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## Ohio State Racing Commission

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www.racing.ohio.gov

**John Kasich**  
Governor

**Robert K. Schmitz**  
Chairman

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### Minutes of the OSRC Meeting held March 21, 2018

1-The Ohio State Racing Commission (OSRC) held its monthly meeting March 21, 2018 at the Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, Room 1952, at 10 am.

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

3-Commissioner Winters moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 21, 2018. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

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

5a-Commissioner Winters moved to approve Jack Thistledown 2018 Meets Request of:

1. Waiver of surety bond for all 2018 race meeting
2. List of officials
3. Number of races and wagering format
4. Post Times
5. Simulcast Schedule
6. Letter to Fire Marshal

Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

5b-Commissioner Simpson moved to approve Belterra Park's 2018 Meets Request of:

1. Waiver of surety bond for all 2018 race meeting
2. List of officials
3. Number of races and wagering format
4. Post Times
5. Simulcast Schedule
6. Letter to Fire Marshal

Commissioner Book seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

5c-Commissioner Book moved to approve Scioto Down's 2018 Meets Request of:

7. Waiver of surety bond for all 2018 race meeting
8. List of officials
9. Number of races and wagering format
10. Post Times
11. Simulcast Schedule
12. Letter to Fire Marshal

Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

6-Bill Gustafson, Scioto Downs Vice President and General Manager, gave an update on Scioto Downs temporary grandstand plans for the 2018 season. He showed a rendering of a 350-person temporary grandstand as well as self-service betting stations and live betting places. Scioto Downs will have temporary rest room facilities similar to those used at the Little Brown Jug.

Chairman Schmitz told Mr. Gustafson that he will be back next month to update the Commission about the grandstand

Scioto Downs will be a ship-in only facility. It will utilize the four barns closest to the paddock area. Those barns have been updated with new roofs, stall mats and improved lighting and bathing areas.

7-Dr. James Robertson, OSRC consulting veterinarian, gave an update on catastrophic horse fatalities due to training or racing in 2018. He stated there were a total of 13 catastrophic breakdowns through March 21, 2018. There were 11 at Thoroughbred tracks and two at Standardbred tracks. Dr. Robertson discussed the catastrophic breakdowns among the Thoroughbred population. He also stated it could be due to pre-existing conditions in horses, combined with higher incentives to race with the increased purses. Also, the freezing and thawing conditions of the racing surface play a role as well.

Dave Basler, executive director of the HBPA, stated the commission needed to look at more factors than just breakdowns. Breakdowns are certainly multifactorial as Dr. Robertson stated. He further stated the racetrack did a good job of maintaining the surface throughout the winter. He disagreed the incentives to race is a major factor in thoroughbred breakdowns.

Dr. Robertson updated the OSRC on the EHV-1 situation. The four harness horses that were EHV-1 positive which caused the quarantine of four premises, all tested negative by February 20. The quarantines were released on the four premises on March 6. To date, there have been no further reported cases of EHV-1 positive horses.

8-Ms. Sherry White, OSRC Fiscal Officer, reported that the OSRC had a routine February. With only three tracks racing, expenses are lower. Revenue is up one per cent ahead of last year. Overall, expenses are up eight per cent due to testing costs.

9-Chairman Schmitz discussed the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission will present its report to the OSRC regarding Belterra Park capital expenses. Also, the deadline to nominate horses to the Ohio Sires Stakes was March 15.

10-There were no public comments.

11- Assistant Attorney General Charles Febus discussed the Sean Mapes matter. Mr. Mapes was charged with a violation of the medication rules. His horse tested over the TCO2 threshold. The judges assessed a 15-day full suspension a \$500 fine and return of the purse. At the hearing, Mr. Mapes did not contest any of the findings of the lab or the testing procedures. His only issue was the penalty. At the hearing presiding judge Bud Teeters testified that the penalty was consistent with other penalties for a horse that had a test result over the TCO2 threshold. Attorney Febus and OSRC Staff recommended the Commission adopt the report and recommendation of the hearing officer. Executive Director Crawford recommended the 15-day suspension begin April 15, 2018.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve staff recommendations. Commissioner Koch seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

12-There being no further business, Commissioner Winters moved to go into executive session to discuss pending or imminent court action with our counsel. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was approved via roll call vote: Chairman Schmitz voted Yes; Commissioner Winters voted Yes; Commissioner Koch voted Yes; Commissioner Simpson voted Yes. Chairman Schmitz stated that when the commission comes out of executive session all the commission will do is entertain a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Winters moved to go out of executive session. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved via roll call vote: Chairman Schmitz voted Yes; Commissioner Winters voted Yes; Commissioner Koch voted Yes; Commissioner Simpson voted Yes; Commissioner Book voted Yes. The public meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

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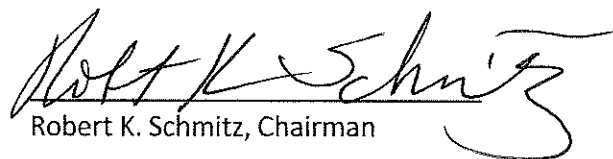
Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

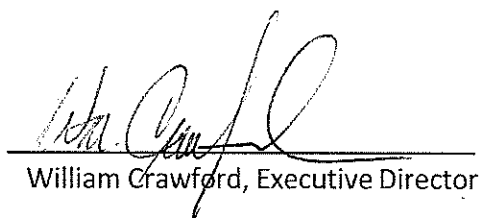
April 24, 2018 @ 10 am

77 South High Street, Room 1948

Columbus, Ohio 43215

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Robert K. Schmitz, Chairman

  
William Crawford, Executive Director