

NEBRASKA STATE RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: June 11, 2021

TIME: 10:00 am

LOCATION: Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission  
Conference Room  
5903 Walker Avenue  
Lincoln NE

PRESENT COMMISSIONERS:

Dennis P. Lee Chairman  
Jeffrey Galyen Commissioner  
Shane Greckel Commissioner  
Shelby Bakenhus Commissioner  
Tony Fulton Commissioner

ABSENT:

Janell Beveridge Vice Chairperson

Chm. Lee convened the meeting at 10:10 am in compliance with the provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. 84-1411. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to those on the Racing and Gaming Commission agenda mailing list. Notification was given to the public of the open meetings law and notification to its location for public view.

Chm. Lee began the meeting by pointing out that this is the first meeting of the Nebraska State Racing and Gaming Commission. With our new agency the Governor will also appoint two new Commissioners for a total of seven. One Commissioner the Governor appointed was Tony Fulton with the Department of Revenue. Chm. Lee introduced and welcomed new Commissioner Tony Fulton.

Commissioner Bakenhus was delayed and will be attending soon.

ELECTION OF RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR 2021

Galyen nominated Dennis P Lee as Chairman and Janell Beveridge as Vice Chair with Greckel seconding the nomination. No others were nominated. Galyen moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the nominations. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Fulton. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION STAFF FOR 2021

Galyen moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the 2021 staff as presented. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Fulton. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the March 31, 2021 minutes as amended by Galyen. The minutes have been amended and posted to the website. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel. Abstain: Fulton.

Greckel moved, seconded by Fulton to approve the March, April and May 2021 financial reports. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Fulton. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SIMULCAST APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to approve the applications received with an amendment to Columbus to include Horsemen's Park and Canterbury. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Fulton. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bakenhus joined the meeting at 10:26 am.

## SOUTH SIOUX CITY RACING & EVENTS CENTER

Galyen moved, seconded by Fulton to approve the live race date change to July 10<sup>th</sup> with the backup date being July 11<sup>th</sup>. Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the waiver for rules 3.003.04 and 3.003.08 and that a head on camera will not be required. Greckel moved, seconded by Fulton to approve the racing officials. Galyen moved, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the takeout rates. Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to authorize Tom Sage or his designee to be the approved State Steward. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus and Fulton. All Motions Carried.

## NEBRASKA HBPA

Lynn Schuller with the HBPA gave a presentation of possible future changes to the physical plants of Horesemen's Park and Lincoln Race Course.

## NEBRASKA THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (NTBA)

David Domina Esq., gave a presentation on the status of the Association including steps taken procedurally.

## ATTORNEY GENERALS INFORMAL OPINION REGARDING THE SMALL TRACK FUND

Tabled until next meeting to give staff time to calculate new payments.

## PROPOSED RULE CHANGES FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS OF NEBRASKA RACETRACKS

Not an action item. This was informational only.

## OMAHA EXPOSITION AND RACING REQUESTS REGARDING THE BREED FUND

- A. Request to clarify the distribution of Breed funds
- B. Request to stay Commission Order Date February 21, 2018

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to deny both requests. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion Carried.

## DIRECTORS UPDATE

Tom Sage gave an update on horse breakdowns, the pari-mutuel handle, legislative issues, rulemaking, position creation questionnaires, RFP's, travel for education on gaming.

## DIRECTORS SALARY INCREASE

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Greckel to increase the director's salary from 90,956.32 to 124,800.00. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion Carried. On 6/22/2021 the Commission approved a start date via email. The start date for the increase is 5/25/2021. This is to be reviewed and confirmed at the next Commission Meeting.

## MEETINGS WITH ASSOCIATIONS

NE Thoroughbred Breeders' Association – None  
NE Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association – None.  
NE Quarter Horse Racing Association – None.  
NE Quarter Horse Breeders Association – None.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission recessed to executive session to discuss pending litigation at 12:35 pm.

## RECONVENED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission reconvened at 1:10 pm. Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to approve a stipulated order regarding CASE NO. CI 20-244.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Sage  
Executive Secretary