

# MINUTES

## OREGON RACING COMMISSION OCTOBER 19, 1995

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, October 19, 1995, at 1:30 p.m. for their regular meeting in Room 140 of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 N. E. Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon. Commissioners in attendance were as follows: Stephen Walters, Chair; Brad Higbee, Vice Chair; George Rankins and Richard Reid, who arrived late. Laura Fine was excused. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

### 1. Minutes of September 21, 1995 Commission Meeting

ACTION: MOTION (Higbee) Approve minutes as submitted.

VOTE: 3 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused, 1 Absent

### 2. Minutes of September 26, 1995 Teleconference Commission Meeting

ACTION: MOTION (Rankins) Approve minutes as submitted.

VOTE: 3 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused, 1 Absent

### 3. Simulcast Policy

Vice Chair Higbee reported he had received a number of comments regarding the report and recommendation of the Simulcast Committee which was distributed to interested parties just prior to the September 21st meeting, stating he wanted to take a serious look at them and at the policy. He suggested the next step would be to schedule a meeting of the committee within the next four weeks. Chair Walters stated the Commission had authorized the executive director to file for proposed rule making at the last meeting, however, that could not be done because we did not actually have any proposed rules to submit. Mr. Barham prepared a draft of proposed rules which were given to Messrs. Walters and Higbee today. Mr. Barham will now be able to file for proposed rule making. Chair Walters made it clear the Commission was looking for constructive suggestions in the form of proposals and not just criticism of the recommendation already distributed.

(Commissioner Reid arrived during the discussion on simulcast policy)

### 4. Multnomah Greyhound Park End of Meet Report

Dick Cummings provided the following statistics in the absence of Carl Wilson: Total live handle is down 24% from last year; total per live performance average was down 17%; Oregon live handle was down 24%; Oregon performance average was down 18%; total simulcast handle for horses was down 5%; total simulcast handle for greyhounds was up 106%. The total handle was down 12%, with the total average per performance being down 10%; attendance on track was down 18% while off-track attendance was down 13%, making total attendance for the meet down 17%. On the positive side, purses for 1995 totaled \$2,238,585, which was

4.27% of the total handle compared to 1994 when purses totaled \$2,012,730, which was 3.73% of the total handle.

**5. Lone Oak Racing End of Meet Report**

Lonnie Craig reported their gross handle was up 11.3% over last year, with live racing being up only 1% and simulcasting about even. He was very happy with the way the meet went this year.

**6. New Portland Meadows Update**

Mike Dorough and Woody Mitchell reported that after the first two weeks of operation their live handle was down 15%, horse simulcast was down 6.7%, greyhound simulcast was down 6.4%, with the total handle being down 8.5%. Total attendance on track was down 14.9%. The track has had some problems with group sales, probably due to the uncertainty of the track ownership situation. David Brown then gave a review of the current status of all legal matters involving New Portland Meadows and the two shareholders. Following his report, the Commission expressed concerns regarding the future status of ownership of Portland Meadows and stressed the importance of having a resolution by the Commission meeting on November 9th.

**7. AutoTote Communications - Complaint by Lone Oak Racing**

Lonnie Craig reviewed for the Commission the problems they have had with AutoTote Communications regarding simulcasting of the Del Mar and CARF/Northern California signals. Chair Walters directed the executive director to write a letter to Autotote, with a copy to the California Horse Racing Board, to try to get to the bottom of the situation.

**8. Approval of Hearings Officer's Actions**

**a. Ronald E. Crocker**

ACTION: (MOTION) Reid Approve final order by default.  
VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

**b. Lonnie R. Hurd**

ACTION: (MOTION) Reid Approve final order by default.  
VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

**c. Larry J. Heiple**

ACTION: (MOTION) Higbee Approve order dismissing case.  
VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.