



Minutes
Oregon Racing Commission
February 19th, 2026

Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met at 1:30 PM on February 19th, 2026, via Microsoft Teams videoconference.

Call to Order, Roll Call and Mission Statement:

Chair Doherty called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM, and Karen Parkman conducted roll call.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Chair Margaret Doherty, Vice Chair Quinn Berry, Commissioners Lindsay Fowler, and Marc Kinsley, DVM.

Staff: Connie Winn, Executive Director; Karen Parkman, Director of Administration, Kelly Routt, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

Excused: Commissioner Harvey Stein, DVM

Approvals:

Meeting Agenda

Action: Approve February 2026 meeting agenda, with the change of postponing item 6(a) – EIA testing to the March meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Kinsley, DVM

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

Meeting Minutes

Action: Approve January 2026 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Commissioner Kinsley

Second: Commissioner Berry

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director’s Report – Director Winn:

Director Winn reported Presiding Steward Mike Twiggs is working on safety initiatives for Tillamook Country Fair to improve their paddock. The short legislative session will conclude by the March Commission meeting and a full report will be given then. Due to forecast budget

constraints, the ORC will not be requesting to retain the 25% that currently goes to the general fund in the 2027-29 legislative budget.

Notices will be sent out to horsemen/women concerning upcoming rule changes following the March meeting on the topics of allowable limits on NSAIDs, Coggins (EIA) test requirements, increased fines and licensing fees, and updated contact information for the Senior Veterinarian, Presiding Steward, and Chief Investigator.

The final vote on the Coggins rule has been postponed until the March meeting at Commissioner Stein's request. Director Winn stated that she supports the 12-month window for Coggins testing but has other concerns regarding a lack of proof of vaccination records and proper quarantine areas. An advisory meeting will be conducted in the future. Dr. Ross will also be announcing some days in May when she will be available to examine and work horses off the vet's list. Finally, Administrative Specialist, Maleah Thom, is working on a large ADA required project to convert all website documents to HTML files which is due in April.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible approval to begin the rule making process for OAR 462-150-0010(5)(a) – Minimum Official Workout Time - Director Winn

This rule will make the workout requirements for Thoroughbreds consistent with Quarter Horses and remove the need for emergency temporary rule changes when the season starts late as it in 2025 and this year.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for OAR 462-150-0010(5)(a).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Kinsley, DVM

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

Rule Hearing Report – Karen Parkman

Karen Parkman reported that a rule hearing was conducted on January 21st, where at she served as the Hearing's Officer, for the proposed rules OAR 462-140-0320 (6)(i) and OAR 462-140-0130 (28)(h). There were no public attendees at the hearing for either rule, only ORC staff. Maleah Thom read into the record the two written comments received for OAR 462-140-0320 (6)(i) concerning Coggins testing. Presiding Steward Twiggs commented on OAR 462-140-0130 (28)(h) concerning track warning systems that he would like the language to include "readily accessible", so that the rule would read "All racetracks shall install and have readily accessible an emergency track warning system on all racing and training tracks. The warning system must be approved by the Oregon Racing Commission." Steward Twiggs also delivered a comment from the Jockey's Guild stating they are okay relying on outriders to warn jockeys of track issues, but if a warning system is in place they prefer the use of lights over a sound system.

Discussion and possible approval to adopt OAR 462-140-0130 (28)(h): Emergency Warning Systems - Director Winn

Director Winn recommended adopting the rule, with the allowance that the outriders are an acceptable warning system until funds are available for the ORC to assist the tracks in installing a light warning system. She will also add the proposed added language from Steward Twiggs.

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-140-0130 (28)(h).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Berry

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

Review and possible approval of: - Director Winn

A. ORC Dust Storm Policy

While none of the Oregon tracks are at a high risk of dust storms, this policy is part of a disaster preparedness project Micah Lloyd is working on, and a good idea to have in place just in case. Director Winn recommending approving.

Action: Approval to adopt the ORC Dust Storm Policy.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Kinsley, DVM

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

B. ORC Auditing Charter

This policy formally outlines auditing procedures already in place and being used by the ORC staff.

Action: Approval to adopt the ORC Auditing Charter.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Berry

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

C. ORC Disaster Recovery Plan

This is a plan required by the state of Oregon. It includes things already found in the ORC Continuity of Operations Plan and Strategic Planning, into one clear policy pertaining to disaster recovery. Commissioner Kinsley pointed out a minor misprint in the document which Director Winn will correct.

Action: Approval to adopt the ORC Disaster Recovery Plan, with the correction.

Moved by: Commissioner Berry

Second: Commissioner Kinsley, DVM

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Randy Boden, Executive Director of the Oregon HBPA, reported that the Fair Bill received some comments from Lottery and would be going to Revenue rather than to Ways and Means. They will be presenting testimony on Monday morning.

Kelly Barnett presented some personal court cases she involved in as a racehorse breeder regarding HISA and confidentiality of veterinary records which she felt the industry should be aware of. Chair Doherty thanked her for making her concerns known, though they do not deal with the ORC directly.

CONTESTED CASES:

Final Order by Default Suspending License; Imposing Civil Penalties, and Notice of Right to Appeal – Ricardo Mariles-Santos

AAG Kelly Rountt reported a notice was issued to Mariles-Santos concerning a proposed license suspension and civil penalties for two alleged violations occurring at races in summer of 2025. He did not request a hearing and is held at default.

Action: Approval to accept final order of default to Ricardo Mariles-Santos.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Berry

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (4:0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission entered executive session at 2:17 pm pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f), for the Commission to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection under ORS 192.345(2) and OAR 462-220-0070 regarding proprietary information and/or trade secrets. The Commission returned to regular session at 2:33 pm.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next commission meeting is scheduled for **March 19th, 2026**, at 1:30 P.M. remotely via Microsoft Teams.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M.