



Minutes
Oregon Racing Commission
Thursday, March 19, 2026

Meeting Detail

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

Call to Order, Roll Call and Mission Statement:

Chair Margaret 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 Harvey Stein, DVM, and Lindsay Fowler.

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

Excused: None

Approvals:

Meeting Agenda

Action: Approve meeting agenda.

Moved by: Commissioner Stein

Seconded: Commissioner Fowler

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (5:0).

Meeting Minutes

a) February 2026 Minutes

Action: Approve February meeting minutes.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Kinsley

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (5:0).

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Director Winn:

Director Winn introduced DraftKings, who is seeking ADW licensure. She also announced the addition of two new ADW service partners and the on boarding of a third. The ORC will be going to the E Board in May to seek an increase to 2025-27 spending limits. The 2027 budget is being

worked on, with key legislative concepts aligned with the Governor's office which include removing annual Greyhound handle reporting, and increasing the Commission's statutory cap and Steward's Civil penalty cap to be aligned and expand the Steward's authority. The ORC is working with OTOBA to create a mandate that requires at least one race for Oregon-bred Thoroughbreds per race meet. Section 38A of House Bill 5204 allocates \$1 million via the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) directly to the county fairs, including Harney County which last raced in 2019. With this funding, Harney County is hoping to acquire the equipment needed and apply this fall to hold a race meet in July 2027. Funds go directly to the fairs, not to ORC and do not support establishing new race meets. The ORC will be working on an unfunded mandate for the \$182k that will be incurred. Director Winn also thanked Micah Lloyd for his work on the licensing database migration.

Dr Stein asked if the fair money can be used for purses. Director Winn said that the language was not completely clear on how the money could be spent or if there was a timeline it had to be used within. Those questions still need to be answered. Further, she did have two calls with Harney County, and it sounds like they are in better shape to return to racing than previously thought. However, the question of how much it will take to get them running again is still in the air.

Medication and Safety Committee Report – Commissioner Fowler

Commissioner Fowler reported that the Medication and Safety Committee had met earlier that morning. They discussed vaccination requirements, specifically for flu rhino and equine herpes vaccines, that would be required within 40 days of attending an ORC sanctioned race meet. The discussion covered challenges with tracking vaccines and implementing requirements, as well as possible Google forms that could be used to make tracking easier. Connie Erickson has brought up that horses coming from Emerald Downs will already be vaccinated, so potential of over vaccination should be taken into consideration. Commissioner Fowler stated she felt vaccine requirements are important and necessary, but she believes it will be a slow process and require continued discussion before a rule can be made. She reported that the committee also discussed laws outside the ORC that require facilities hosting equine events to have a quarantine plan in place. This is a discussion that will need to be carried out with each race facility.

Commissioner Stein, DVM added that after the meeting he had a thought that the ORC could implement a rule that states the horses must be up to date on influenza and EHV vaccines prior to entering the grounds of an ORC race event, and it is the ORC's preference that those vaccines are given within 45-60 days of arrival. There could be a place on their stall application or such that the horsemen must declare the horses are up to date. Commissioner Berry asked if this would cause issues with other jurisdictions, as he did not want to see horsemen facing conflicting requirements across multiple race jurisdictions. Commissioner Fowler clarified that it would not, and supported Commissioner Stein's proposal.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and possible approval of new ADW DraftKings – Micah Lloyd, Director of Mutuals

Micah Lloyd introduced Draft Kings, which has been operating in Oregon as a service partner under Churchill Downs since early 2023 and has now applied for an Oregon license as an independent ADW. The application is for a 5 year license through 2031. A full review of their license was conducted between February 27th and March 17th, 2026, including a pre-deployment audit and on-site review on March 10th and 11th. All required documentation and disclosures have been provided. Mr. Lloyd highlighted Draft King’s responsible gaming program which reflects a high standard of industry best practices. He recommended approval of Draft King’s ADW license application contingent on completion of background checks for Oregon based staff.

Chris Cipolla, General Manager of Draft Kings, thanked the commission for the opportunity to grow as a business and support the sport. Director Winn seconded Micah Lloyd’s recommendation.

