

# MINUTES

## OREGON RACING COMMISSION AUGUST 21, 1997

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, August 21, 1997, 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; Laura Fine, Vice Chair; Richard Reid, Tom Towslee, and Baltazar Ortiz. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

### **1. Minutes of July 18, 1997, Commission Meeting**

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Approve minutes as submitted.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

### **2. Multnomah Greyhound Park Update**

Carl Wilson reported as of August 18th, 80 live performances have been conducted, and that there are 39 live performances remaining in the meet. He stated the Oregon live handle is down 19%, total live handle is down 10%, import handle is up 53%, simulcast horse handle is up 25%, simulcast greyhound handle is up 6%, total simulcast handle is up 18%, total Oregon handle is up 2%, and total handle overall is up 5%. Attendance is down 13%. Simulcast horse and total simulcast handles are up due to fact Lone Oak is not simulcasting this season. There was a good turn out for the Derby last weekend. Gentlemen Farrell, KFXX national sports radio personality, will do his national broadcast at MGP on September 4th, and on September 13th, Coach Walsh of the Portland State University football team will have a match race with a greyhound.

### **3. Lone Oak Racing Update**

Lonnie Craig reported opening races on August 16 and 17 went well. They have plenty of horses and had good attendance, however, people weren't wagering. Questions had been raised about the lighting. Mr. Craig stated they do have adequate lighting. In addition, Gary Baze, Jockeys' Guild Manager, reported he has not heard any complaints from the riders regarding inadequate lighting for the two nights LOR will be racing. If there is any problem he will bring it back to the Commission.

### **4. Legislative Update**

Steve Barham reported the governor had signed HB 2104 (ORC statutes and accounting wagering bill) and HB 3009 (which authorizes the ORC to adopt rules regulating a multi-jurisdictional hub). HB 2870 was vetoed by the governor, however, he spoke with both Steve Walters and Steve Barham stating he would be supportive of an E-Board package that would try to direct money to the small fairs and the Salem meet. The next E-Board is in November. Mr. Barham stated the E-Board does not have

authority to spend Lottery dollars, however, they do have authority to act on revenue coming from the ORC which is in excess of their normal

operating costs as well as general fund monies. The problem the governor had with the bill was the amount of money allocated to the two commercial race meets. Tom Towslee will work with Steve Barham in contact with the governor's office throughout the process. Mr. Barham stated he would present a status report at the September meeting.

Regarding HB 2104 and 3009, it was recommended there be two committees formed to address the issues of each bill. HB 2104 advisory committee should include representatives from the governor's office, Autotote, MGP, NPM, OSF, Grants Pass, OTB sites, and two or three handicappers. Commissioner Fine volunteered to be on the committee. Two committees be established, one to begin rulemaking process for accounting wagering, and the other to work on rulemaking for a multi-jurisdictional wagering hub.

ACTION: MOTION(Fine)

VOTE:

5 Aye, 0 Nay

It was decided to determine the make-up of the committee dealing with the multi-jurisdictional wagering hub at the September meeting after Steve Barham has had the opportunity to check with the various entities involved.

#### **5. New Portland Meadows Bonus Program**

Steve Barham summarized the events regarding the bonus program as it was implemented last season. Some OTB sites were not happy with the distribution. As a result, he met with NPM and OTB site representatives regarding the program for next season. It was the consensus of the Commission to allow NPM to work out the kinks in the bonus program with the OTB site operators and to not take any action at this time.

#### **6. Consideration of Proposed Rules OAR 462-025-035, 462-035-035 - Guidelines for Responding to Request for Reinstatement of a License**

Laura Fine started out by thanking Paul Sundermier for his efforts in drafting the proposed rules. The Commission proceeded to go through the proposed rules and made several amendments in the process.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Extend period for receipt of comments to two weeks from today (September 4, 1997), and postpone action on these rules until the September meeting.

VOTE:

5 Aye, 0 Nay

#### **OTHER MATTERS BEFORE THE RACING COMMISSION:**

- Due to commitments in his "real job", Chair Walters asked if it would be possible to change the September meeting date from Thursday, the 18th, to Friday, the 19th. It was decided to meet on Friday, September 19th. There is no conference room available at the State Office Building, so the meeting will be held at Multnomah Greyhound Park.
- Since the legislature has adjourned, Chair Walters proposed that the simulcast committee be reinstated to look at drafting new simulcast rules. Steve Walters and Buzz Ortiz were added as members of the committee.
- Commissioner Richard Reid reported he and Commissioner Fine had met with the commission veterinarians regarding potential rule changes. A full report will be made at the September meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.