

NEBRASKA RACING & GAMING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: November 17, 2023  
TIME: 1:30 PM  
LOCATION: NE Racing & Gaming Commission  
3401 Village Drive, Ste 100  
Lincoln NE 68516

PRESENT COMMISSIONERS:

Dennis P. Lee Chairman  
Janell Beveridge Commissioner  
Shane Greckel Vice Chairperson  
Jeffrey Galyen Commissioner  
Shelby Bakenhus Commissioner  
Tony Fulton Commissioner  
Chris Stinson Commissioner

ABSENT:

Chm. Lee convened the meeting at 1:35 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 have been 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

It was moved by Galyen, seconded by Bakenhus to approve the minutes from October 17, 2023. Voting aye: Lee, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton, Stinson. Abstain: Beveridge. Motion carried. Mr. Fulton requested that the budget status report be added to the financials and send to each Commissioner prior to each meeting. It was moved by Fulton, seconded by Galyen to approve the October 2023 financial reports. Voting aye: Lee, Beveridge, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton, Stinson. Motion carried.

SIMULCAST APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Beveridge moved, seconded by Greckel to approve all applications submitted. Voting aye: Lee, Beveridge, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton, Stinson. Motion carried.

REAL RESPONSE – LAUNCH OF INTEGRITY/TIP HOTLINE

Brianna Vargas and Blake Davison appeared and gave an introduction and demonstration of the program. A 15-minute question and answer session for media and the public was held after the presentation.

HARRAH'S NEBRASKA AND COLUMBUS EXPOSITION & RACING – UPDATE ON NEW FACILITY

Present were Tom Jackson, CER, Mary Vaggalis, Bruning Law Group, and Don Ostert, Harrah's Nebraska. An update of the new facility was given, and tentative dates for delivery of gaming equipment, closing of the temporary casino, and opening of the new casino were discussed.

### HARRAH'S NEBRASKA AND COLUMBUS EXPOSITION & RACING

Present were Tom Jackson, CER, Mary Vaggalis, Bruning Law Group, and Don Ostert, Harrah's Nebraska. Continued from the October 20, 2023, meeting. Galyen moved, seconded by Fulton to approve 6a - construction of an arena with 104 additional stalls, 6c – construction for jockey quarters, and 6f – the use of kiosks with the capability to process sports wagering and pari-mutuel wagers. Voting Aye: Lee, Beveridge, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton. Abstain: Stinson. Motion carried.

Greckel moved, seconded by Beveridge to approve 6b – the modular building for administrative services, 6d – the planned layout of the Plaza, and 6e – the use of portable comfort stations for live race meets. Voting Aye: Lee, Beveridge, Greckel, Fulton, Stinson. Nay: Galyen. Abstain: Bakenhus. Motion carried.

### HASTINGS EXPOSITION & RACING

Galyen moved, seconded by Lee to approve the transfer of Hastings Exposition & Racing license from Adams County to Keith County subject to the Commission's review and approval of the racetrack plans and the market study and anything else the Commission deems relevant. Voting aye: Lee, Beveridge, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton, Stinson. Motion carried.

### HARRAH'S NEBRASKA AND COLUMBUS EXPOSITION & RACING

Greckel moved, seconded by Galyen to approve the gaming floor, designated sports wagering area, and placement of sports wagering kiosks and terminals at their facility located at Ag Park. Voting aye: Lee, Beveridge, Galyen, Greckel, Bakenhus, Fulton, Stinson. Motion carried.

### WARHORSE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Lynn McNally appeared before the Commission and gave a construction update for both Lincoln and Omaha facilities.

### SPORTS WAGERING CATALOG

Nothing to report.

### MEETINGS WITH ASSOCIATIONS

Nebraska Thoroughbred Breeders' Association None. Nebraska Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association – Lynn McNally updated the Commission, Nebraska Quarter Horse Racing Association and Nebraska Quarter Horse Breeders Association – Ed Ziemba updated the Commission. Thoroughbred Racing Associations of Nebraska will begin again and will have a name change.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director, Casey Ricketts, and Diane Osterloo gave updates on the Compliance and Licensing Divisions. Mr. Sage mentioned We will have a public meeting for the rules at our Commission meeting scheduled for January 19, 2024.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission took a recess at 4:05 pm and went into executive session at 4:10 pm. In executive session personnel issues were discussed and no action was taken. The Commission came back on the record at 5:17 pm and the meeting was adjourned.