

NEW MEXICO HORSE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Date: March 22, 2018 at 9:30 AM

Place: NMRC Boardroom, 4900 Alameda Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113

Members Present: Chairman Ray Willis; Vice-Chairman Gayla McCulloch; Commissioner Jerry Cosper, DVM, Commissioner Ken Corazza

Members Absent: Commissioner Leonard Blach, DVM

NMRC Staff Participating: NMRC Executive Director Ismael Trejo; NMRC Manager Rosemary Garley; NMRC Paralegal Tina Marie Arce

Others Present/Participating: Assistant Attorney General Marlo Aragon

AGENDA ITEM	TRANSCRIPT PAGE NUMBER(S)	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION TAKEN
Call to Order and Roll Call	00:00 to 00:24	Meeting called to order by Chairman Willis. Roll call was taken by NMRC Paralegal Tina Arce. Assistant Attorney General Marlo Aragon the NMRC General Counsel was present. Commissioner Leonard Blach, DVM was not present.	No Action Taken.
Approval of Agenda	00:25 to 00:45	Chairman Willis asked Executive Director Ismael Trejo if there were any changes to the Agenda. Executive Director Ismael Trejo said there were no changes to the Agenda.	Motion to approve by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Vice-Chairman McCulloch. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.

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Minutes- February 22, 2018	00:46 to 00:1:09	Chairman Willis requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting.	Motion to approve by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
Chairman's Agenda	01:11 to 03:24	Chairman Willis stated there was a lengthy Medication/ Rules Committee meeting and asked Commissioner Cosper to update everyone. Commissioner Cosper stated that the Committee covered quite a bit. The Committee is working on revamping all of the Emergency Protocols, and those will be brought back in May of 2018.	No Action Taken
NMHA Report Breeders Report	03:28 to 05:36	Anna Fay Davis, Executive Director of the New Mexico Horse Breeders started with the race a day report as follows: Sunland Park has run 226 NM Bred races in 52 days through Tuesday, March 13, 2018. 175 TB Overnight, 32 QH Overnight, 4 QH Trials, 9 TB Stakes and 6 QH Stakes. There were 1973 NM Breds that were scheduled to participate in these races for an average of 9.53% NM Breds per race. In 43 days, 289 NM Breds ran in open overnight races. Of these 289, 76 NM Breds came in 1st, 2nd or 3rd, 26% and \$57,154.20 was wire transferred.	No Action Taken
NMHA Horsemen's Report	05:38 to 014:44	Pat Bingham, Executive Director of the NMHA started by saying that the NMHA has been looking at the electronic logging device for agricultural hauling. The DOT has extended the moratorium until June 18, 2018 to further look at the local hauling which is 175 road miles where the ELD does not apply. The NMHA is hoping they will drop the Horse industry out of	No Action Taken

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		the moratorium. The internet voting was successful for the NMHA and when voting happens again at SunRay Park, the internet voting will have a drop down ballot. The NMHA invited the tracks to start the dialogue regarding race dates, the Horsemen would like to meet with the tracks. The Horsemen hired a track consultant, Steve Woods to look at Sunland Park race track. After the Horsemen's track consultant looked at the track they had a meeting with track management and had a good conversation about how to keep the track in good condition. The Horsemen plan on having Mr. Woods look at all the tracks he doesn't work on in the State of New Mexico. Chairman Willis asked if the Horsemen have followed up on the races that weren't run in Sunland. Mr. Bingham explained that was addressed by Sunland Park. Vice-Chairman McCulloch asked when the Race Dates Committee would be meeting. Staff explained it would happen on April 18, 2018. The tracks need to get their proposed dates to the NMRC by April 10, 2018. Commissioner Corazza asked Mr. Bingham to alert all of the tracks to what they are looking at when they come to inspect the racetrack, when they come to the tracks so that the tracks can address what the Horsemen want ahead of time.	
Jockey's Guild Inc.	015:06 to 015:56	John Beech, of the Jockey's Guild stated that they are looking forward to the big weekend at Sunland. Mr. Beech also stated the Jockey's are looking forward to the opening of SunRay Park.	
NMRC Executive Director Report	015:57 to 019:43	Izzy Trejo, Executive Director of the NMRC stated that going into the weekend at Sunland Park, this is going to be a big weekend with a lot of horses from around the United States coming into Sunland Park. Mr. Trejo and Investigator Melodie Ryan will be going up to SunRay Park on April 10, 2018 for the walk-through. Mr. Trejo will be going to Arkansas on April 3, 2018 through April 6, 2018 for the ARCI conference.	

