

NEBRASKA STATE RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: September 10, 2021
TIME: 1:30 pm
LOCATION: Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission
Conference Room Third Floor
5903 Walker Avenue
Lincoln NE

PRESENT COMMISSIONERS:

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

ABSENT:

Janell Beveridge Vice Chairperson
Shane Greckel Commissioner

Chm. Lee convened the meeting at 1:34 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 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.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the meeting minutes from July 16, 2021. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion carried.

Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the July and August 2021 financial reports. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion carried.

SMALL TRACK FUND

Lynn McNally, HBPA and Mark Landis, Fonner Park were present and stated that all parties agree with the amounts that were owed to Fonner Park. Payments are being made and this matter has been resolved.

COMMISSION POLICY CHANGE

The policy is to require any persons wishing to appear before the Commission should submit a written request to the Commission office not less than 7 (seven) calendar days prior to the meeting and persons wishing to submit any documentation or exhibits for an agenda item at a Commission meeting must submit them to the Commission office not less than 7 (seven) calendar days prior to the meeting. After Fulton moved to approve the policy, Chm. Lee amended the motion to include "exception would be matters brought before the Commission by the Commissioners or staff that wouldn't be considered an urgent matter." Galyen seconded. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion carried.

DIRECTORS UPDATE

Tom Sage informed the Commission of several items including his concerns for the racing fund which is 100% cash funded. Lynn McNally with the HBPA commented and stated that they have no objection to helping the Commission with the racing fund. Other items mentioned: RFP for laboratory drug testing, HISA (Horsereading Integrity and Safety Act), hiring of an attorney and investigations process, rule, and regulation process, attending conferences with Commissioners to Saratoga regarding HISA and Colorado attending a Gaming Commission Meeting and touring the back of the house of Ameristar Casino, GLI's gaming laboratory, and learning how slot machines are regulated. He also mentioned staff is working on several projects of the HR handbook with shared services, a new policy and procedure manual, code of ethics statute and working with the problem gaming program and self-exclusion program.

NEBRASKA HBPA

The update for grandstand drawings for Lincoln Racecourse will be tabled to the next meeting. Galyen moved, seconded by Fulton to also table the request of permission to make changes to Horsemen's Park enclosure until an architectural drawing is submitted. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion carried.

NTBA UPDATES

Kevin Hulse and Julie Larmon appeared on behalf of the NTBA. All exhibits presented were accepted. Updates were given on the following: Bank Accounts and Financial Status, Fonner Park Breeders Awards Payouts, Jockey Club Updates, Digital Stamps for Approval, Exception to Rule 24.002.01 Removing the Notary, Updating Rules in Chapter 24 "Nebraska Bred Rules", Reapprove Form numbers 100, 125, 200, 275 and 300, Web Page Update, Clarification on Interest from Breeders awards accounts, Clarification on Registrar, Banking, Procedures – Breed Program – Breeders administering program at all tracks and any Future Updates. Chm. Lee moved, seconded by Galyen that the Commission approve the digital stamp submitted by the breeders showing A and B designations and that the Commission temporarily waive the referencing requirement of notary throughout Chapter 24 until rules changes can be made. This goes into effect immediately until further ordered.

NE BREED STAMP RESOLUTION

Resolution was read into record. Galyen moved, seconded by Chm. Lee to revise the resolution deleting the words "The Commission takes full responsibility" and "provide the Commission with a report of such processes and procedures no later than December 31, 2021" out of the document. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Bakenhus and Fulton. Motion carried.

HORSERACING INTEGRITY AND SAFETY ACT (HISA) UPDATED

Galyen and Director Sage gave a brief update on this integrity and safety act.

NORTH PLATTE EXPOSITION AND RACING

The Commission received updated renderings and site plans. In addition, the Commission received support letters. Informational only. No action taken.

SCOTTSBLUFF EXPOSITION AND RACING

The Commission received an update and new renderings. Informational only. No action taken.

MEETINGS WITH ASSOCIATIONS

NE Thoroughbred Breeders' Association – None.

NE Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association – Lynn McNally mentioned that Stan Benis passed away and wanted to acknowledge him. She also mentioned that Lincoln Racecourse is considering adding a mental and dental clinic and starting a Chaplain program.

NE Quarter Horse Racing Association – None.

NE Quarter Horse Breeders Association – The association is working on Breed forms to be submitted to the Commission and believes there should not only be one registrar.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Sage
Executive Secretary