

NEW MEXICO HORSE RACING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Date: September 13, 2018 at 9:34 AM

Place: New Mexico Racing Commission Boardroom, 4900 Alameda Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM

Members Present: Chairman Ray Willis; Commissioner Jerry Cosper, DVM, Commissioner Ken Corazza, and Commissioner Leonard Blach, DVM

Members Absent: Vice Chair Gayla McCulloch

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

Others Present/Participating: Assistant Attorney General James A. Hayes

AGENDA ITEM	TRANSCRIPT PAGE NUMBER(S)	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION TAKEN
Call to Order and Roll Call	00:00 to 00:25	Meeting called to order by Chairman Ray Willis. Roll call was taken by NMRC Paralegal Tina Arce.	No Action Taken.
Approval of Agenda	00:25 to 00:53	Chairman Willis asked Executive Director Izzy Trejo if there were any amendments to the agenda. Director Trejo stated so there were no changes to agenda.	Motion to approve agenda by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Commissioner Blach. Motion carried unanimously.
Approval of Minutes: September 4, 2018	00:53 to 00:1:10	Chairman Willis requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2018 meeting.	Motion to approve by Commissioner Blach; Second by Commissioner Corazza. Motion carried unanimously
Chairman's Agenda	00:1:10 to 00:2:54	Chairman Willis asked for a meeting update. Dr. Cosper provided an update on the Medication/Rules Committee that was held the day before. Commissioner Cosper stated the meeting went very well.	No Action Taken
NMHBA Report Breeders Report	00:2:54 to 00:6:49	Mary Barber, Executive Director of the NMHBA, provided the the race a day report as follows: Ruidoso Downs has run 167 NM Bred races in 47 days. This is down from last year,	No Action Taken

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		<p>however SunnRay Park had 5 less days of racing. 15 NM Bred races. Did average 3.55 races per day.</p> <p>Downs at Albuquerque in its first 38 days has run 132 NM Bred races and averaged 3.47 NM Bred races per day. Their average field size has stayed steady. They are at 9.1 NM Bred per overnight races. This is just overnight races. For the NM Breds in open races reports, Ruidoso Downs in their first 37 days 321 NM Breds ran in open overnight races. Of those horses 113 came in 1st, 2nd and 3rd and that was 35%. Of those 75 were TB, 38 were QH and they all shared in a total of \$49, 941.64 and pretty even with last year, so staying pretty steady. For the Downs at Albuquerque NM Bred races in their first 30 days they had 298 NM Breds running open overnight races. Of those 83 have come in 1st, 2nd and 3rd for a total of 28%. 22 are TB, 61 are QH and they shared \$63,629.00. NM Breds are doing well. Ms. Barber will look into how much of the field is NM Bred.</p>	
NMHA Horsemen's Report	00:6:49 to 00:11:35	<p>Pat Bingham, Executive Director of the NMHA. Mr. Bingham thanked Tina for her long tenure and service for the Racing Commission as she has always been helpful to their office in terms of getting information back and forth, etc. Mr. Bingham also thanked Jeff True and his staff and the owners of Ruidoso Downs Racetrack as they had a really fine meet. They are up in terms of their handle on and off track and that's to be commended. Mr. Bingham also stated The Downs had a really good meet as well, despite difficult circumstances from time to time with lightening and thunder and washout situations and stuff like that. He commented on mitigating and aggravating circumstances and hoped that those two aspects of a trainers or owners' situation are taken into account whenever the Commission deliberated on matters involving rules infractions.</p>	No Action Taken

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		He assured the Commission that his office was "sitting on" positive tests for the benefit of somebody, trainer/owner, whatever. In addition, Director Trejo stated that that in the Rules the laboratory must send the results to the Commission and the Horsemen. Currently that is not occurring as the NMHA are receiving the results directly from the lab.	
Jockey's Guild Report	00:11:35 to 00:13:05	John Beech, Regional Manager of the Jockey's Guild reported that they had a great week at Ruidoso and wanted to thank Jeff True for all his help with the jocks room and everything he's been doing to help work out stuff they had going on. At the Downs at Albuquerque, things are going well there and he went on to thank Mr. Don Cook for his help with weather conditions and everything.	No Action Taken
NIMRC Executive Director Report	00:13:35 to 00:16:42	Izzy Trejo, Executive Director of the NMRC started by stating that Ruidoso Downs had a great All American great weekend. The handle was over 1.6 million compared to last year's 1.5 million. Director Trejo spoke before the Economic Development Committee in Cloudcroft on September 5 th . He discussed the state of horseracing. Director Trejo told the legislators that were present that we currently have a lot of good indicators in the horse racing industry in New Mexico. A majority of our racetracks are up in handle. Those indicators point upwards and more importantly, the horse sales are a very important indicator. Ruidoso had two great sessions of NM Breds and open select horses. Sale prices were significantly up this year. Director Trejo truly believes that is as good of investment in horse racing in our state as you can get, people buying NM Breds. The staff held a stewards training. Want to thank James for his efforts. The session was very beneficial to entire staff and stewards as well. He announced that tomorrow was Tina Arce's last day with the Commission	No Action Taken.

