

NEBRASKA STATE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: March 31, 2021

TIME: 1:30 pm

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

PRESENT COMMISSIONERS:

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

ABSENT:

Janell Beveridge Vice Chairperson

Chm. Lee convened the meeting at 1:31 pm 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 Commission agenda mailing list. Notification was given to the public of the open meetings law and notification to its location for public view.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Greckel moved, seconded by Galyen to approve the January 29, 2021 meeting minutes and the January and February financial reports. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SIMULCAST APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Galyen moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the applications received with an amendment to Columbus to include Fonner Park. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion carried.

FONNER PARK REQUEST FOR SMALL TRACK MONEY

Postponed until next meeting to wait for a response from the Attorney General's office. Distribution will continue as is.

DISCUSSION TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION OF NEW RACETRACK

Chris Kotulak with Fonner Park read into record a request to consider geographical and other criteria for determining a new racetrack. No action needed.

OMAHA EXPOSITION & RACING, DBA HORSEMEN'S PARK

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to approve the changes to live race dates as read into record. The dates will be updated on the Commission website. Also approved are the takeout rates and the racing officials with the exception of Tim Anderson needing to be approved at a later date. The Commission approved Tom Sage to approve the outrider if need be at a later date. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

OER REQUEST TO REVIEW/RECONSIDER ORDER REGARDING NEBRASKA BRED FUND

The Commission will break at the end of the meeting to discuss and render a decision.

OMAHA EXPOSITION & RACING, DBA LINCOLN RACE COURSE

Greckel moved, seconded by Galyen to approve the changes to live race dates as read into record. The dates will be updated on the Commission website. Also approved are the takeout rates, the waiver of rules and the racing officials with the exception of Tim Anderson needing to be approved at a later date. The Commission approved Tom Sage to approve the outrider if need be at a later date. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

COLUMBUS EXPOSITION & RACING

Greckel moved, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the changes to live race dates as read into record. The dates will be updated on the Commission website. Also approved is the takeout rates and the racing officials with the exception of Tim Anderson needing to be approved at a later date. The Commission approved Tom Sage to approve the outrider if need be at a later date. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

HASTINGS EXPOSITION & RACING, DBA FAIRPLAY PARK

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the changes to live race dates as read into record. The dates will be updated on the Commission website. Also approved is the takeout rates, the waiver of rules and the racing officials with the exception of Tim Anderson needing to be approved at a later date. The Commission approved Tom Sage to approve the outrider if need be at a later date. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

STETSON MITCHELL – APPEAL OF STEWARD’S DECISION

The Commission reviewed all presentations and accepted all exhibits. Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen to deny the appeal. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

HPBA REQUEST TO MODIFY PROPERTY IN LINCOLN

Lynn Schuller and Lance Morgan presented and discussed preliminary concepts to modify the existing property to accommodate casino operations. Galyen moved, seconded by Greckel to approve the preliminary plans presented. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel and Bakenhus. Motion Carried.

FONNER PARK REQUEST TO AMEND PAYOFFS

Tabled to a later date to be determined at the request of Fonner Park to gather more information.

DIRECTORS UPDATE

Tom Sage gave an update on all of the legislative issues, rulemaking, position creation questionnaires, RFP’s, travel for education on gaming.

MEETINGS WITH ASSOCIATIONS

NE Thoroughbred Breeders’ Association – Zach Mader recognizes an article about the breed program.

NE Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association – Lynn Schuller recognized Tom’s efforts and time he has contributed to establishing the learning curve and processes of the gaming industry.

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 Item #7 on the agenda at 4:31 pm.

RECONVENED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission reconvened at 4:56 pm. Galyen moved, seconded by Greckel to deny the request of OER to review/reconsider NSRC Order dated February 21, 2018 regarding the Nebraska Bred Fund.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Sage
Executive Secretary