

WHRC Commission Meeting  
March 11, 2022  
Via Zoom Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

- Item #1. Approval of the meeting minutes of February 11, 2022. (Action Item)  
Dr. Macomber move to approve, Dr. Ragle 2<sup>nd</sup>- Motion carries
- Item #9. Commissioner Lopez rearranged the agenda and moved this item up.  
Request to appear for modification of order 88-1 – Terry Motschenbacher.  
Mr. Motchenbacher provided letters of reference and testimony asking to be allowed to apply for an owners license in Washington. Based on the time elapsed between the incident at his history since the commission considered all the facts.  
The WHRC Commissioners agreed to lift revocation.
- Item #2. Commissioners' reports. (Informational Item)  
Chairman Lopez- Attended a National License Racing Compact meeting.  
Dr. Macomber commented on the industry legislation and indicated that it was a good learning experience and hopes for better results in the next session.
- Item #3. ADW License Renewal – Twin Spires (Action Item)  
Adam Silver appeared on Twin Spires behalf: Chairman Lopez- asked for a motion, Dr. Macomber moved to approve, Dr. Ragle seconds. Motion carries
- Item #4. ADW License Renewal – Ebet Technologies, Inc. (Action Item)  
Kristen Dionne and Danielle Lugo appeared on behalf of Ebet: Chairman Lopez- asked for a motion, Dr. Macomber- moved to approve, Dr. Ragle seconds- Motion carries
- Item #5. Sun Downs request to cancel 2022 race meet. (Action item)  
Shorty Martin appeared on behalf of Sun Downs and informed the stewards based on several factors, the most significant being the inability to obtain liability insurance, they had not been able to open for training and it would be virtually impossible to have enough fit horses to conduct a race meet. They hope to return in 2023.  
Chairman Lopez- asked for a motion, Dr. Ragle moved to approve, Dr. Macomber seconds, the motion carries
- Item #6. Industry Reports.  
a. Emerald Downs report;  
Phil Ziegler- Talked about the mask mandate dropping as of midnight tonight, they are excited for the future with no COVID restrictions. It was announced yesterday that overnight purses will be raised another 10%, that's a 30% increase since 2019. Also, without restrictions, there will be more promotional opportunities for the track. Training is ongoing and the first day of training started on February 28.  
Phil also expressed a thank you to Ron Crockett who played a big role in working HB 1928 while making numerous industry connections.  
He also thanked Representative Schmick and Executive Secretary Moore for their work. Chairman Lopez asked how many horses are on the grounds now? Jack Hodge reported that there were 310 horses. That is down 30 horses from this time last year.

- b. WHBPA report;  
Pat Lepley- The 10% purse increase is going to help a great deal with HB 1928 not passing. The HBPA will have a board meeting on March 23 and will prepare an action plan moving forward to pass this legislation or something similar to it. There is hope for a substantial amount in the horse population showing after up the purse increase and stakes schedule is released.
- c. WTBOA report;  
Dana Halvorson- Thank you to our lobbyist Al Ralston for working HB 1928. The annual awards banquet is March 19, tickets are available at the breeders office. It is better to purchase in advance as the cost increases at the door. The premier part of this event is a retirement party for Anne Sweet.  
Ann-Kathrin Zemann indicated that the theme of the awards banquet this year is the Longacres Mile.

Item #7. Emerald Downs Race Day Packet (Action Item)  
Emerald Downs provided their race day packet with all information that is asked. the list of their racing official, live race day schedule, stakes schedule, and wagering format. Also the most recent financial audit was provided. Chairman Lopez asked for a motion, Dr. Ragle moved to approve, Dr. Macomber seconds, the motion carries.

Item #8. Staff provided the list of WHRC Officials for the Emerald Downs meet.  
Significant changes were that Brenda Holmes, the test barn Secretary Lead of over 20 years, will be leaving. She will be available to train her replacement and fill in if available on the weekends. There are still openings for the Identifier and Receiving Barn Clerk and they are hoped to be filled by early to mid April.  
Chairman Lopez- asked for a motion, Dr. Macomber moved to approve, Dr. Ragle seconds, the motion carries.

- Item #10. Executive Secretary's Report
- a. Wagering Recap (February 2022); and
  - b. Monthly Financial Statement (January 2022)

Executive Secretary expressed a thank you to Representative Schmick for the support on HB 1928. It was also reported that we had a lot of support for non-racing groups, 4-H Clubs that signed in during hearings on the bill.

The FCC has the proposed rules for HISA and approval is forthcoming. We are still looking for some kind of agreement with HISA on health and safety rules and how they anticipate the agency doing the enforcement work. There is still some question as to the agencies statutory authority to collect fees from stakeholders. There are still a lot of questions on how this is going to work out, but we are still waiting for the agreement to review.

Representative Schmick suggested that staff talk with the AAG and Governors office on this matter.

MaryAnn O'Connell would advise the commission to consult with the ARCI on this topic as well. She referred to a panel discussion that was held at the HBPA National meeting and will send the link to Doug Moore to forward to the commissioners.

Item #11. Discussion Items – Commissioners

Chairman Lopez indicated that with the mask restrictions being lifted the commission would like to consider going back to in person meeting with the option to use Zoom (Hybrid).

Item #12. Any other business that may be properly brought before the Commission

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.



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Douglas L. Moore, Executive Secretary