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Unfinished/ New Business and/or Action Items Regarding Licensing:	00:16:42 to 00:20:00	<p>and said he was truly going to miss her.</p> <p>Don Cook, on behalf of the DAA asked for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requesting Ratification of Approval to cancel last five races on Wednesday, August 22, 2018. Motion Commissioner Cosper; Second Commissioner Blach. • Requesting Ratification of Approval of Horsemen's Bookkeeper. Requesting Ratification of Ms. Danielle Sena as interim horsemen's bookkeeper. She will work a couple weeks into October closing all the books. Motion Commissioner Blach; Second Commissioner Corazza. • Requesting Ratification of Approval of additional race on Friday, September 14, 2018. Card is for 9, requesting to run 10. Motion Commissioner Blach; Second Commissioner Corazza. • Requesting approval for 2019 State Fair QH Futurity, La Fiesta Futurity, La Fiesta Derby, State Fair QH Derby and State Fair TB Futurity Nomination Blanks. Horsemen approve. Motion Commissioner Blach; Second Commissioner Corazza. • Asking approval for gaming breakage. Motion Commissioner Cosper; Second Commissioner Corazza. <p>Cook proceeded to add that on September 22, 2018 and September 23, 2018, closing weekend the DAA will be paying out \$1.7 million in purses. That is going to be a record for the Downs at Albuquerque. Excited about giving that money away to these Horsemen.</p>	All Motions approved without objections
Unfinished/ New Business and/or Action Items Regarding Licensing: Approval for Ruidoso Downs	00:20:11 to 00:31:32	<p>Jeff True asked for approval of the 2019 Nomination Blanks and the 2020 Triple Crown Nomination Blanks. Mr. True stated for several months he tried to standardize all QH conditions and the TB conditions for each of the two types of races. Motion Commissioner Cosper; Second Commissioner Blach.</p>	All Motions approved without objections

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		<p>Commissioner Corazza reported that the owner who bought the dog is hoping the other tracks would rent the dog out. The one thing in the nomination blanks about positive drug test. Is there any way to change the entry time from the trials to the finals from a 2 week period to a 3 week period? Reason for that is that it would clarify a bad test in the trials and make sure that horse can or cannot compete in the finals. This is something to be looked at in the future.</p>	
<p>Action Items Regarding Licensing: Approval for Sunland Park</p>	<p>00:32:28 to 00:37:14</p>	<p>Dustin Dix, Director of Racing for Sunland Park thanked Tina for everything she has done over the years. 2018-19 approval for post time schedule. Two post time schedules. The one that's dated January 1st thru March 9th should actually be December 28th through March 9th and then March 10th through May 5th are two post time schedules. Motion Commissioner Corazza; Second Commissioner Cosper with date change. Approval of 2018-19 wagering format. Motion Corazza; Second Commissioner Cosper.</p>	<p>All Motions approved without objections</p>
<p>In the Matter of Leslie Amestoy</p>	<p>00:37:47 to 00:38:50</p>	<p>Camille Cordova on behalf of Leslie Amestoy. Advised that the Board does not have the prosecutor and witness they need and was inquiring about continuance and they are fine with that.</p>	<p>Motion to table Leslie Amestoy by Commissioner Corazza; Second by Commissioner Blach. Motion carried.</p>
<p>In the Matter of Hector Alderete Bizarra</p>	<p>00:38:50 to 00:0054:32</p>	<p>Attorney Roman Romero on behalf of Hector Alderete Bizarra. Next Tuesday will make 2 years he's been suspended from racing. He has completed approximately 110 hours of community service. He underwent a drug test. Has multiple letters of support that have been presented to the Commission and has underwent considerable rehabilitation through his community service. Mr. Romero respectfully requests that the Commission allow reinstatement of Mr. Alderete-Bizarra's license. Five Thousand Dollar fine has not been paid and Mr. Romero requests that fine either be reduced to \$1,000 or paid</p>	<p>To be taken up in Executive Session.</p>

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Closed Executive Session	00:55:18	in monthly installments for a probationary period. Chairman Willis motioned to go into closed Executive Session with only matters to be discussed being 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D. Paralegal Tina Arce called Roll, with Commissioners in attendance, Leonard Blach, Ken Corazza, Ray Willis and Jerry Cosper	Motion to go into Executive Session by Commissioner Willis;
Back in Open Session	00:00 to 00:18	Chairman Willis called to come out of Executive Session with the only matters discussed being 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D.	No action taken
In the matter of Hector Alderete Bizarra	00:18 to 01:02	In the matter of Hector Alderete Bizarra the Racing Commission is going to request that the fine of \$5,000 be paid in full and then he may come back to the Commission to reconsider the remainder of his suspension.	Motion to reconsider by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Commissioner Blach. Motion carried.
In the matter of Johnny Soto/Poblano	01:02 to 01:45	In the matter of Johnny Soto and Juan Poblano the Racing Commission wishes to Remand this matter back to the hearing office only for clarification of the penalties that are to be imposed and that those penalties should be consistent with penalties that were in place during that time period where the infractions occurred.	Motion to remand to Hearing Officer by Commissioner Cosper; Second by Commissioner Blach. Motion carried.
In the matter of Mr. Raul Vega	10:45 to 02:09	In the matter of Raul Vega the Racing Commission wishes to accept the recommendations of the hearing office.	Motion to accept recommendations of Hearing Officer by Commissioner Corazza; Second Commissioner Blach. Motion carried.
Adjournment	02:09 to 02:25	Commissioner Blach called for a motion to adjourn.	Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Corazza; Second by Commissioner Cosper. Motion carried.

Chairman Ray Willis

Date

Executive Director Ismael Trejo

Date