

**THE STATE HORSE RACING COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**October 26, 2017**

*A public business meeting of The State Horse Racing Commission was held at the following date, place and time: FARMSHOW Complex in the Susquehanna room in Harrisburg, PA, Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 1:00 P.M.*

*Commissioners in attendance were: Chairman Russell Redding, Thomas Jay Ellis, C. Edward Rogers, Michele C. Ruddy, Darryl Breniser, Salvatore DeBunda, Dr. John Egloff, Dr. Corinne Sweeny, and Russell Jones by phone. Also present were Commission legal counsel Brook Duer and Jorge Augusto.*

*The Chair called the meeting to order. Legal counsel noted that the meeting has been advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Law. Legal counsel noted that executive session was conducted at 11:30 a.m. for discussion of potential topics: Personnel matters; attorney-client privileged communication; litigation; commission adjudications.*

Chairman Redding welcomed everyone to Harrisburg.

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

Stream Update:

Director Revington informed everyone that the commission meeting is being livestreamed by Bryan Langlois.

The Commission decided not to livestream meetings due to the significant cost factor.

Motion by: Commissioner DeBunda

Second by: Commission Breniser

Passed: There will be no livestreaming of the commission meetings with one dissention from Commission Jones.

Marketing:

Ms. Eisenbeil reported on Advisory Committee updates and notified the Commission that the next meeting will be November 8, 2017. Ms. Eisenbeil informed the commission that the Commission Newsletter entitled "On the Bit" was sent out in October and the next one will be sent out January 1, 2018.

Five vendors attended or called into the RFP preconference research meeting and the committee is waiting to see how many proposals will submitted via the "Emarket place" which will close on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Communication Plan:

Director Revington informed the commission that some of the processes and procedures have been clarified. The commission staff will need to notify by phone or email the press office regarding the specifics of the interview. The commission staff is to use its discretion to determine whether to proceed with

the interview. If the Marketing Director is approached with an interview request she should contact the Bureau Directors for direction.

The Press office should be notified (if possible) in advance and draft potential releases for approval of Commission actions. The goal is to distribute upon conclusion of the meeting.

Ms. Eisenbeil introduced the 2017-2018 Communications plan with the vision to place Pennsylvania as the national leader in the equine racing and breeding industries. Along with creating awareness for the Pennsylvania horse industry we must develop and coordinate a consistent message that is adopted and used not only statewide but nationwide. A major goal is to increase awareness of horse racing and breeding in Pennsylvania.

The areas to be used in this strategy will include, economic impact, jobs, integrity, human interest and miscellaneous. Audiences will include the general public, agricultural markets, policy makers, members of agriculture educational programs, sports fans, horse followers, the wagering public, leisure markets and tourists.

A copy of the DRAFT communications plan is available on the PDA website.

## **II. NEW BUSINESS: ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

**Minutes of the September 26, 2017**, meeting were emailed to the Commissioners for their review in advance of the meeting.

Motion by: Commissioner Ellis  
Second by: Commissioner Sweeney  
Passed: Unanimously to accept the September 26, 2017 meeting minutes.

### Financials:

**Tracee Gotwalt presented the September financial statements.**

Motion by: Commissioner DeBunda  
Second by: Commission Rogers  
Passed: Unanimously to accept the September financial statements.

### Motions:

**3 (1) A:** November 2017 Simulcast calendars for the 3 Standardbred tracks.

**3 (1) B:** November 2017 Simulcast calendars for the 3 Thoroughbred tracks.

Motion by: Commissioner Breniser  
Second by: Commissioner Ellis  
Passed: Unanimously to accept items A-B for the various tracks requests for September. See attached agenda.

**III. LICENSING AND ADJUDICATIONS**

Licensing Matter:

2018 Racing Vendor licenses:

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Penn ADW, LLC                  | Docket Num 2017-1  |
| • Xpressbet, LLC                 | Docket Num 2017-3  |
| • International Sound Corp.      | Docket Num 2017-4  |
| • eBet Technologies, Inc.        | Docket Num 2017-7  |
| • Sportech Racing, LLC           | Docket Num 2017-19 |
| • Roberts Comm. Network, LLC     | Docket Num 2017-9  |
| • Gaming and Leisure Prop., Inc. | Docket Num 2017-11 |
| • ODS Technologies, LP           | Docket Num 2017-12 |
| • American Teletimer Corp.       | Docket Num 2017-13 |

2018 Tote Licenses:

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| • United Tote Company        | Docket Num 2017-10 |
| • AmTote International, Inc. | Docket Num 2017-5  |
| • Sportech Racing, LLC       | Docket Num 2017-8  |

Motion by: Commissioner DeBunda  
Second by: Commissioner Ellis  
Passed: Unanimously to approve the 2018 Racing Vendor licenses and 2018 Tote licenses.

Adjudications:

**Jonathan A. Wong: Appeal of Ruling Number 17137PP.**

**The 60-day suspension issued by Parx stewards is AFFIRMED by the Commission.**

Motion by: Commissioner Jones  
Second by: Commissioner Egloff  
Passed: Unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

**Mark J. Tomczak: Appeal of the Disqualification of "Hopeward" from the 7<sup>th</sup> Race—October 5, 2016 at Presque Isle Downs Racetrack.**

**The Disqualification of "Hopeward" is AFFIRMED from the 7<sup>th</sup> Race on October 5, 2016 at Presque Isle Downs.**

Motion by: Commissioner Sweeney  
Second by: Commissioner Ellis  
Passed: Approved by the Commissioners with one opposition by Commissioner Jones.

Pending Appeal Numbers and Status:

Legal Counsel Jorge Augusto provided the Commissioners with an updated report for their binder.

**IV. INDUSTRY REPORTS**

Todd Mostoller, Executive Director, PA HBPA, informed the Commissioners of the new integrity videos that the HBPA has put out and encouraged everyone to watch them.

Brian Sanfratello, Executive Director of the PHBA, reported on the following PHBA activities.

1. Monthly newsletter
2. The 2018 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule has been approved.
3. The Mares bred in Pennsylvania is up 15% and is one of the three states in the country to have an increase.

## **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Katheryn Papp addressed the commission asking about the PA Racing code regulation regarding prohibited substances.

Bryan Langlois spoke to the commission about racing having separate twitter and Facebook accounts.

Commissioner Rogers thanked Paul and Deb Britcher for coming to every commission meeting but congratulated them for their 2YO horse finished second at the fair finals this year.

William Bob Shoemaker asked the commission for help with his farm tag on his truck while hauling horses.

Paul Britcher asked the commission if they have heard anything about Presque Isle Downs, The Meadows and Penn National attempting to separate racing from gaming which would cause significant issues at the fairs.

The Standardbred Sale will start Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at the FARMSHOW Complex.

## **VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Redding announced the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at the FARMSHOW Complex at 2300 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

- Executive Session 11:00 A.M.
- Regular Session 1:00 P.M.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Chuckas Jr.

Bureau Director  
Bureau of Thoroughbred Horse Racing

Brett Revington  
Bureau Director  
Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing