



Ohio State Racing Commission

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John Kasich
Governor

Robert K. Schmitz
Chairman

Minutes of the OSRC Meeting held June 20, 2017

1-The Ohio State Racing Commission (OSRC) held its monthly meeting June 20, 2017 at the Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, Room 1948, at 9 am.

2-OSRC Chairman Robert K. Schmitz called the meeting to order. Commissioners Gary Koch, Todd Book, Greg Simpson and Thomas Winters were present.

3-Commissioner Winters moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 10, 2017. Commissioner Koch seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

4-Commissioner Book moved to approve the ratification of the Executive Director's report. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

5-Chairman Schmitz asked for discussion concerning the distribution of Quarter Horse purse money from Hollywood Gaming Mahoning Valley to Belterra Park for 2017. The Mahoning Valley races did not fill in 2016 and both tracks agreed to the change. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the decision between the two tracks and Commissioner Koch seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

6-Dr. James Robertson, OSRC consulting veterinarian, gave an update on catastrophic horse fatalities from May 10 through June 14, 2017 stating there were a total of three catastrophic breakdowns during that time period: two Thoroughbred and one Standardbred, bringing the 2017 total to 12—ten Thoroughbred and two Standardbred.

7-Fiscal Officer Sherry White gave an update on the OSRC's financial status, explaining that overall the OSRC was faring better that during this similar time one year ago.

8-Chairman Schmitz commented that the Ohio Sires Stakes had races over the weekend—at Northfield Park and Scioto Downs, and that the Thoroughbred Race Fund events are doing well, averaging eight to ten horses per stake.

9-There were no public comments.

10-Commissioner Winters moved to approve the settlement agreement in the case of trainer Barry Armstrong. Commissioner Book seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

11-Chairman Schmitz stated that he was hoping to hear from each of the horsemen's associations (OHHA & HBPA) in regards to the open medication forum.

OHHA Vice President Steve Bateson took the floor, explaining that therapeutic medications were of great concern to the horsemen; as well as utilizing rules that are currently in place; and concerns over Lasix, with the possibility of moving the administrative time from four hours to three hours.

OSRC consulting veterinarian Dr. James Robertson interjected that administering times for Lasix is a serious issue which needs more study. Chairman Schmitz reiterated that he wants the horsemen to provide definitive, written suggestions in regards to medication.

Mr. Bateson stated that the OHHA had planned a July 6, 2017 meeting at 10 am at the OHHA office to talk about medication among owners, trainers and breeders to see what challenges trainers face both in regards to therapeutic medication and in regards to out-of-competition.

HBPA Executive Director Dave Basler stated that his organization had spent \$35,000 to examine controlled therapeutic medications schedules and threshold on a plethora of medications but were waiting for the results to be published in academic journals before information on those studies are released. Dr. Robertson stated he wants to see a definitive statement from the HBPA as to how the horsemen plan to measure the efficacy of using joint injections six to seven days out from race dates.

Basler said the horsemen also are concerned about third-party Lasix administration and things that if a chance is to be made, that the OSCR should implement a plan similar to what is currently done in Indiana. The intent, Basler stressed, was to ensure that the only medication a horse would receive four hours prior to a race, was Lasix.

Dr. Robertson said that the horsemen should concentrate on Clenbuterol and inter-articular steroids using RMTC references (chemists, vets) in a Thoroughbred-driven enterprise, and that it was major task that would require a lengthy man hours.

12-There being no further business, Commissioner Winters moved to go into executive session to consider the hiring, promotion or compensation of public employees. Commissioner Book seconded the motion and the motion was approved via roll call vote: Chairman Schmitz voted Yes; Commissioner Winters voted Yes; Commissioner Book voted Yes; Commissioner Koch voted Yes; Commissioner Simpson voted Yes. The public meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

August 29, 2017 @ 10 am
77 South High Street, Room 1948
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Robert K. Schmitz, Chairman

William Crawford, Executive Director