

Washington Horse Racing Commission
Meeting Minutes
Zoom Meeting
February 12, 2021

Present were: Executive Secretary Mr. Moore, Deputy Secretary Amanda Benton, Confidential Secretary Melanie Bowdish, Chairman Bob Chairman Lopez, Commissioner Dr. Everett Commissioner Macomber, Commissioner Claude Ragle, Dr. Ron Friedman

Members of the Public attending were: Katie Peery, Kathy Johnston, Debbie Pabst, Garrett Cocchriela, Bret Anderson, Randy Evers, Mr. Zeigler, Maryann O'Connell, Mike Wilson, Henry Leong, Dana Halvorson, Jack Hodge, Lana Allen, Shorty Martin

Item #1. Approval of the meeting minutes of January 8, 2021 (Action item)- Commissioner Macomber move to approve, Ragle 2nd- Motion carries

Item #2. Commissioners' reports.- Nothing to report

Item #3. Legislation update (Informational item)

Sales Tax Bill moved was referred out of Labor, Commerce and Tribal Affairs and directly to Ways and Means. No other sponsor signed on. Mike Lyden suggested commissioners speak on behalf of the bill.

Agency request legislation has moved out of Appropriations to Rules.

Dr. Commissioner Macomber asked for the list of all members of Ways and Means committee. Mr. Moore will send out.

Item #4. Industry Reports

a. Emerald Downs report;

Mr. Zeigler- Update on floor 5. Open for two weeks, attendance is up. OTB's have not been opened yet. Will evaluate as time goes on. Prepping for the stable opening.

Update from Jack on protocols: Essential personnel only, no owners. Requiring a negative COVID test prior to the first entry to the stable area. No one can enter the area until March 1st. Licensing will be open on the 27/28th for licensing. Will be getting this information out for notification with testing sites provided in the area. Will be accepting out of state results so long as it is within 5 days.

Protocols for licensing and dorm rooms: Leave stable area cleanly as possible, dorms and restrooms sanitized as well as maintenance. Tribe talking about possibly setting up a vaccine clinic. Will be reviewing protocols and recommendations often.

Chairman Lopez- if they have had the vaccine will that allow them on the backside? Jack- We will not accept, we will only accept negative test. Vaccine is not 100% effective and you can still transmit even with a vaccination. Will have ongoing testing down the road, unclear what that looks like.

Commissioner Macomber: What is the turnaround time on the test? Jack- King County website says 72 hours.

b. WHBPA Report;

MaryAnn- Put together a strategy for legislation. More to come on that. Working on renewing the contract with Emerald.

c. WTBOA Report; and

Dana Halvorson- Working on putting together an awards presentation. Trying to get the information out to as many people as possible via website and letter notifications. On 2/27 at 7pm. Everyone is invited to honor those who are represented.

Putting off fundraising, gathering donations for fundraising. Will probably be the end of March.

Anne Sweet- Dates will be 3/22-4/5 if anyone has anything they would like to consider donating.

d. Sun Downs Report (Combined with item #6)

Item #5. End of Meet Report (Informational item)

a. Equine Health and Safety – Dr. Ron Friedman, Equine Medical Director

Dr. Friedman, shared PowerPoint presentation.

Item #6. Sun Downs Dates request and officials (Action item)

2021 application for race days. Asking for traditional days. Last two weekends in April and first weekend in May.

Shorty Martin- Now working on the county Commissioners to allow access to Franklin County Fairgrounds, hopefully by next week we will have answers, would open 3/1.

Bob motion to approve, Commissioner Macomber move to approve, Ragle 2nd- motion approved.

Item #7. Distribution of Donahue Fund (Informational item)

\$1,911.60 generated in 2020, \$4,529.64 left over from 2019.

Item #8. ARCI Model Rule regarding the riding crop update (Discussion item)

Discussed at the January meeting. Mr. Moore reached out to every jurisdiction and put together a summary.

Moving on this or waiting and addressing in 2022? If we move on this, it may change in the next year.

Commissioner Ragle- With federal legislation moving forward, and no issues on the track, may be better holding off pending legislation.

Chairman Lopez- Supported moving to the ARCI model rule this year, but will accept other commissioners desire. >>>>>>>>>

Commissioner Macomber- Motion to table the issue until next year this time. Ragle 2nd. Motion carries

Discussed tabling until next race season

Item #9. Approval annual year-end report (Action item) - Motion to approve, Ragle 2nd, Motion carries

Item #10. Executive Secretary's Report

- a. Wagering Recap (January 2021); and
- b. Monthly Financial Statement (December 2020)

Item 11. Discussion Items – Commissioners

Any other business that may be properly brought before the Commission

Next meeting is March 12, 2021

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Moore". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Douglas Moore, Executive Secretary