

## **Ohio State Racing Commission**

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Scott Borgemenke Chairman

## Minutes of the Ohio State Racing Commission Meeting held on June 21, 2022

- 1. The Ohio State Racing Commission ("Commission") held its monthly meeting at 10:00 a.m on June 21, 2022, in Room 1948, at the Vern Riffe Center.
- 2. The Commission Chairman called the meeting to order. Chairman Borgemenke and Commissioners Beth Hansen, Greg Simpson and Thomas Winters were present. Commissioner Bill Patmon was present via a phone link.
- 3. Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the May 25, 2022, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
- 4. Executive Director Dragone discussed the Executive Director's approvals.
  Commissioner Simpsons moved to ratify the Executive Director's approvals.
  Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There was a discussion regarding current ratification of post times, exports, etc. of permit holders, and a discussion of exploring adding ADW's to those approvals.

## 5. Settlement Agreements:

- A. The Commission discussed the settlement agreement between the Commission and Chris Beaver. Mr. Beaver received a medication positive for Gabapentin. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the settlement agreement with Mr. Beaver. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
- 6. Commission veterinarian, Dr. James Robertson, updated the Commission on horse fatalities in Ohio. Through June 16, 2022, there have been twenty-three (23) total fatalities from racing and training. There have been sixteen (16) fatalities from the

thoroughbreds – thirteen (13) racing and three (3) training, and seven (7) fatalities from the standardbreds. Cancellation of racing due to the heat index and the effect on horses was discussed, and backup power to barns and access to fans was discussed.

- 7. Sherry White, Commission Fiscal Officer, gave her monthly financial report. She spoke of casino revenue from the past fiscal year having an impact on this year's fiscal year. It was noted when the casino was funds were removed from calculation, the commission is mostly operating on a break-even basis.
- 8. Chairman Borgemenke opened a discussion about the implementation of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA).
  - A. A directive issued by Executive Director Christopher Dragone was issued to state the HISA crop rule and all 2200 series HISA rules would be enforced instead of the Ohio State Racing Commission crop rule. Commissioner Hansen moved to approve the HISA consistent crop rule, and Commissioner Simpson seconded it. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
  - B. Resolution 2022-07, a revision of the therapeutic list. Commissioner Hansen moved to open it to discussion, and Commissioner Simpson seconded it. Dr. Robertson reported on the status of Isoxsuprine and the decision to remove it from the Therapeutic Substances list. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
  - C. Resolution 2022-08 intent to conduct pre-race vet exams by July 1, 2023 on all horses entered to race. Commissioner Simpson moved to approve, and Commissioner Winters seconded. A decision was made to have an ongoing discussion throughout the year regarding this issue. The motion was approved by roll call vote with Commissioner Hansen voting against it

There was a general discussion regarding the various lawsuits against HISA, the status of states signing the 'voluntary' agreements, and letters of intent to support horsemen with compliance, and licensing ADW's. Dave Basler of the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association made comments regarding litigation and expenses incurred to HISA.

## 9. Committee Reports:

- A. Medication Committee Commissioner Hansen commented on the proposed medication rules under consideration by HISA. Dr. Robertson made comments and Dave Basler commented on the lack of transparency.
- B. Safety Committee Commissioner Simpson discussed county fairs and commended Pickaway County for their compliance with Ohio rules.

- C. Standardbred Committee Commissioner Winters had nothing to comment, and opened the floor to Renee Mancino, executive director of the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, who had no comments.
- 10. Chairman's Comments Chairman Borgemenke commented on the Veterinarian situation at Thoroughbred tracks. There is a shortage of qualified equine veterinarians. If the racetracks are unable to have sufficient regulatory veterinarians, it may result in the cancellation of live racing.
- 11. There were no public comments and there was no executive session.
- 12. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting Wednesday, July 13, 2022 @ 10 am Room 1932 Riffe Center

Scott Borgessenke, Chairman

Christopher Dragone, Executive Director