



## MINUTES

### Oregon Racing Commission February 20, 2014

#### Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met on Thursday, February 20, 2014 in Room 1A 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 1:30pm

#### In Attendance

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

#### Staff

Kelly Gabliks, Assistant Attorney General

#### Excused

Commissioner Michael Huber, DVM  
Jack McGrail, Executive Director

## AGENDA ITEMS

#### Approvals:

##### **February 20, 2014 Meeting Agenda**

**Action:** Motion to approve the agenda with one change to remove executive session.

**Moved by:** Commission Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

##### **January 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**Action:** Motion to approve the January 16, 2014 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Old Business:

Sub-Committee Update Reports:

- a. Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) and Multi-jurisdictional Hubs  
No Report
- b. Best Practices  
No Report
- c. Budget and Hub Funds  
No Report
- d. Medication and Horse Welfare  
No Report
- e. Executive Director's Report  
No Report
- f. Future of Racing in Oregon Group (FROG) update  
Commissioner Jan Palmer stated that she did not attend the meeting and asked if someone who did attend would like to report. Randy Boden of Amwest stated that the group talked about how to clarify some rule language. He stated that the group would like to revisit working on how to reduce the one-third of hub the funds that is currently going to the state general fund. He reported that the group plans to do some administrative housekeeping at the next meeting.
- g. Portland Meadows Report (PM)  
Will Alempijevic General Manager of PM was present to give the PM report. He stated that for the 2012 race meet PM ran from mid July thru the beginning of December. In 2013-2014 PM made a few adjustments in the length of the race meet. He stated that PM extended the race meet to run thru the end of January. PM worked closely and in conjunction with the stakeholders and in particular, the Oregon Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (OHBPA). He stated that because of the support from the OHBPA Portland Meadows was able to raise bottom purse amounts to \$5,000.00. This was a 66% increase over last year's bottom purse amounts. Mr. Alempijevic reported that with the purse increase, the field size went up and the product was better. Because of having a better product, PM was able to get into more markets, customer wagering went up and the handle went up along with the payouts.  
  
Mr. Alempijevic reported that PM ran 48 race days with one partial cancelation versus last race meet of 58 race days and two partial cancelations. He stated that field size for this race meet was 7.56 starters per race versus 6.72 last year. This is an increase of 12.5%.  
  
Mr. Alempijevic stated that the total purses paid this year were \$2,700,000.00 versus last year's \$2,300,000.00. This is a 38% increase when you factor the length of the race meet. This year PM paid out over \$56,000.00 per day in purses versus just under \$41,000.00 last year. He stated that the average daily on track handle this year was \$35,000.00 versus just under \$29,000.00 last year. This is an increase of 22% year over year. PM's off-track betting sites (OTBs) earned \$5200.00 per day this year versus \$4500.00 last year. This is an increase of 17%.

Mr. Alempijevic stated that export sales increased by 55% year over year with an average daily basis of \$427,000.00 versus \$275,000.00 last year. He stated that PM was very happy with the 2013-2014 race meet.

Mr. Alempijevic stated that Oregon wagering for all products from January 1, 2014 thru February 16, 2014 (approximately six weeks of data) that the on track wagers were \$1,800,000.00 versus \$1,700,000.00 last year. He stated that the 11% increase is due to having live racing thru January.

Mr. Alempijevic stated that the OTBs are down 23.77% this year versus last year. This year's OTB handle is \$1,400,000.00 versus last year's handle of \$1,900,000.00. This is due to one OTB closure and the inclement weather in February.

New Business:

**Request for Approval of Summer Race Dates (Form A):**

a) **Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (EOLS) – Union, OR**

Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC presented application Form A requesting races dates for EOLS. He stated that there were a couple of corrections that the ORC staff would take care of and that he recommended approval.

**Action:** Motion to approve race meet application Form A with the requested race dates of June 6, 7 & 8, 2014 for EOLS as submitted with staff to make the necessary clerical corrections.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

b) **Southern Oregon Horse Racing Association (SOHRA) – Grants Pass, OR**

Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC presented application Form A requesting races dates for SOHRA. He stated that the application was in order and that he recommended approval.

Rod Lowe, Director of Racing for SOHRA stated that they have raised purses this year to \$2300.00 and are looking forward to having a successful race meet. He stated that they will also be offering mule races. Chair Dudley requested the end of race meet report from last year to be submitted. Mr. Lowe stated that he would forward it to the ORC.

**Action:** Motion to approve race meet application Form A with the requested race dates of June 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29 and July 4, 5 & 6, 2014 for SOHRA as submitted.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

c) **Crooked River Round-Up (CRRU) – Prineville, OR**

Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC presented application Form A requesting races dates for CRRU. He stated that the application was in order and that he recommended approval.

**Action:** Motion to approve race meet application Form A with the requested race dates of July 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2014 for CRRU as submitted.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

d) **Tillamook County Fair (TCF) – Tillamook, OR**

Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC presented application Form A requesting races dates for Tillamook County fair. He stated that the application was in order and that he recommended approval.

**Action:** Motion to approve race meet application Form A with the requested race dates of August 6, 7, 8 & 9, 2014 for TCF as submitted.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

e) **Harney County Fair (HCF) – Burns, OR**

Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC presented application Form A requesting races dates for the Harney County fair. He stated that there were a couple of corrections that the ORC staff would take care of and that he recommended approval.

**Action:** Motion to approve race meet application Form A with the requested race dates of September 5, 6 & 7, 2014 for HCF with staff to make the necessary clerical corrections.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Vice-Chair Charles Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Chair Dudley asked the Commissioners if they wanted to meet at the Harney County fair on Friday, September 5, 2014 in Burns, OR for the September ORC monthly meeting. Commission Vice-Chair Williamson stated that he would not be able to attend. Commissioners Palmer and Baez agreed that they would be able to attend.

**Information, Materials and Approvals:**

None

**Contested Cases:**

**Proposed Order with Options Memo – Chesmore:**

Kelly Gabliks, Assistant Attorney General presented the order and options memo for the Gail Chesmore case. She stated that Ms. Chesmore entered a horse to run at Grants Pass Downs. Her horse was supposed to run on Flunixin also known as Banamine according to her entry. This medication is allowed as long as it is administered 24 hours before the horse runs. Ms. Chesmore made the arrangements with her vet and her groom to give the Banamine at the appropriate time because she could not be present. The groom forgot about the appointment so the vet did not give the medication. This was a violation because the program stated that the horse would be running on Banamine. On the day of the race Ms. Chesmore learned that her horse had not received the medication. She asked her vet to give the horse a small amount by

mouth to try to achieve an acceptable level in the horse should the horse need to be tested. This was also a violation because the timeframe that the medication was being administered was now shorter than the allowable 24 hours prior to racing rule. The horse won the race, was tested and the Banamine levels tested to high. The Board of Stewards (BOS) imposed their maximum penalty of \$500.00 because this was an intentional day of racing violation. This is consistent with practice and they did take into consideration that she had never had a violation in the past. The BOS did not impose additional penalty of a suspension.

Commissioner Palmer asked what Ms. Chesmore's options would have been in this situation. Martin Hamilton, Presiding Steward for the ORC stated that she should have scratched the horse.

**Action:** To adopt the proposed order as written.

**Moved by:** Vice-Chair Charlie Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Jan Palmer

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

**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, March 20, 2014, at 1:30pm in Room 1A of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR 97232

**Adjournment:**

**Action:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:11pm

**Moved by:** Vice-Chair Charlie Williamson

**Seconded:** Commissioner Angel Baez

**Vote:** Chair Dudley took roll and the results were unanimous with 4 Ayes, 0 Nays