

Arizona Racing Commission

631st Regular Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2014

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

A public meeting of the Arizona Racing Commission was convened on Monday, December 15, 2014 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Building Conference Room, Suite 250, at 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

PRESENT: Chair Erin Owens
Vice Chair Jay McClintock
Commissioner Rory S. Goree'
Commissioner Tom Lawless
ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Feldmeier

Also Present: Director William Walsh

A. Call to Order

Chair Owens called the 631st Regular Meeting of the Arizona Racing Commission to order at 1:02 p.m. The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

Approval of the Minutes:

Minutes of the 630th Regular Meeting held on Thursday, October 21, 2014 – **Chair Owens** called for a motion to approve the minutes. **Vice Chair McClintock** moved for approval. **Goree'** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of the Special Telephonic Meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 – **Chair Owens** called for a motion to approve the minutes. **Vice Chair McClintock** moved for approval. **Commissioner Lawless** seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

B. New Business

1. Request from County Fair Associations for 3-Year Permit Renewals

Chair Owens stated there were three County Fair permit renewals on the agenda which needed to be approved individually.

Director Walsh stated the meeting had been called to approve the County Fair permits and some race dates prior to the first of the year. Director Walsh proceeded to list the County Fairs and the dates they had submitted to race. He stated the applications were complete and that the Department recommended approval.

Chair Owens called for a motion to approve Maricopa County Fair dates at Turf Paradise for January 2, 3, 9 and 10, 2015. The years 2016 and 2017 were yet to be determined. **Vice Chair McClintock** moved to approve the listed dates. Commissioner **Goree'** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair Owens called for a motion to approve Navajo County Fair dates at Turf Paradise for March 7, 8, 28 and 29, 2015. March 5, 6, 12 and 13, 2016 and for March 4, 5, 11 and 12, 2017. **Vice Chair**

Arizona Racing Commission

631st Regular Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2014

McClintock moved to approve the listed dates. **Commissioner Lawless** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair Owens called for a motion to approve Yuma County Fair dates at Turf Paradise for March 14, 15, 21 and 22, 2015. The dates for 2016 and 2017 are yet to be determined. **Vice Chair McClintock** moved to approve the listed dates. **Commissioner Lawless** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Tucson Greyhound Park Request for 2015 Live Race Dates

Chair Owens stated the next agenda item was the request from Tucson Greyhound Park for live race dates. **Director Walsh** stated the Department reviewed the request and recommended approval.

Commissioner Goree' moved to approve the Tucson Greyhound Park race dates per the attachment. **Vice Chair McClintock** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Tucson Greyhound Park Request to Amend 2014 Race Dates

Chair Owens stated the following agenda item was a request from Tucson Greyhound Park to amend the 2014 race dates to change the live race day, December 24 to a dark day with only simulcasting.

Director Walsh stated the Department did not have a problem with the change of the live race day to a simulcast day, for December 24, 2014.

Commissioner Goree' called for a motion to approve the date of December 24, 2014 from a live race day to a dark simulcast day. **Vice Chair McClintock** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Turf Paradise Request for Charity Dates

Chair Owens stated the final action item on the agenda was Turf Paradise's request for three charity dates for December 20, 26 and 27, 2014.

Director Walsh stated the Department approved of the request for charity dates because they are in the best interest of everyone.

Commissioner Lawless moved to approve the charity race dates of December 20, 26 and 27, 2014 at Turf Paradise. **Vice Chair McClintock** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Information Reports

Chair Owens stated the informational reports are an opportunity for the permittees to update and keep everyone abreast of what is happening in the industry.

a. American Greyhound Racing - no report

b. County Fairs - no report

c. Rillito - Jaye Wells, reported that they were given a one hundred thousand dollar grant and received a five million dollar bond package. Mike Weiss reported on a program that the University of Arizona and Rillito together have partnered with to get students involved in the industry.

Arizona Racing Commission

631st Regular Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2014

Currently 10 students are involved, but he anticipates many more to become interested. **Director Walsh** asked if they could get together after the meeting to discuss licensing issues.

d. Tucson Greyhound Park – Dale Popp, General Manager, thanked the commission for the approval of the 2015 race dates and for amending the 2014 race schedule. He spoke of an additional kennel being added and the possibility of adding two more races to their existing dates. He said he anticipated bringing the additional dates to the commission for approval after the first of the year.

e. Turf Paradise – Dave Johnson reported the meet had progressed very well. He said a couple of new things were implemented in simulcasting and have been beneficial. He felt the OTB simulcasting has gone up since the ADW rules were passed. He said the handle is doing well, races are filling well enough that they are confident to move to a 9 race card on Mondays and Tuesdays during the month of December. On Breeders Day he said they had run a 9 race card and felt that December would be a good month to try doing a 9 race card again. When asked by Vice Chair McClintock to compare the handle for a 9 race card day to an 8 race card day, Mr. Johnson responded by saying they are actually exceeding numbers from the prior year.

2. Optional Industry Stakeholder Association Updates

a. Arizona Greyhound Association - no report

b. Arizona Quarter Racing Association – no report

c. Arizona Thoroughbred Breeders Association – Dove Ward reported they had a successful Fall Breeders Day. On that day they made about eighty-one thousand dollars. They plan on having a Spring Festival in April.

d. Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association – Tom Metzen, Executive Director, reported they are having a good meet although there are not as many horses. He made a correction regarding the dates for the 9 race card days. He said they would be running those races December and January. Simulcasting on Mondays and Tuesdays has been working out well for them. He is looking forward to getting the Advanced Deposit Wagering up and running.

e. Jockey's Guild – no report

D. Commission Reports

Director Walsh reported he had been in Tucson, Arizona last week to attend the ARCI meeting. He said due to some issues that had been found, rules for stacking had changed slightly. The Director said he had discussed these changes with Dr. Scot Waterman and they would be implementing the new changes next fall. He reported the horsemen had adapted to the new threshold rules and things were in much better shape now.

Director Walsh reported that the way in which the ADW law was written the ADWs were referred to as Permittees and there is a long review process which is taking longer than anticipated. He stated he had sent a message to Mr. Francia that morning to remind him to get the paperwork into the Department.

Director Walsh stated he would like to have the schedule for the 2015 Commission Meetings placed on the January 8, 2015 agenda. Due to the number of Special Meetings that had been held during 2014 and the difficulty of securing a meeting room and gathering a quorum, he wished to schedule a meeting on the second Thursday of every month in 2015. This would be a way to secure a time, place and quorum.

Arizona Racing Commission

631st Regular Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2014

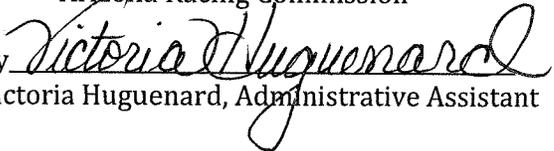
Chair Owens thanked Director Walsh for placing meetings into the months that generally would not have a meeting so the Special Meetings would be eliminated or only held under very special circumstances.

E. Call to the Public

Steve Nolan said he felt like the Department was withholding information from the Commissioners. He stated he would like to make a presentation at the next Commission Meeting.

Chair Owens called for a motion to adjourn. **Vice Chair McClintock** moved the motion. **Commissioners Goree'** and **Commissioner Lawless** seconded the motion in unison. Motion carried.

This public meeting adjourned 1:38 p.m.
Dated this 8th day of January, 2015

Arizona Racing Commission
By 
Victoria Huguenard, Administrative Assistant