

# MINUTES

## OREGON RACING COMMISSION APRIL 18, 2002

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, April 18, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. for their regular meeting in Room 140 of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR. Commissioners in attendance were Steve Walters, Chair; Tom Towslee, Vice Chair; Lisa Metcalf, Jeff Gilmour and Todd Thorne. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

### **1. Approval of March 21, 2002, Minutes**

ACTION: MOTION(Metcalf) Approve minutes as submitted.  
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **2. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2004**

ACTION: MOTION(Thorne) Approve 2004 meeting dates as submitted.  
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **3. Eastern Oregon Livestock Show 2002 Race Meet Application - June 7, 8 and 9**

Steve Barham stated the average thoroughbred purse amount per race has been changed from \$1100 as shown on the application to \$2000. Related to this agenda item, Dave Nelson presented an updated OQHRA purse account distribution for the summer fair meets that has been approved by their board. The report stated \$300 will be added to each quarter horse race at Union, which means the average purse amount per race would be increased from \$1100 to \$1400. He also stated \$300 has been added to each quarter horse race being run at the Tillamook, Prineville and Harney County meets.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Approve the race meet application with the condition purses be adjusted to reflect amended amounts and delegate authority to the executive director to approve any changes in race meet officials.  
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **4. Tillamook County Fair 2002 Race Meet Application - August 8, 9 and 10**

Steve Barham stated these are their normal race dates, and some of their officials have not yet been determined.

ACTION: MOTION(Gilmour) Approve the race meet application and delegate authority to the executive director to approve additions and any changes in race meet officials.  
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **5. Oregon Greyhound Breeders Association 2002-2003 Proposed Budget**

Vince Bruno was present to answer any questions. Steve Barham recommended approval.

ACTION: MOTION(Metcalf) Approve proposed budget.  
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **6. Acquisition of Portable Stalls Using HUB Funds**

Dave Benson, president, and Dick Cartney, executive director, of the OHBPA were present to provide additional information and answer questions regarding the acquisition of portable stalls to be used by summer race meets and other horse-related events in Oregon. The stalls have already been purchased and will be used in Grants Pass for their race meet. When not being used, Al Westhoff of Josephine County Fair has stated he will store

the stalls inside and out of the weather and free of charge. This matter was placed on the agenda in hopes that at some point in time the OHBPA could be reimbursed for the purchase of these stalls from HUB funds which remain after all the appropriate allocations have been made to the summer race meets. Vice Chair Towslee stated the commission needs to decide what they are going to do with HUB money after the purse needs of the summer fair meets are met. He felt a process needs to be set up where everyone has a deadline in which to submit applications for projects that they would like the commission to fund with what he called "Level Two" HUB funds.

#### **7. At the Request of Commissioner Gilmour Discussion of Having a Commissioner Orientation Session and Scheduling of the Session**

Commissioner Gilmour, as a relatively new commissioner, asked this item be placed on the agenda because it was his opinion that it would be helpful for the new commissioners to have some training so that they have better grasp of not only the industry but of the regulations. One of the items on which he felt they needed education was the HUBs. Chair Walters added he felt this would also help the commissioners to get on the same page in terms of the regulations, the industry and what is going on currently. There are also related issues going on in other states, specifically California, which could have some severe consequences for the industry in Oregon. Following discussion on various aspects of the HUB issue, it was decided to establish a sub-committee comprised of commissioners Tom Towslee and Jeff Gilmour to look at the near term HUB issues, particularly what is going on in California and how it relates to our HUB situation.

Getting back to the orientation session, Chair Walters felt scheduling something of this nature was a good idea. Steve Barham suggested having the orientation at some place other than the State Office Building in the latter part of May. Commissioner Metcalf said May would be better for her than June and suggested the Canby Conference Center as a possible location. It was decided to have staff get a possible location, pick some dates and then contact commissioners to finalize the date.

#### **8. Request by Ron Floyd for Reinstatement of Licenses**

Ron Floyd stated in reality what he really hoped to do was to have the sanctions removed and that it was his understanding that in order to make that request he needed to request reinstatement of his licenses. He said he had no intention of ever having a racing kennel license again and does not intend to race dogs again, however, he would like to be able to obtain a trainer's license in order to have an income. Due to the revocation he has been prohibited from using the public training track which has further hindered his ability to earn a living off his farm. Chair Walters stated there were two issues still up in the air. The first was the incident with the consent to search and the issue of the dead rabbit which was found on the follow-up on the consent to search. An order has been entered by the board of judges on these issues and Mr. Floyd has appealed that order. The second issue has to do with some outstanding financial obligations. Following discussion on these two issues, it was decided to table the request for reinstatement until such time the commission gets a result on the appeal of the board of judges order from the hearings officer in the form of a proposed order. The commission would then be able to act on the proposed order and the request for reinstatement at the same time.

#### **9. Portland Meadows Update**

Carl Wilson reported the Oregon handle is now down 9.3% and simulcating is down 7.8%. Regarding the surface water containment project, they are hoping to have it completed by the first of May. The EPA deadline was the end of May. Steve Barham stated he was at the track yesterday and he wanted to commend Magna and their engineers for having done such a good job on such a massive project. Additionally, there is work going on on the barns themselves. Mr. Barham urged commissioners to take a tour of the backside in order to personally see all the changes that have been made.

#### **10. Confirmation of Next Commission Meeting - May 16, 2002**

Meeting date is okay as scheduled.

#### **11. Comments by Pete Roper, DVM**

Dr. Roper, commission veterinarian, stated he had injured his back in June 2001 while working at the Grants Pass meet, and since that time he has been on a modified work schedule off and on. The agency needs two full-time veterinarians starting with the first part of May, and given the fact that his physician has not released him to go back to full-time work, he will no longer be employed by the agency effective May 6th. He wanted to take this opportunity to bring the commission up to date on what has happened during the course of his tenure with the agency and also to thank some people. Dr. Roper stated he thoroughly enjoyed the job in the last nine years and he couldn't imagine working with a better group of people or a better group of stewards, and he wished the racing industry in Oregon the best. Chair Walters commended Dr. Roper for the contributions he has made to racing by improving relations between the state vets and people in the horse industry and spearheading the change in the lasix rule that has produced the benefits the veterinarians predicted it would have. On behalf of the commission Chair Walters wished him well in his new endeavors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.