

MINUTES

OREGON RACING COMMISSION FEBRUARY 19, 1998

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, February 19, 1998, at 1:30 p.m. 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 January 15, 1998 Commission Meeting

ACTION: MOTION(Reid) Approve minutes as submitted.
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

2. New Portland Meadows Update

Mike Dorough reported the live handle is doing very well because the exports are greater in number than in the past, stating there has been over 50% increase in the amount wagered. After adjustments were made due to the jockey strike they are up 2% on the live product. Total handle is down 4.8% with attendance down 6%. Chair Walters complimented New Portland Meadows management for their efforts in minimizing the amount of racing that was lost due to repair work on the rail. A question was raised about make-up days. Mr. Dorough stated they were already racing on holiday Mondays and were adding one race per card through the end of the meet. The only other possible day not already scheduled for racing is Easter Sunday. He added the status of the purse account would also be a factor in the number of make-up races to be run.

3. Action on Hearings Conducted in The Morning

a. Michael J. Trotman

ACTION: MOTION(Fine) The hearing was conducted as a default hearing due to nonappearance of the licensee. Uphold the findings of the board of judges recommending revocation of license.
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

b. Darren C. McCormick

ACTION: MOTION(Reid) Recommend findings of the board of stewards and suspension of six months be upheld, with time already served being a part of the six months, and comply with other requirements for a second drug offense.
VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

c. James W. Wooten

This hearing is being continued in order to provide time to submit the record.

d. M. Anthony Mawing

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Adopt the board of stewards findings for a three-day suspension as a result of Mr. Mawing not making every effort to prevent the horse from lugging in. In reaching this decision the commission did not feel there was any intentional violation of the rule.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

4. Report of the Simulcast Committee

Chair Walters summarized the history of the simulcast policy/rule, bringing it up to the current status. He then presented a written report and recommendation of the simulcast committee, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. In his comments, Chair Walters stated the report still does not reflect any consensus regarding simulcasting, however, it does present various views. The recommendation would be to not authorize two commercial race meets to simulcast at the same time. The meet going with the longer window would be granted simulcast rights providing it makes appropriate use of its window. The committee recommended the commission adopt their recommendations outlined on pages 4 and 5 of the report, which is comprised of seven points.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Direct executive director to initiate rulemaking process on simulcast rules.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Grant simulcast portion of Multnomah Greyhound Park 1998 race meet application and delegate to the executive director authority to approve specific contracts and agreements.

VOTE: 5 Aye, 0 Nay

While on the subject of simulcasting, a question was raised about the state fair race meet. Clifton Lewis, Oregon State Fair and Expo, reported they are going to run the race meet themselves rather than contract it out. They will be requesting funds from the E-Board in order to break even on expenses.

5. Action on Remaining Proposed rules of Horse Racing from Hearing - 462-031-030, 462-035-005, 462-037-005(4), 462-039-005(3)(4), 462-039-010(1), 462-039-015

The commission deliberated on the remaining proposed changes to the horse rules to be considered.

ACTION: MOTION(Towslee) Adopt the proposed changes based on the modifications made today, and make them effective May 1, 1998, the same time as those already approved at the January meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.