

## **THE STATE HORSE RACING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**July 30, 2019**

*A public business meeting of The State Horse Racing Commission was held at the following date, place and time: FARMSHOW Complex in the Susquehanna room in Harrisburg, PA, Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at 1:00 P.M.*

*Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Russell Redding, C. Edward Rogers, Dr. John Egloff, Darryl Breniser, Russell Jones, Michele Ruddy, Thomas Jay Ellis. Also present were Commission counsel Jorge Augusto and Marija Kuren. Salvatore DeBunda was present via conference call-in. Dr. Corinne Sweeney was not in attendance.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A quorum of the Commission being present, Acting Chairman Cheryl L. Cook called the meeting to order. Acting Chairman Cook noted that the meeting was properly advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Law. The Commission conducted an executive session to engage in a quasi-judicial deliberation to be adjudicated at the public meeting and discussed personnel matters and engaged in attorney client privilege communication.

Acting Chairman Cook welcomed everyone to Harrisburg.

### **PUBLIC MEETING**

**1.) MINUTES OF THE July 30, 2019 MEETING** as emailed to the Commissioners for their review in advance of the meeting.

Motion by: Commissioner Egloff  
Second by: Commissioner Rogers  
Decision: Passed by unanimous vote.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

**2.) JUNE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** – presented by Tracee Gotwalt.

Motion by: Commissioner Rogers  
Second by: Commissioner Egloff  
Decision: Passed motion to not approve the financial statements for June 30<sup>th</sup> and the distribution on July 1<sup>st</sup> with Commissioner Lark voting in opposition.

\* The Commission believes that the current cash-based accounting methodology for the restricted funds may be better served if the restricted funds utilized an accrual-based accounting methodology. This method would provide for a more realistic end-of-year distribution of funds.

**3.) PGCB** – Kevin Kile presented a review of the 2018 racetrack/Casino benchmark report. He stated the Pa. Race Horse Development Trust Fund has increased in 2018 over 2017. He also reported that wagering facilities are now beginning to have sports wagering and horse track wagering in the same facility without issue.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

#### **4.) Motion to approve simulcast calendars for July 2019, for Harrah’s Philadelphia, Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs and The Meadows.**

Motion by: Commissioner Lark  
 Second by: Commissioner Breniser  
 Decision: Passed by unanimous vote

#### **5.) Motion to approve simulcast calendars for July 2019 for Parx, Penn National and Presque Isle Downs.**

Motion by: Commissioner Lark  
 Second by: Commissioner Ellis  
 Decision: Passed by unanimous vote

#### **6.) Motion to approve amending PA HBA § 163.95 Coupled Entries. (motion tabled)**

Motion by: Commissioner Ellis  
 Second by: Commissioner Lark  
 Decision: Passed by unanimous vote to table the motion to the August meeting.

Mr. Mostoller and Mr. Johnston spoke on behalf of the coupled entries rule.

### **RATIFICATION**

#### **7.) Ratification of the request of Penn National to add live racing to Wednesday, August 7, 2019 August 21<sup>st</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Post times will be 6:00 pm.**

Motion by: Commissioner Rogers  
 Second by: Commissioner Ruddy  
 Decision: Passed by unanimous vote

**8.) Ratification of the request of Harrah's Philadelphia to move Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> race card to Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.0**

Motion by: Commissioner Lark  
Second by: Commissioner Jones  
Decision: Passed by unanimous vote

**OLD BUSINESS**

OOCT Testing- Director Chuckas provided a review of the OOCT of the testing on Adios Race Day at the Meadows.

**MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

**9.) Working Group Update.**

Director Chuckas, provided an update on the progress of the Equine Racing Committee. Commissioner Jones added that he is happy with the direction and the work the committee is doing.

**INDUSTRY REPORTS**

**10.)** Mr. Loewe from The Meadows gave a review of the Adios Race Day. The Meadows considered the day to be a major success with large crowds, competitive races and a wagering handle in excess of \$1,000,000. Director Salerno complimented the Meadows, Horsemen's Assoc. and the Commission staff for their efforts in making Adios Day a success.

**11.)** Mr. Osojnak from Parx Racing explained the tracks process in handling Coupled Entries. The Commission recommends that he send the staff his comments on the proposed modification.

**12.)** Ashley Eisenbeil from PHC gave a review and summary of their association's economic development plan for the upcoming year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Acting Chairman Cook announced the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at the FARMSHOW Complex in the Susquehanna Room at 2300 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

- Executive Session 10:30 A.M.
- Regular Session 1:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Chuckas Jr.  
Bureau Director  
Bureau of Thoroughbred Horse Racing

Anthony Salerno  
Bureau Director  
Bureau of Standardbred Racing