

WHRC Commission Meeting

September 10, 2021

Via Zoom

Present were: Robert Lopez, Chairman; Dr. Everett Macomber, DVM, Commissioner; Dr. Claude Ragle, DVM, Commissioner; Doug Moore, Executive Secretary; Melanie Bowdish, Confidential Secretary, Amanda Benton, Deputy Secretary, Ken Doll, Steward, Emily Wicks, Ex-Officio

Item #1. Approval of the meeting minutes of July 23, 2021. – Motion to approve- Chairman Lopez, Dr. Ragle 2nd- Motion carries

Item #2. Commissioners' report.

Chairman Lopez- attended the mile on August 11th and the races on the 15th.

Item #3. Industry Reports.

- a. Emerald Downs report;
Phil Zeigler- Indian Relay is tonight at 6:30 going all weekend. Tomorrow at 5pm, Sunday at 2:30.
Masks are required effective tonight, indoors and outdoors except while eating or drinking.
Two more weekends left and we will be done with the season.
- b. WHBPA Report;
MaryAnn OConnell- Working with EMD on the future and how they can help with racing. Board meeting next week and planning a general meeting to talk about the results of our planning.
- c. WTBOA Report; and
Dana Halvorson- Sales on August 24th was very successful. Median was up about 43%, average price was up about 13% and the RNA rate was only 13%. Thank you Ann and everyone who participated. Working on legislation for this session similar to the new Texas law- Sales tax for equine industry. Will be working hard to get that accomplished this session coming up.
- d. Sundowns Report
They do plan on running next year. No other updates.

Item #4. Annual License Fee Review – (Action Item)

There has been significant loss in licensing revenue fees. Cost will exceed revenue, we are looking at using the ARCI database which would save us money and balance out in the end.

Dr. Macomber- Are there changes that will affect the trainer/groom licensing? Mr. Moore- We would need to come up with a separate accounting system for LNI portion for those.

Chairman Lopez- forgo licensing fee increase this year
Item #5. 21/23 Biennium Budget Submission/Financial Statement - Seth Flory - Senior Financial Consultant, Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (Information item)

Seth Flory- Seth reviewed handouts for *previous biennium* provided. Final data is looking more positive.

Current biennium- revenues are not coming in as strong as expected with Source Market Fees. About a \$50K operating loss for July. It is an improvement from last year with COVID.

Financial summary for thus far, revenues came in less due to Source Market Fees not coming in, expenditures higher than expected due to staffing hours, Parimutuel rate change will have a positive impact on our budget.

We anticipate that in future bienniums our budget will not be as positive, we are in a good place due to the help we received.

Increase in Parimutuel tax is still being evaluated and will impact the final numbers

Item #6. Executive Secretary's Report.

- a. Wagering Recap (July/August 2021); and
- b. Review of RCW 67.16.105 Gross Receipts-Commission Percentage-Distributions (Discussion Item)

Item #7 – Approval of travel, (tentative) - December ARCI model rules and Board of Directors Meeting (Action item)-

ARCI Model Rules Meeting, Tuscan, Az.- 2 people , Dr. Macomber move to approve, Dr. Ragle 2nd-motion carries

ARCI Meeting and Symposium Tentative approval

Chairman Lopez- 2 people, 1 person to ARCI and 1 person to ARCI meeting and Symposium- motion carries

Item #8- Discussion items - Commissioners

Dr. Macomber- Legislative context? Mr. Moore- They have had a meeting with one state and we have given them some dates to meet. They have not scheduled with us yet. Still do not know our costs and the impact on WHRC.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.



Douglas L. Moore, Executive Secretary