



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE BIG FRESNO FAIR ANNOUNCES REAPPOINTMENT OF TWO BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICER POSITIONS FOR 2016

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, February 25, 2016...The Big Fresno Fair proudly announces the reappointment of two current members of the 21st District Agricultural Association Board of Directors – Debbie Jacobsen and Fue “Ricky” Vang. These reappointments were made on January 20, 2016 by California Governor Jerry Brown. Additionally, on January 26, 2016, The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors voted on their 2016 officer positions that are as follows: Debbie Jacobsen, President; Larry Serpa, Vice President; and Jerry Pacheco will remain as Secretary/Treasurer.

Debbie Jacobsen, of Easton, has served on The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors since 2005. She has been the owner and operator of J&L Vineyards in Fresno County since 1980. Jacobsen currently serves on the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Board of Directors. She is a former member and past president from 2002 – 2004 of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. Jacobsen most recently served as Vice President of The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors in 2015. She also has served as President of The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors in 2006 & 2007.

Fue “Ricky” Vang, from Clovis, has been reappointed to the 21st District Agricultural Association, Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors, where he has served since 2012. Vang has served as Vice Principal of Duncan Polytechnical High School since 2008. Prior to that, he was principal at the Academy for New Americans (2006-2008), a guidance learning counselor at Buchanan High School (2005 & 2006) and an instructional coordinator at Bangkok Christian College (2004 & 2005). Vang has also served as Vice Principal at Edison High School and a counselor at Roosevelt High School. Vang earned a Master of Social Work degree from California State University, Fresno.

Larry Serpa, of Fresno, has served on the Board since 2005 where he has held the positions of President and Vice President. Serpa has served in several leadership roles in the California dairy industry, most recently as Director of Member Relations and Government Affairs for Land O’Lakes. He has also served as past President of the California Creamery Operator’s Association and Vice Chair

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of Dairy Cares Board of Directors. Serpa is currently involved in his family farm business and serves as a consultant for the dairy industry.

Jerry Pacheco, of Kerman, has served on The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors since 2012. He has been president of Pacheco Dairy Inc. since 1996. Previous to that, he was owner of Pacheco Farms from 1967 to 1996. Pacheco is also member of the Nisei Farmers League, Sun-Maid Growers of California, Kerman Unified School District Ag Support Group and the Fresno State University Bulldog Foundation.

“We are extremely pleased with the reappointment of Debbie Jacobsen and Ricky Vang, as well as the newly elected officers serving on our Board of Directors,” said John C. Alkire, CEO, The Big Fresno Fair. “Each of our Board Members brings their own individual talents so that together, we are one strong team. This is a great Board and with them, along with our talented Fair staff, we will accomplish great things for the 2016 Big Fresno Fair.”

The Big Fresno Fair, founded in 1884, is the fifth largest fair in the state of California and represents the 21st District Agricultural Association. More than 600,000 people from throughout the State visit The Big Fresno Fair each year making it the largest event in the Central Valley. Members of the Board of Directors include:, Debbie Jacobson, President; Larry Serpa, Vice President; Jerry Pacheco, Secretary/Treasurer; Leta Ciavaglia Elizabeth Hudson; Linda Mae Balakian Hunsucker; Fue “Ricky” Vang; Dora Westerlund and William White. John C. Alkire heads the daily operations in his role as CEO. The 2016 Big Fresno Fair runs October 5 – 16. For more information about The Big Fresno Fair, please visit www.FresnoFair.com.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Debbie Jacobsen Photo
- Fue “Ricky” Vang Photo
- Larry Serpa Photo
- Jerry Pacheco Photo

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