Action: Approval of Draft King’s ADW license application contingent on the completion of staff background checks.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Stein

Vote: Commissioners voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (5:0)

Discussion and possible approval to begin the rulemaking process for the following: - Director Winn

a) OAR 462-140-0320 (6)(h) Immunizations

Commissioner Stein, DVM recommended postponing this to next month’s meeting as the current proposed language no longer matched what the Medication and Safety Committee was proposing. Director Winn recommended that the commissioners approve that she put together a policy that at least requires horsemen to vouch that their horses are up to date on immunizations and get the word out on what is expected. Commissioner Fowler supported that idea. No vote was taken.

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

a) OAR 462-140-0320 (6)(i) EIA testing requirements

Commissioner Stein, DVM voiced his opposition to changing EIA testing requirements from 6 months to 1 year. He reported on 32 positive cases in North America in the last 3 months, stating many were Quarter Horses with ties to racing. He does not feel the commission should change the 6-month requirement just because a couple horses had to be scratched last year for not having current Coggins. Commissioner Stein added that if people are worried about added cost, they could have a Coggins done in April to race in Oregon and still go to Arizona and Washington, which both have 1-year requirements, on the same Coggins and just renew once a year just before coming back to Oregon.

Commissioner Kinsley, DVM suggested keeping the 1-year requirement, but adding a requirement that it must be done within a certain window of coming to Oregon, for example

done alongside spring vaccines. Then it would meet both a 1-year requirement but be fresh for protecting Oregon horses. Commissioner Berry asked if that makes any difference from a 6-month requirement, which simply requires the horses be tested within 6 months of racing in Oregon, not that they must be tested every 6 months. Dr. Kinsley clarified that it would not, it is just different language to appease both sides. Commissioner Stein, DVM approved of Commissioner Kinsley's suggestion. Commissioner Fowler voiced that she felt the commission was over complicating the issue and making it more difficult for the horsemen. She recommended returning to the 1-year language. Commissioner Kinsley, DVM clarified that if the language was within 60 days of the race season starting, it would still be once a year. However, Commissioner Fowler argued that horses in neighboring jurisdictions may be getting Coggins just outside that window for other race meets, forcing multiple tests in a short period. Commissioner Berry asked if it was possible to get local vets to sponsor a "Coggins month" or something to encourage clients to get Coggins tests during the desired time frame. Commissioner Stein, DVM stated that would be really complicated with many out of state participants. His primary concern is Quarter Horses coming from match races to do futurities that are not getting regular Coggins for Emerald Downs, etc.

Director Winn supported Commissioner Kinsley's suggestion. Commissioner Fowler came to the defense of Quarter Horses, as did Dr. Alice Lombard, neither wanting to see a breed being blamed. Dr. Lombard further supported the 1-year language as it is in line with neighboring jurisdictions. Leah Nelson thanked both for defending Quarter Horses. Rod Lowe further commented that, with respect to Commissioner Stein, he felt this issue had been discussed enough. That he felt the consensus from previous meetings was 1-year and the stall applications at Grants Pass Downs already reflected the 1-year language. Connie Erikson, President of OTOBA, commented that she personally did not mind a 6-month Coggins rule, but she did feel it did not make sense for horsemen who travel here from outside jurisdictions, which all have 1-year rules. Randy Boden, Executive Director of the OHBPA, reminded the commission of his previous comments about the USDA requiring a 1-year Coggins, and his feeling that unless there was a local outbreak, being consistent with the USDA and neighboring jurisdictions makes sense. Commissioner Berry clarified and summarized where all the commissioners stood on the issue.

Commissioner Kinsley, DVM recommended moving forward with approving the 12-month language, with the ability to come back and discuss reopening the rule to add a date frame later, as it was too close to the start of race season to implement now. Commissioner Fowler agreed and Director Winn seconded the recommendation.

Action: Approval to adopted the proposed language change in OAR 462-140-0320 (6)(i).

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Berry

Vote: Commissioners Doherty, Berry, Fowler, and Kinsley voted AYE, and Commissioner Stein abstained. The motion was carried. (4:1)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Connie Erikson thanked the Commission for their discussions.

CONTESTED CASES

None.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next commission meeting is scheduled for April 16th, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. remotely via Microsoft Teams.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 P.M..