



Minutes
Oregon Racing Commission
January 15th, 2026

Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met at 1:30 PM on January 15th, 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 Harvey Stein, DVM.

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

Excused: Commissioner Marc Kinsley

Approvals:

Meeting Agenda

Action: Approve January 2026 meeting agenda, adding a Budget Committee report to old business.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

Meeting Minutes

Action: Approve November 2025 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Commissioner Stein, DVM

Second: Commissioner Fowler

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

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Director Winn:

Director Winn introduced the new Senior Veterinarian, Dr. Carly Ross, DVM. Currently the budget forecast looks positive. Oregon continues to set itself apart as the gold standard for ADW regulation, and some new rules will be presented during the meeting which have been requested by the ADW's. The ORC is still looking for a new database but is working with Indiana who has

an in-house database that may work. Finally, the results of the Director 360 Review and staff Gallup poll are in and will be reported on during the meeting.

Director Winn gave an update on the lawsuit between Churchill Downs and Michigan. At this point there are no immediate effects on Oregon licensing, but it could have positive (for the ADWs) and negative (for individual states) impacts in the future.

Budget Committee Report

Chair Doherty reported that the Budget Committee met earlier that morning and discussed Director Winn going to the emergency board (e-board) this legislative session to request increasing limitations on expenditures. Director Winn explained that the commission has the funds, but due to current spending limits, the ORC cannot use the funds. Chair Doherty recommended a vote to authorize Director Winn to go to the e-board to request increased limitations so the funds can be accessed for the benefit of the industry.

Action: Approve Director Winn requesting increased limitations on spending for current ORC funds.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible approval to begin the rule making process for the following rules: -

Director Winn

Director Winn reported that all these rules were brought forward by the ADWs to ensure Oregon remains the gold standard. There will be an advisory committee meeting for more feedback in February.

A. OAR 462-220-0085 (proposed) – Prohibited associations with non-compliant vendors

This rule ensures no ADW is doing business with a bad actor who might damage the reputation of the whole industry.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for OAR 462-220-0085.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

B. OAR 462-220-0010(3)(4)(8) – Amendment; Defines: Customers, White Labels, Authorized Wagering Partners, and Non-compliant Vendors

These amendments add clarifying language to the listed definitions.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for OAR 462-220-0010(3)(4)(8).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

C. OAR 462-220-0030 – Amendment; Changes name of Affiliate to Authorized Wagering Partner

This change is due to Affiliate meaning different things in different jurisdictions. Changing the name to Authorized Wagering Partner will better reflect how Oregon defines their Affiliate licensees.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for OAR 462-220-0030.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

D. Payment due date source market fee

This rule would create a deadline for source market fee payments, which are payments made directly to the associations by the ADWs if they receive a wager from an Oregon resident. This rule is being proposed because there have been some issues with the payments being made in a timely manner.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for payment due date of source market fees.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein

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

Discussion and possible approval to adopt the following rules: - Director Winn

A. OAR 462-200-0360 (1) – OTB License Requirements

Removes requirements for individual licenses at OTBs to the general manager or owner, and the person doing those duties. This is due to OTBs using tote machines as opposed to tellers.

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-200-0360 (1).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

B. OAR 462-220-0030 (6) – Increase Daily Fees

Aligns fees to match the current statute for individual licensing fee of \$225.

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-220-0030 (6).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

C. **OAR 462-220-0030 (3)(f) – Adds requirements for affiliates background and SLA’s**

a. **Proposed updates**

Requires background checks for affiliate licenses.

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-220-0030 (3)(f).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

D. **OAR 462-220-0040 (4)(5) – Cleans up language and addresses non-merged pools**

a. **Proposed updates**

Cleans up the language and clarifies how fee changes will be communicated.

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-220-0040 (4)(5).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

E. **OAR 462-220-0050 (1)(b) – Clarifies non-merged pools reimbursements for ORC expenses**

a. **Proposed updates**

Cleans up language and changes a flat rate 1% fee to “the Commission may require reimbursement of any oversight of non-merged pools.”

Action: Approval to adopt OAR 462-220-0050 (1)(b).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

Review and possible approval of: - Director Winn

A. **ORC Dust Storm Policy**

Micah Lloyd reported that this policy is in the draft stages and defines who is responsible to make decisions, when action should be taken, and operational response levels in the case of a dust storm that could negatively impact racing. Public feedback included adding wind speed and temperature, in addition to particulates, in the conditions. This policy will

continue being worked on and presented again for more feedback at the next commission meeting.

B. ORC Auditing Charter

This document describes the responsibilities and auditing standards of each commission staff member who performs auditing duties. The Commissioners will further review and approve at the next commission meeting.

C. ORC Disaster Recovery Plan

This document is part of the Continuation of Operation Plan required by the state. It details potential risk factors and what staff should do in certain scenarios. Director Winn clarified that this plan is specifically for ORC staff, not fairground or racing staff, and also covers a lot of activities staff may encounter outside of being on the grounds at a racetrack. It is a 12-page plan that covers all emergency planning for the staff.

D. ORC Conflict of Interest Policy

This policy has existed for a while, but was never formalized by the commission. It defines conflict of interest, and activities staff and contract staff cannot participate in while working for the commission.

Action: Approval of ORC Conflict of Interest Policy

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein, DVM

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

Request redistribution/approval of Grant Money for HRA Jockey Room Repairs – Rod Lowe

Rod Lowe reported that the funds approved by the ORC to repair the HRA Jockey Room last year, ended up being around \$10k over what they used. He requested that those excess funds be reallocated to be used to make repairs to the paddock roof and weight room canopy. Rod clarified that the estimate for repairs is \$9.8k and the exact amount of ORC funding left is \$9.7k. He would cover any additional costs out of pocket.

Action: Approval to reallocate leftover HRA Jockey Room funds for repairs to the HRA paddock and weight room.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Second: Commissioner Stein

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

Director 360 Review and Gallup Employee Survey Report – Director Winn

Director Winn reported that the Gallup survey is done annually, and this year was the start for the Director 360 reviews. The 360 review was sent out to 6075 different people including industry

partners, other agencies, and others. 25 results were received. Most of the category responses were “exceeds expectations” and “acceptable”. 2 people submitted “unacceptable” for “This individual fosters an inclusive workplace environment” but the survey does not give space for further details. Director Winn will work on improving this area.

The Gallup survey is staff only. This year, it did include some seasonal employees. Categories that scored lower than last year were:

- “I have the materials and supplies I need to do my job”
- “Is there someone at work who encourages my development”

No one said yes to having a best friend at work, which was one of the questions.

Categories that received higher scores than last year were:

- “I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day”,
- “In the last 7 days, I have received recognition for my work”,
- “My manager or someone at work cares about me as a person”
- “The mission or purpose of my agency makes me feel that my job is important.”

All staff still reported yes for:

- “My coworkers are committed to doing quality work”
- “In the last year I have had the opportunity to at work to learn and grow”.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rod Lowe suggested changing the deadline for source market from 30 days to 60 days. He also reported that, pending ORC approval at a future meeting, the fall race meet dates will be September 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28, October 4, 5, 11, and 12. Horses should be able to move in on September 5th and start training on the 9th. For the summer SOHRA meet, move in date is looking like May 1st with training starting on May 4th.

CONTESTED CASES

None.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 P.M.