

# MINUTES

## OREGON RACING COMMISSION DECEMBER 19, 2002

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, December 19, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 140 of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR. Commissioners in attendance were Steve Walters, Chair; Tom Towslee, Vice Chair; Lisa Metcalf, Jeff Gilmour and Todd Thorne. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

### 1. Approval of November 21, 2002, Minutes

ACTION: MOTION(Metcalf) Approve minutes as submitted.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### 2. Oregon Quarter Horse Racing Association Proposed Budget for 2002-2003

Chair Walters stated this item had been tabled at the November since a representative from the OQHRA was able to attend that meeting. Dave Nelson said this budget was similar those submitted the last several years.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Approve the portion of the OQHRA proposed budget coming from the purse account for 2002-2003.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### 3. Portland Meadows Update

Art McFadden reported Oregon Championship Day with the largest live handle this year. It was up 29% over Oregon Championship Day in 2001 and 73% over 2000. The export handle was up 74% over last year. At this point in time the Oregon live handle is up 12% and the exports are up 65%. The total handle is down 4% which includes simulcasting. In response to a question from Chair Walters, Mr. McFadden stated he thought the greyhound simulcast was down approximately 5% and the horses were down 2%. Mr. McFadden also reported an article would be appearing in *The Oregonian* in the next week or two about the female jockeys at Portland Meadows. There will be no racing next weekend and it will resume again the weekend after New Year's Day.

Mr. McFadden stated he had submitted a change in their wagering format beginning January 3, 2003. Chair Walters stated that since the request had just been received, he suggested the commission delegate to him the authority to approve of change which would allow him time to discuss the request with Steve Roden prior to taking any action.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Delegate to Chair Walters authority to take action on request from Portland Meadows to change their wagering program offered for live racing.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### 4. Update on Executive Director Search

Todd Thorne reported receipt of applications had been closed on December 10, 2002, and at that point 33 applications had been received. Chair Walters and he met this morning to do the initial screening and we able to narrow the list down to 10 applicants who will be contacted for the first round of

interviews which are scheduled for January 9 and 10, 2003. Both members of the committee were very pleased with the quality of the applicants. After the first round of interviews has been completed the screening committee will probably meet again to narrow down the applicants to 3 candidates who will be interviewed by the full commission.

#### **5. Status Report on Second Tier Hub Requests**

Vice Chair Towslee reported the cut-off date for requests for Tier 2 hub funds is December 31, 2002. After that copies of the applications will be provided to the committee, Vice Chair Towslee and Commissioner Gilmour, for them to review all requests. Vice Chair Towslee said they will be meeting with the county fair people on January 10, 2003, to discuss some issues he has regarding the applications. One of the things concerning him is they are getting requests for on-going appropriations essentially, they're not one-time only projects. He has some real concerns about using hub money for operating expenses because if the hub money ever goes away that race meet would go away at the same time. It appears there is going to be a significant amount of money available, so the main question has to do with whether or not to spend all the money to fund a little bit of every project or possibly hold some projects over for 2004. The committee hopes to be able to make some recommendations to the commission by the February or possibly the March meeting.

#### **6. Confirmation of Next Commission Meeting - January 16, 2003**

All commissioners will be present with the exception of Tom Towslee who will be out of town.

#### **7. Year 2003 Race Dates Windows for Multnomah Greyhound Park - April 30 through October 13, 2003, and Portland Meadows - October 15, 2003 through April 25, 2004**

Art McFadden was present to respond to any questions regarding the requested race dates. Dick Cartney, HBPA, requested that they have the opportunity to look at the dates to be sure they have the full 6½ months of simulcasting window with the live dates.

ACTION: MOTION(Gilmour) Approve race dates windows subject to confirmation of the precise dates for the 2003 Multnomah Greyhound Park and 2003-04 Portland Meadows race meets and subject to timely submission of applications for each meet for issuance of a race meet license and approval of each application by the commission.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.