects.

6. Enterprise Reports- Banding cattle on 5/22
FFA is holding the end of the year banquet on the 13th
50 bird hatched and we kept 15 (35 were taken home)
7. Ranch and CTE Showcase Update- Emily thanked everyone who came out to support the event. The turnout was a bit disappointing and that had to do with connecting with the target audience. This year the intent was to showcase CTE and the Ranch so with trying to maximize efforts, this was challenging. The key point was to target the 6-8th grade students and we need to work harder to get them here. Some good points were:
 - Engaging

- Nice weather
- Attendees were engaged
- CTE Items
- Well Organized

Areas for Growth :

Attendance, feeder schools and district invites. The guests were contacted on 2 occasions but not sure that the message was being communicated to the students. Sending parent square to our 9th grade students and sending out mailers.

An idea is to have the CTE Showcase in the quad next year. Some conversations was to :

- Clarify purpose of the events
- This fell on a tough night for advisory portion
- General planning considerations

Jason suggested maybe having a Rodgers Ranch Family Night or Family CTE Event. He sees that having the word Family in there along with food for all, may reach a broader audience. Tony Turri had no idea that we were trying to attract kids. Family and food is a good idea and we need to have more time.

Emily shared that going from a formal event, what was the purpose, why are we here. That was the initial reason for the transition. Tony felt that the formal event was more about the RR showcase and not a CTE Showcase.

Alice thinks we initially wanted to show off the farm and then incorporate showing off CTE, it changed. So Maybe a family fun night for the Farm would be good, with hay rides etc. Jason suggested holding a CTE meeting for an hour then have public shows later. We could provide dinner and people can walk around and do a tour. This would attract a broader audience.

Jim Bingham feels that branding is important and likes the idea of a Family Night and to focus on careers in Agriculture, high school and student interest along with promoting the Ranch for Ag kids. Free hot dogs and hamburgers is a great idea.

There was discussion about advisory meeting and when would be a good time. The discussion included that holding it during the working day would be a good idea because employers can release them during their work day and it might be easier than trying to be there in the evening. Emily sent out a survey (approximately 35 advisory members) to see what works best for everyone. Tinker thinks that the advisory meeting can be quick with 2 separate priorities.

8. Project Updates: There have been a lot of changes and growth in trying to meet the needs of the people utilizing the facility here.

Completed in 2024/2025:

- Shade house Installation – Students completed all by themselves and were very proud.
- Cabinetry and Sink Installation
- Small Animal Slab and Pens
- Power Upgrades and Lights
- Tables and Chairs for Ranch
- Chicken Tractors and purchasing laying hens
- Diesel Tank at Ranch
- Movement of Chemical Shed for Tony
- Replanting of Fruit Orchard
- Hired R-Farm Storefront Manager- Andrew Amundson was hired and has retail experience
- Addition of Flowers and Greenery
- Student enterprises!!!!

There was a discussion of the hours of operation for the R-Farm Storefront.

Hours, what are we selling, who will work there.... What is the plan.

Emily shared:

- Tues-Fri 10-5
- Sunday 10-2

Researched Julia's, Marigold and Willows Farmhouse daughter

We will be selling Ranch products some ideas are:

- Plants
- Pumpkins
- Meat

We may have outside vendors such as peach places, Julia's, sour dough, blueberries, sierra Nevada cheese, ice cream, coffee and also hold class events like creating wreaths or cookie decorating while incorporating the culinary class. Maybe even a pumpkin planting night. This can also be a pick up location for peach pies.

Sarah and the other enterprise team is working on preparing our opening and are very excited.

In Process:

- Greenhouse Shutter Repair
Will be completed in 2025/2026:
- Lamb Pen Installation
- Additional Power to lambs Pens and Small animal area
- Removal of Mature Peach Orchard
- Creation of Enclosed space on side of barn, roll up doors.
- R-Farm Store Front Opens
- Install the Man gate on the north side of show arena.
- Adjustment of Cattle working area, Addition of Alleyway and cattle and student friendly

system. Possibly covering the chute.

- Fencing of additional Pasture South East Corner.
- Replacement of Orchard Trees at R-Farm
- Vegetable growing at R-Farm
- Lining of Pond

Pending Board Approval:

- Connect the new “B” well to irrigation pipes for areas A-1, A-2, A-3-7 to allow for irrigation.

Pending Board Feedback:

- Trail Creation
- Erosion on Creek/ Parking

R-Farm-

Small Animal/ Poultry- Melissa Jones

9. Ranch Maintenance Update- Tony Rosiles reported on the following:

Olives- 450 replants (less than 10 %) which is not a lot were replanted

Will prune – meeting with Burleson’s on how they would like to have it done

Walnuts- It looks light out there- a lot of singles and as they mature, you will be able to see them.

Hay is being bailed next week (hopefully there won’t be too much wind) We want to get moving on the pumpkin side. Tony will prep and Nolan to plant with the students.

Injection of Walnuts (twice per year) and Olives (200 gallons every other irrigation) Spray guy is someone out of Capay

10. Plan for Creek Erosion and Parking- Tony Turri shared that there was a brief discussion with the board. Unless we want to spend lot of money, it’s on deferred maintenance list. Tony looked at it and it doesn’t look that bad. There was a discussion that we can’t work on this without a permit. Tinker walked with Cody and he is not an expert but he showed Cody the concerns. There was a discussion about the levy by Marguerite and we may need to do something like that all around. Jim has some concerns for the people downstream (if and when there is flooding). We may get some pushback is all he was communicating. This is a deferred Maintenance items and Miguel will speak with Joe to see if he can work on obtaining a professional assessment. There was an idea of maybe calling the county or Chico State for some support. This is a good idea and Miguel will mention that to Joe when speaking with him about it.
11. Propose to move meeting times- There was a discussion to move meeting times to 3:00. The group shared ideas and all agreed. The only concern is that school is out at 3:05 and then teachers would miss AST, but its only 4 times per year. All agreed at 3:15 to being the meetings.

12. Other Topics- Alice discussed program tours and she wanted to share that she has received many wonderful compliments on how impressive the Ranch is to people. This is great feedback and sometimes we take for granted what a great facility we have.

Emily brought up the concern of Feed Management. Should we try to find an outside grazer because right now we have a ton. Tony suggested to feed them out and sell grass fed beef.

Herd size – 10 mother cows - should we get more?

Tony suggested to clop the tops and put mulch back down in the ground. Don't go looking for more cattle, just enjoy the extra feed.

13. Meeting Dates- August 19th
November 18th
February 10th
May 5th

14. Meeting Ended at 4:12 and Jess will send out calendar invites (early) for these future meetings.