



MINUTES

Oregon Racing Commission June 20, 2013

Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met on Thursday, June 20, 2013 in Room 1E of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Call to Order

Commission Chair, Chris Dudley, called the meeting to order at 1:32pm.

In Attendance

Commissioners: Chair Chris Dudley, Vice-Chair Charles Williamson, Commissioner Jan Palmer, DVM, Commissioner Michael Huber, DVM and Commissioner Angel Baez

Staff

Jack McGrail, Executive Director and Kelly Gabliks, Assistant Attorney General

AGENDA ITEMS

Approvals:

June 20, 2013 Meeting Agenda

Action: Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

Moved by: Commission Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

May 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Action: Motion to approve the May 7, 2013 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

Moved by: Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Old Business:

Commission Appointments:

Commission Chair Dudley welcomed the ORC's newly appointed Commissioner, Angel Baez, to service on the Commission and asked him to tell the group about himself. Commissioner Baez

stated that he was born and raised in Mexico and came to Oregon to play professional soccer and then later opened a Restaurant named Los Baez located in Salem, OR.

Commission Chair Dudley thanked Commissioner Stan Robson for his years of service and dedication to the Oregon Racing Commission. Commissioner Robson could not be present.

Commission Chair Dudley welcomed the ORC's newly appointed Executive Director, Jack McGrail and asked him to tell the group about himself. Executive Director McGrail stated that he came from the position of Executive Director of the Horseman's Association in New Mexico, prior to that he practiced law in the city of Boston. He stated that he is very excited to be here in Portland and to be working for the Oregon Racing Commission.

Sub-Committee Update Reports:

a. **Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) and Multi-jurisdictional Hubs**

Commission Vice-Chair Williamson stated that the sub-committee met prior to the meeting and that Jill Miller would be presenting the Totalizator and ADW annual license reviews later in the meeting. During the sub-committee meeting the group discussed how to implement a way to provide temporary licensing at a lower cost for employees of companies that hire a large number of temporary people for just a few days. Commission Vice-Chair Williamson stated that the ORC will explore this further and will have more information at the next meeting.

b. **Best Practices**

Commission Chair Dudley stated that he did not have a report this month. He requested that the Commissioners meet at the end of public session at the July meeting. He stated that this would be a Commissioner's discussion of the ORC's Best Practices.

c. **Budget and Hub Funds**

Commissioner Palmer stated that the sub-committee did not meet this month.

d. **Medication and Horse Welfare**

Commissioner Huber stated that the sub-committee did not meet this month. He stated that the next sub-committee meeting is scheduled prior to the August ORC Commission meeting and that he will have a report at that time.

e. **Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Jack McGrail stated that HB 2613, the Instant Racing Bill, had been signed by the Governor and is scheduled to go into effect January 2014. He stated that the next steps are to prepare documents with proposed rules for instant racing that the ORC will review for approval. Director McGrail stated that HB 2614 has stalled and it appears that it will not move forward this session.

Executive Director Jack McGrail stated that the ORC budget was approved and acknowledged former ORC Executive Director, Randy Evers and ORC Administrative and Program Coordinator Nancy Artmann for their work.

Director McGrail stated that the ORC Tote Auditor position is open and that the ORC hopes to fill it next week. He stated that Jill Miller, the ORC's ADW manger has been doing both jobs during this recruitment time frame.

Director McGrail reported that the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (EOLS) went very well. There was a significant increase in the handle from \$32,403.00 in 2012 to \$40,296.00 in 2013. The community is very grateful for funds they receive from the ORC to run their meet. He stated that the weekend was a lot of fun for those who attended.

