

MINUTES

OREGON RACING COMMISSION DECEMBER 18, 2003

The Oregon Racing Commission met on December 18, 2003, 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, Lisa Metcalf, Jeff Gilmour and Todd Thorne. The governor has not yet appointed an individual for the remaining commissioner position. Commissioner Thorne called the meeting to order as Chair Walters was delayed in arriving due to his participation in a conference call. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

1. Approval of November 20, 2003, Minutes

ACTION: MOTION(Metcalf) Approve minutes as submitted.

VOTE: 3 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

2. Portland Meadows Race Meet Report

Jeff Grady reported the handle is down and the exports are doing alright but not quite as well as expected. They are currently still in negotiations with the OGA regarding their contract for the Multnomah Greyhound Park race meet.

3. Second Amended Proposed Order for Larry J. Farrell - Update

Raul Ramirez reported the order in the commission meeting packets was an amended proposed order which was mailed to Mr. Farrell's attorney, Charles Williamson, December 8, 2003, in which it stated he had ten days following the date of the mailing of the order to file exceptions. As today is the 10th day, Mr. Ramirez prepared a final order which he proposed that the commission adopt to become final if no exceptions have been filed with the commission office by the end of the day.

ACTION: MOTION(Gilmour) Adopt and issue the final order for Mr. Farrell if no exceptions have been filed by 5:00 p.m.

VOTE: 3 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

(Chair Walters arrived during discussion of the next agenda item)

4. Sub-Committee Report on Priority Guidelines for Distribution of 2004 Hub Funds

Jeff Gilmour reported he and Todd Thorne as the sub-committee met to discuss guidelines they would be using in their recommendations to the commission regarding the distribution of hub funds for the year 2004. Tier 2 funds require a fifty percent match, where Tier 1 funds do not. The recommendation to the commission for Tier 1 fund distributions to the non-profit race meets are:

1. Continue the Jockey Incentive Program at \$25,000
2. Increase the purse supplement from \$1500/race to \$2000/race
3. Add the cost of providing video and photofinish services at the rate of \$965/race day
4. Fund the construction of towers for the video cameras

Commissioner Gilmour strongly encouraged the racing industry and personnel involved with the fair meets to work with people in the local communities where these meets take place to show their support by contributing financially to bring the purses for each race above the \$2000 amount provided by hub funds.

The deadline for submitting Tier 2 hub funds requests is December 31, 2003. Since safety is a critical infrastructure in racing, whether it involves the participants or the facilities, requests addressing these issues will be the primary focus on allocation of these funds. While some requests have already been submitted, the sub-committee will wait until after the cut-off date to review all of the requests at one time. They currently are planning on meeting the first week in January following which they are recommending the commission have a telephone conference meeting to act on their recommendations. Commissioner Gilmour stated that he is aware that counties are currently in their budget cycle and that the earlier they are notified of which projects are to be funded the easier it will be for them to make the necessary allocations for the fifty percent match in terms of funds and/or labor. The sub-committee is planning on attending the portion of the Oregon Fairs meeting in Eugene on January 9th which will be specifically discussing issues related to racing. Commissioner Gilmour stated he hoped one of the things they would be talking about would be having the fair managers begin preparing a 2, 5 and 10 year plan that would look at the large perspective of racing in their counties.

Commissioner Gilmour also said the commission needs to make some decisions on the allocation of future funding and answer some questions such as:

- (1) How high is high?
- (2) What should be the funding level for Tier 1?
- (3) Providing funding to licensees vs. county fairs

Following the report, Chair Walters stated that since the Jockey Incentive Program has done such a good job of doing what it was set out to do, he suggested the amount be increased to \$32,500. Following discussion on this, it was decided to increase the amount to \$35,000.

ACTION: MOTION(Metcalf) Adopt the guidelines for Tier 1 funding to include video and photofinish services, construction of the required towers for the equipment, and increase the Jockey Incentive Program to \$35,000.

VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay

5. Confirmation of Next Commission Meeting – January 15, 2004

Both Chair Walters and Commissioner Metcalf have conflicts on that date, so the January meeting was changed to the 22nd. The location will be announced at a later date.

6. Initiate Rulemaking to Amend OAR 462-120-0020 – Search; Warrant/Warrantless

This item was placed on the agenda to have the commission initiate the rulemaking process to provide commission investigators the authority to use a metal detector or wand for periodic inspections of the jockey room for contraband. A hearing will be set for all interested parties to provide testimony on this proposed rule amendment.

ACTION: MOTION(Thorne) Direct staff to begin rulemaking process.

VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay

7. Crooked River Roundup Association 2004 Race Dates Request - July 7, 8, 9 and 10

ACTION: MOTION(Thorne) Approve 2004 race dates request submitted by Crooked River Roundup Association subject to timely submission of an application for issuance of a race meet license and approval of that application by the commission.

VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.