



Ohio State Racing Commission

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Mike DeWine
Governor

Scott Borgemenke
Chairman

Minutes of the Ohio State Racing Commission Meeting held on March 25, 2022

1. The Ohio State Racing Commission ("Commission") held its monthly meeting on March 25, 2022, Room 1948, Vern Riffe Center, beginning at 10:00 am.
2. Commission Chairman Scott Borgemenke 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 February 23, 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 Winters moved to ratify the Executive Director's approvals. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
5. The approval of fiscal year 2022 drug testing costs was tabled to a later meeting.
6. Chairman Borgemenke asked for a motion to move to executive session. Commissioner Winters made a motion to go to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and pending court cases. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Commissioner Winters made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
7. a. Joe Morris, Senior Vice President of Racing for Caesar's Entertainment, Amy Anderson, General Manager of Scioto Downs and Jason Roth, Director of Racing for Scioto Downs, Kacie Klarer Director of Marketing for Scioto Downs discussed the 2022 meet request for Scioto Downs. They presented the 2022 Racing Operational Plan booklet to the Commission. The Commission complimented them for the quality of the booklet. Scioto Downs expects to have the new grandstand project completed by March 2023. Commissioner Winters moved to approve Scioto Downs' 2022 meet request. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

b. Billy Couch, Racing Secretary for Belterra Park discussed the 2022 meet request for Belterra Park. Commissioner Winters moved to approve Belterra Parks' 2022 meet request subject to an updated simulcast schedule and a letter from the Fire Marshall.

Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

c. Patrick Ellsworth, Director of Racing for JACK Thistledown discussed the 2022 meet request for JACK Thistledown. Commissioner Winters moved to approve Thistledown's 2022 meet request with the amendment that JACK Thistledown does not currently have a race secretary and the Commission may revisit this meet request when a racing secretary is named. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

8. Renee Mancino, Executive Director of the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association discussed the 2022 Sire Stake Budget. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the 2022 Sire Stakes Budget. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

9. a. Principal Assistant Attorney General Todd DeBoe discussed the settlement agreement for Gary Johnson. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Gary Johnson settlement agreement. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

b. Principal Assistant Attorney General Todd DeBoe discussed the settlement agreement for Danny Bird. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Danny Bird settlement agreement. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

c. Principal Assistant Attorney General Todd DeBoe discussed the settlement agreement for Jami Poole. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Jami Poole settlement agreement. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.


d. Based on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas decision in case number 2021CV-0066394, the Commission dismisses this case against Keith Kash Jr.

10. Legal Counsel Michael Rzymek updated the Commission regarding the financial judgment against Tricia Shepard. Ms. Shepard was given an extension of time until the next Commission meeting (March 23, 2022) to satisfy the Judgment. Since Ms. Shepard did not satisfy the judgment by March 23, 2022, her 2022 Commission license was immediately suspended.

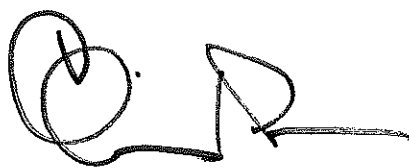
11. Commissioner Winters gave an update on the implementation of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA). There was an executive director appointed for HISA. HISA projected starting date for safety regulations remains July 1, 2022. HISA projected starting date for medication regulations is January 1, 2023. By April 1, 2022, the Commission is supposed to receive a proposed budget request from HISA.

12. Commission veterinarian, Dr. James Robertson, updated the Commission on horse fatalities in Ohio. Through March 23, 2022, there have been 7 fatalities from the thoroughbreds and 4 fatalities from the standardbreds.
13. Sherry White, Commission Fiscal Officer, gave her monthly financial report. For this fiscal year, the Commission's revenues were up 32%. The increase is attributed to the release of all the casino revenue which was previously held back. The Commission's expenses were up 11%. The increase in expenses is due to 10% higher payroll costs and higher legal costs from the Ohio Attorney General.
14. Committee Reports
 - a. Medication Committee – Commissioner Hansen gave an update on medication committee. On April 24, 2022, the medication committee will meet to discuss the procedure to remove a horse from the veterinarian list.
 - b. Safety Committee – Commissioner Simpson discussed his visit to Miami Valley. Commissioner Simpson was pleased that Miami Valley added additional lighting on the backside and how Miami valley personnel kept racing running smoothly despite heavy rains.
 - c. Standardbred Committee-No update since Commission Winters had left the meeting.
15. Chairman's Comments – Chairman Borgemenke thanked the staff for its hard work as significant changes are being made.
16. There were no public comments.
17. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:47 am.

Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 @ 10 am Room 1948 Riffe Center



Scott Borgemenke, Chairman



Christopher Dragone, Executive Director