

LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES – September 2, 2020 Emergency Meeting

As transcribed by Mary Lee DiLeo, Certified Court Reporter

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bob F. Wright, *Chairman*
Dr. Patrick Bernard
Leslie M. Bouie
Thomas B. Calvert
Lane T. Cortez
Donald "Don" Cravins
Eddie J. Delahoussaye
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.
Mike R. McHalfey
Louis Reine
Deano Thornton

ABSENT

K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.
Roy Griggs

APPROVED

At the Commission Meeting of

3-30-2021

(Date)



Executive Director
Louisiana State Racing Commission

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) was called to order by the Chairman on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 3:00 PM on the Zoom Conference Call. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve the meeting minutes from the June 12, 2020 meeting and the July 10, 2020 meeting; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS

A. BOYD RACING, LLC d/b/a DELTA DOWNS RACETRACK, CASINO & HOTEL

1. LAHBPA REQUEST

- a. Discussion/Action** regarding LHBPA request for emergency order on housing and movement of horses that cannot housed or moved into Delta Downs due to extensive damage from Hurricane Laura.

Mr. Benard Chatters, President of the of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA), informs that 400 to 500 horses that were supposed to move from Evangeline Downs to Delta Downs cannot currently do so due to damages sustained at Delta Downs from Hurricane Laura. He requests that Fair Grounds open its backside to take these horses and allow them to stable and train until Delta Downs can receive them. He states that Mr. Doug Shipley, President of Fair Grounds, verbally responded that Fair Grounds would not allow those horses to move in.

Mr. David Waguespack, Counsel for Fair Grounds, states that there is nothing in the Meeting Notice that indicates that Fair Grounds would be requested or required to do anything in connection with Agenda item. He informs that he and his client have not had time to evaluate and discuss this issue. He says that Fair Grounds has issues,

including the possibility of logistical and enforcement problems with evacuating the property in the event of a hurricane during this season and compliance issues with the United State Environmental Protection Agency, Louisiana Department of Environment Quality, and New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board. He states that Fair Grounds doesn't have the employees on-site to manage moving in and housing horses and would be subject to further COVID-19 restrictions from the New Orleans Mayor that could stifle any horses and horsemen moving in to the city. He requests that the Commission not force the Fair Grounds to take in the horses on such short notice per the LaHBPA's request at this time due to these issues.

Mr. Brett Bonin, Counsel for LSRC, informs that the LaHBPA sent a formal request letter to the Commission today regarding this issue, which should be reviewed by Mr. Waguespack, and that this issue be rescheduled to be discussed in an Emergency Meeting 24 hours from now and action be taken if necessary by the Commission at that meeting.

Commissioner Calvert requests that Fair Grounds provide a brief to the Commission regarding the constitutionality of the action that has been requested by the LaHBPA by 1:00pm on Thursday, September 3, 2020 in order to address due process issues.

Commissioner Reine motions to defer Agenda Items A.1. through D.8. to a public LSRC Emergency Meeting to be held on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 5:00pm; Commissioner Cravins seconds; Poll Vote conducted by Mr. Charles Gardiner III, Executive Director of LSRC, in which Yea means to vote to approve the motion and Nay means to vote against approval; 9 - Yea, 1 - Nay; motion carries.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Reine motions to adjourn; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; Chairman Wright adjourns the meeting.



Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director