



MINUTES

Oregon Racing Commission

August 18, 2011

Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met on Thursday, August 18, 2011 in Room 1A of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Call to Order

Commission Chair Stan Robson called the meeting to order at 12:00pm and announced that the Commission would immediately go into executive session as noticed in the August 18, 2011 agenda.

In Attendance

Commissioners: Chair Stan Robson, Commissioner Michael Huber, DVM, Commissioner Charles Williamson and Commissioner Jan Palmer, DVM

Staff: Randy Evers (Executive Director) and Kelly Gabliks (Assistant Attorney General)

Absent

Vice-Chair Christopher Dudley

Commission Chair Stan Robson called the public portion of the Oregon Racing Commission meeting to order at 1:49pm.

In Attendance

Commissioners: Chair Stan Robson, Vice-Chair Christopher Dudley, Commissioner Michael Huber, DVM, Commissioner Charles Williamson and Commissioner Jan Palmer, DVM

Staff: Randy Evers (Executive Director) and Kelly Gabliks (Assistant Attorney General)

AGENDA ITEMS

Approvals:

August 18, 2011 Meeting Agenda

Action: Motion to approve the agenda as submitted with the addition of the Oregon Quarter Horse Racing Association (OQHRA) added under new business and rescheduling of the service award presentation to former Commissioner Kerry Johnson.

Moved by: Commissioner Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

July 21, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Action: Motion to approve the July 21, 2011 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

Moved by: Commissioner Williamson
Seconded: Commissioner Huber
Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Old Business:

Sub-Committee Update Reports:

- a. Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) and Multi-jurisdictional Hubs
Commissioner Williamson stated that the ADW sub-committee has reviewed “exchange wagering” that was presented by Bet Fair. The ADW sub-committee recommends that the Commission continue to pursue exchange wagering for Oregon by meeting with others in the industry and State to collect more information and discuss this as a possibility for Oregon.
- b. Best Practices
Commission Vice-Chair Dudley stated that the Best Practices questionnaire would be circulated and that there would be a report for the next meeting.
- c. Budget and Hub Funds
Commission Chair Stan Robson stated that there is nothing to report this month.
- d. Medication and Horse Welfare
Commissioner Huber stated that there is a sub-committee meeting scheduled for next month. There is nothing to report this month.
- e. Executive Director’s Report
Executive Director Evers reported that the Tillamook Fair just concluded and everything went really well. As mentioned in the July meeting, Tillamook was planning to make some adjustments to the track, gate and paddock area to accommodate a seven horse field for next year. They had fewer entries this year compared to last year’s numbers. The handle and attendance was also down a little. The Tillamook fair committee may want to revisit weather they will move forward to make the necessary adjustments for a seven horse field. Director Evers stated that the summer fairs will conclude with the Harney County Fair in Burns, Oregon on September 9th, 10th and 11th.

Commissioner Huber asked Director Evers whether the numbers of horses were down at other venues. Director Evers stated that Grants Pass’ numbers were down a little bit as well. Prineville’s numbers were average for them, with full fields.

Director Evers stated that he wanted to report on the follow up from the July meeting regarding the “Future of Racing in Oregon” stakeholder and industry group meeting that has been scheduled. Director Evers stated that he is very excited about this meeting and those participating have expressed enthusiasm. The ORC has hired a professional facilitator to facilitate the meetings which will be held September 14th and October 12th. The stakeholders’ group includes members from The Oregon Horseman’s Benevolence and Protective Association (OHBPA), Oregon Thoroughbred Owner’s and Breeder’s Association (OTOBA), Portland Meadows (PM), Oregon Quarter Horse Racing Association (OQHRA), the summer fairs, the ADW companies and the Oregon Racing Commission (with two Commissioners, Commissioner Williamson and Vice-Chair Dudley, serving at this meeting). It has been asked that three representatives from each group attend this meeting. Each group is in the process of identifying their

representatives. The ORC is looking forward to participating in this collaborative process in hope of productive and successful meetings.

Director Evers stated that the stakeholder meeting for the revision of the administrative rules was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2011. It was well attended and the revision of the rules has been sent out. The public rules hearing will be on September 15, 2011 at 10:30am before the regular Commission meeting. Commissioner Williamson will serve as the hearings officer.

Director Evers stated that across the nation discussion continues within the industry to ban race day medication. This is a highly emotional topic; both pro and con. The horse medication and welfare sub-committee will meet in September to discuss this issue and will bring their recommendation(s) to the Commission.

New Business:

Oregon Quarter Horse Racing Association (OQHRA):

Leah Nelson of the OQHRA requested permission to distribute the owner's bonuses and breeder's awards from the Portland Meadows race meet that were identified in the letter she drafted and presented to the Commissioners.

Action: Motion to approve the OQHRA owner's and breeder's bonuses and awards for distribution as presented in the report.

Moved by: Commissioner Williamson

Seconded: Commission Huber

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Information, Materials and Approvals:

None

Contested Cases:

Proposed Order – Clifford Balcom

Assistant Attorney General Kelly Gabliks presented the Balcom case to the Commissioners stating the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) had overturned the Stewards' decision to change the order of finish in the race that Clifford Balcom's horse "ICWHATYOURLOOKINAT" ran. The Stewards, after review of the race video, found that there was a foul caused by Mr. Balcom's horse and jockey that led to the decision. Ms. Gabliks stated that the Commissioners had been provided with the actual race footage and transcripts from the hearing for review to help them determine if the ALJ's decision should be reversed.

Action: Motion to reverse the decision/order of the Administrative Law Judge.

Moved by: Commissioner Huber

Seconded: Commission Williamson

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Other Business As May Properly Come Before the Commission:

None

Public Comment:

None

Confirmation of the Next Commission Meeting:

Thursday, September 15, 2011 Room 1A of the Portland State Office Building at 1:30 pm.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.