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Unfinished/ New Business and/or Action Items Regarding Licensing: Approval of 2018 SunRay Park Stewards	019:59 to 021:34	Commissioner Corazza asked if the Stewards would still announce why a horse was disqualified. Mr. Trejo commented that he would like the Stewards to be able to share how they are getting to their decisions, but he is still discussing with the AG's office if there will be any liability issues. Mr. Escobar has grown up in the industry and the NMRC feels that his enthusiasm and courage to do things the right way will be a good fit in New Mexico. Chairman Willis asked Izzy Trejo if the new Steward was in the audience. Mr. Trejo stated that the NMRC is asking for approval of all of Ron Walker, Linda Salinas and first year Steward Victor Escobar. Mr. Escobar has been working under Scot Waterman in Tucson, Arizona.	Motion to approve by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
Approval of SunRay Park - Jockey and Exercise Rider Insurance - Racing Officials 10 Race Post times and Wagering Format	021:35 to 024:30	Lonnie Barber, Director of Racing for SunRay Park asked for approval for Jockey and Exercise Rider Insurance. Mr. Barber stated that there was a 3% drop this year and there was also a drop last year and he'd like to see it keep improving. Mr. Barber asked to approve the Racing Officials, he does have more to add to the list in April, and will come back with those names. Mr. Barber asked for approval for a 10 race Post time and Wagering format. Mr. Barber stated that they have hired International Sound and they are up in Farmington now working on having the system ready for racing. The track is being worked on and Mr. Barber thinks everything will be in order by the time the barn area opens on April 6, 2018. They have around 1400 stall apps to date.	Motion to approve Jockey and Exercise Rider Insurance by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion to approve Racing Officials by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion to approve Post times and Wagering format by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
Approval for Sunland Park - Ratification of Approval to run less than 9 races on Feb 17, 2018 - Ratification of Approval to	024:31 to 0036:18	Fred Heinrich of Sunland Park was in attendance for Dustin Dix due to the Sunland Derby weekend. Izzy Trejo, of the NMRC explained that there was a rain storm on February 17, 2018 and it was decided that the Jockey's would not ride that day. Director Trejo approved the amendment of the wagering	Motion to ratify approval on both items by Vice-Chairman McCulloch. Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.

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Amend the Wagering Format and Post Times		format for March 25th, 2018 only. Commissioner Cosper asked Mr. Heinrich if Sunland was going to a no 2 year old QH card. Mr. Heinrich commented that he had not heard that and he could check into it and get back to Mr. Cosper regarding that rumor. A discussion was held regarding horses being pulled out of the State and what the fees are for taking Mares out of the State. Ralph Vincent of the NMHBA stated that Sunland Park officials do nothing to dispel rumors and it hurts the industry. Mr. Heinrich stated that if Sunland Park does not know about the rumors, they cannot address them.	
Approval for Ruidoso Downs • 2018 Racing Officials	036:25 to 043:15	Jeff True, Ruidoso Downs stated that he is asking for approval of his 2018 Racing Officials. Mr. True explained that Mr. Williams has been Clerk of Scales, Paddock Judge, Starter and that he comes with a lot of experience. Mr. Valerio came highly recommended. Mr. True stated that there are a lot of things happening at Ruidoso Downs and he would like to inform the Commission at the next meeting what is happening at Ruidoso Downs. Chairman Willis asked Mr. True about the gate security/ and Mr. True explained that they are working on policy now regarding gate security.	Motion to approve by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
Public Comment	043:23 to 044:31	Leslie Fincher stated that she was anxious to see the new camera system for the Stewards in SunRay Park. Ms. Fincher stated that Ruidoso should be commended. She also stated that usually the rumors coming out of Sunland Park are true. The Commission took a 5 minute break	No Action Taken
In the Matter of Hector-Aldrete Bizcarra Order to Show Cause	<u>Track 2</u> 00:00 to 037:24	Hector Aldrete-Bizcara and his attorney's Alan Barela and Ramon Rivera were present. The Commission reviewed the case and took testimony from all parties to this proceeding.	No Action Taken
Licensing/Pending Litigation/Appeals/Hearing	037:24 to 038:10	Chairman Willis called for a motion to go into Closed Executive Session to discuss items 7A,7B, and 7C. Roll call was taken with	Motion to go into Executive Session by Chairman Willis; Second by Commissioner Blach.

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Officer Reports (May be Closed pursuant to NMSA 1978, Sections 10-15-1(H)-(1),(3) and (7) and 10-15-1-(I)		Commissioner Blach absent. Executive Director Trejo was asked to remain in Executive Session.	Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
Licensing/Pending Litigation/Appeals/Hearing Officer Reports (May be Closed pursuant to NMSA 1978, Sections 10-15-1(H)-(1),(3) and (7) and 10-15-1-(I)	Track 3 00:00 to 00:25	Chairman Willis called to come out of closed session with the only matters discussed being 7A, 7B and 7C.	Motion to come out of Closed Session by Chairman Willis.
In the Matter of J.R. Valenzuela Hearing Officer Report	00:31 to 00:58	Marlo Aragon, General counsel to the NMRC stated that the Commission needs to finish reviewing the record in its entirety prior to making its decision in this case, so the matter will be tabled until the next Regular Commission Meeting.	Motion to approve by Vice-Chairman McCulloch; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
In the Matter of Hector Aldrete-Bizcarra Order to Show Cause	01:04 to 02:19	Marlo Aragon, General counsel to the NMRC stated that the Commission would like Mr. Bizcarra be subject to random drug testing at his expense, He cannot be involved in any illegal activity, including match racing, He must complete 100 hours of community service in an animal welfare related field and the Commission will re-hear his Order to Show Cause at the September, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting.	Motion to approve by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Vice-Chairman McCulloch. Motion carried without objections or abstentions.
In the Matter of Alfredo Sanchez D-1226-CV-2017-00278	02:23 to 02:44	Marlo Aragon, General counsel to the NMRC stated that no action was taken in this case. This was a matter of discussion.	No Action Taken.
Adjournment	03:22	Chairman Willis called for a motion to adjourn.	Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Vice-Chairman McCulloch Motion carried.

Ray Willis
Chairman Ray Willis

04-19-18
Date

Ismael Trejo
Executive Director Ismael Trejo

4-19-18
Date