Director McGrail reported that Southern Oregon Horse Racing Association (SOHRA), who took charge of the Grants Pass, OR meet, increased their handle over last year's meet in the first two days. He stated they are doing a great job and are very appreciative of the help they have received from the ORC to run their race meet. They did have to scratch a horse from a race due to not having enough jockeys. They hope to have additional riders for the coming weekend.

f. **Future of Racing in Oregon Group (FROG) update**

Commissioner Palmer stated that the FROG group met and had considerable discussion regarding HB 2613 and HB 2614. The group also discussed the jockey incentive program. She stated that Ron Sutton came up with the idea on how to get the jockeys paid daily. She stated that it won't happen this year but they are going to work on implementing daily pay for next year. Commissioner Palmer stated that the group discussed planning events to have throughout the race meet. She stated that there will be more to come on what type of events as they develop.

g. **Oregon Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association (OHBPA)**

The OHBPA Executive Director, Randy Evers, stated that the OHBPA and Portland Meadows have come to an agreement on the 2013-2014 race meet. The OHBPA has unanimously approved the contract with PM for the 2013-2014 season. He stated that the horsemen are excited about some of the provisions of the contract, one being that bottom purses are now \$5,000.00. This is a significant increase in the purses. He stated that the race meet will run through January 26, 2014. He stated that the backside will remain open until the first part of February 2014. OHBPA Director Evers stated that these are a few of the positive things in the contract. He stated that the OHBPA supports PM and has agreed to 49 days of live racing with 484 races to be run. He stated that the OHBPA is petitioning the Commission to approve the PM race meet license with this number of races, race days and race dates.

Commissioner Huber asked if the bedding issue has been resolved. Mr. Evers stated that they have agreed to use straw or pellets for this year. He stated that removal of the used straw is getting very expensive for PM. PM has agreed to pay half of the additional increase in cost to remove the straw and the OHBPA will be requesting approval from the Commission to use some of the backside improvement fund to pay the other half of that increase.

Action: Motion to approve the petition from the OHBPA to approve the race dates number of races (484) and number of race days (49).

Moved by: Commissioner Huber

Seconded: Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

New Business:

Annual ADW Review Approval:

ORC Executive Director Jack McGrail stated that the ORC ADW & Mutuels manager, Jill Miller, reviewed all the updated material provided by each ADW that is required for their annual review. He stated that Ms. Miller is satisfied with the information provided.

Tote Company Annual License Renewals:

ADW manager Jill Miller stated that the tote companies are licensed annually. As such, she has completed a full review and due diligence checklist for each company. She stated that, based on her findings, she recommends all four Tote companies for approval; AmTote, Intermountain Tote, SporTech and United Tote.

Action: Motion to approve AmTote, Intermountain Tote, SporTech and United Tote for 2013-2014 license approval.

Moved by: Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Portland Meadows License Approval:

Jill Miller, ADW and Mutuels Manager, stated that Will Alempijevic has provided everything that is required for her to make a recommendation for approval. She stated that there are two items that don't expire until after the license has been approved and, in the past, Mr. Alempijevic provided copies to her as soon as he receives the renewal document. These items are the Liability Insurance renewal and the Surety Bond renewal.

Mr. Alempijevic stated that PM is very excited to have another race meet. PM plans a big event for opening day on July 21, 2013 and hopes to have other events throughout the rest of the meet. The "Portland Mile Day" is on September 2, 2013 and this will be another big day at PM. Oregon Championship Day is the biggest day for PM and that is on the same day as last year; November 17, 2013.

Mr. Alempijevic stated that he has included a marketing plan with PMs' race meet application. He stated that PM is grateful to the entire industry for helping make this race meet come together.

Assistant Attorney General Kelly Gabliks stated that she would like a correction made to the PM application. She stated that the days of racing needed to be changed from 60 to 49.

Action: Motion to approve Portland Meadows for 2013-2014 race meet license approval with the condition that PM provides ORC Executive Director, Jack McGrail, with copies of the surety bond and liability insurance renewals when they are issued.

Moved by: Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Information, Materials and Approvals:

None

Contested Cases:

None

Other Business As May Properly Come Before the Commission:

None

Public Comment:

None

Confirmation of the Next Commission Meeting:

The next ORC meeting will be Thursday, July 11, 2013, at 12:00pm in the meeting room of the Stafford Inn located at 1773 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR

Adjournment:

Action: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:12pm

Moved by: Vice-Chair Williamson

Seconded: Commissioner Huber

Vote: Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 5 Ayes, 0 Nays