



Ohio State Racing Commission
77 South High Street • 18th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108
(614) 466-2757 FAX (614) 466-1900
www.racingohio.net

Mike DeWine
Governor

Scott Borgemenke
Chairman

Minutes of the Ohio State Racing Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023

1. The Ohio State Racing Commission (“OSRC”) held its monthly meeting at 10:00 a.m. on April 19, 2023, at the Verne Riffe Center, Room 1948, 19th Floor, 77 S High Street, Columbus, OH 43215.
2. Call to Order and Roll Call: The Commission Chairman called the meeting to order. Chairman Scott Borgemenke, Commissioners Beth Hansen, Tom Winters, and Greg Simpson were present. Commissioner Bill Patmon was present via a phone link. It was noted Commissioner Patmon would be unable to vote, as he was not in attendance.
3. Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the March 15, 2023, commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Winters seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
4. Executive Director Dragone discussed the Executive Director’s approvals. Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the ratification of the approvals, and Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The Executive Director commented about the status of a signed agreement between Thistledown and the HBPA and requested a copy if one exists. He also requested the proposal for a 100-day meet now there is a signed contract in place. If there had not been one, Thistledown would have been required to run 125-days, which would have taken Thistledown into the assigned days for the Mahoning meet. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
5. Executive Director Dragone discussed the Belterra 2023 meet request in the Executive Director’s Reports. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the report and Commissioner Simpson seconded. Chairman Borgemenke requested that someone from Belterra speak, however there was no representative there yet, so the motion was withdrawn by Chairman Borgemenke. The representative from Belterra (Ashley Holliday) had been affected by traffic and did attend later in the meeting. Upon arrival, Belterra mentioned that there were a few last-minute changes as far as previously submitted officials. Ashley Holliday verbally gave the changes to the Commissioners. Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Executive Director’s Report, and Commissioner Simpson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
6. Scioto Downs operation discussion: Joe Morris with Caesars Scioto Downs gave an update for the upcoming meet. The construction of the new grandstand is almost completed, and there were improvements to the barns that are used as paddocks as

the current paddock is only a 3-race paddock. There were also improvements to the clubhouse, they have a new start-car, and added some tractors, water trucks, etc. There will be Fox Sports television on some of the nights, notably Super night, which will have the finals, eliminations, and two grand circuit races. Jason Roth mentioned the upcoming 90-day meet with an expected 61% increase in live handle from last year and an 8% export increase. Scioto will be continuing with the pick eight (with a takeout of 15%), which was hit 8 times in 2022. There will be an early pick-5 and a late pick-5, with a takeout of 14%. Post times will be going back to the pre-construction time of 5:50 for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Tuesday and Wednesday race days will keep the 3:15 post-time. Regarding safety, there were new lights installed last year. The first aid room has been upgraded, and Fenix Transport is in the process of having it be certified as a first responders' room. Kacie Klarer, the marketing director gave a report on Scioto's community giving and the marketing plan. Scioto has surpassed last year's \$50,000 charitable giving and will be the title sponsor for Jockeys and Jeans. Molly Baggett, the Sales and Marketing Manager, talked about their plans for promoting racing, and mentioned that all 64 box seats have already been sold.

7. Resolution 2023-05 Casino Revenue distribution: Commissioner Hansen moved to approve this resolution, and Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. Chairman Borgemenke asked if there was anyone in attendance from the Quarter Horse Association. There were no representatives who attended. It was noted that the Quarter Horse Association receives Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) and statutorily the OSRC is required to disperse Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700). There was a discussion that not all the Quarter Horse races in 2022 filled; there was one race that did not go that had six entries, and four of those entries were owned by the same owner. Chairman Borgemenke also requested information as what the status was on the holding of funds to Scioto. Commissioner Hansen motioned to amend the resolution to release all the held funds to Scioto, and Commissioner Simpson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
8. Adjudication for Alejandro Murillo-Rodriguez. Chairman Borgemenke noted this would be continued to the May commission meeting as Mr. Murillo-Rodriguez's attorney was unable to attend.
9. Dr. Robertson gave his update on horse fatalities. There have been six (6) racing/training fatalities so far this year. March had one fatality, and April had two. There have been no Standardbred fatalities.
10. Monthly Financial Report. Fiscal Officer Sherry White reported our revenues are almost equal to what they were in 2022. Larger expenses this year are attributable to increased veterinarian expenses, testing costs, and other routine expenses.
11. Update on HISA: There was no update on HISA.

12. Committee Reports

- A. Medication: Commissioner Hansen discussed a potential rule change regarding the NSAID penalties being much more lenient than other states. Dr. Robertson mentioned that we treat NSAIDS (which are category 'C') differently than all other category 'C' substances.
- B. Safety: Commissioner Simpson reported that the light system is working well and said the Miami Valley meet has been going well.
- C. Standardbred: Commissioner Winters had nothing new to report.

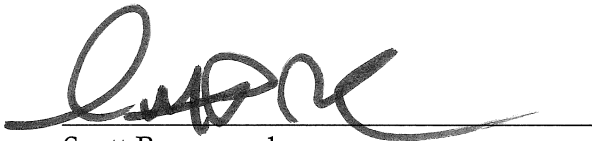
13. Commissioners Comments. The Chairman noted the legislature is becoming interested in racing and wagering and there are potentially some changes in the state budget in the House version. He recommended the tracks and horsemen's groups be aware, and have their respective legal counsels and lobbyists review the potential changes in the budget. Executive Director Dragone commended Belterra for the good safety drill for their upcoming meet. He also mentioned speaking with Dr. Rustin Moore at OSU about the shortage of large animal vets, and what the Commission can do to help keep graduates in an equine career. He also mentioned the need to allow licensed veterinary technicians to draw blood in the test barn.

14. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

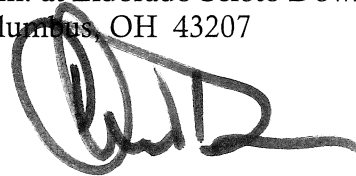
15. Executive Session. There was no executive session.

16. Adjournment. Commissioner Simpson motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Winters seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The commission meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Date, Time, and Place of Next Meeting
Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Eldorado Scioto Downs,
6000 South High Street, Columbus, OH 43207



Scott Borgemenke,
Chairman



Christopher Dragone
Executive Director

