


**LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – October 18, 2021 Meeting**  
*As transcribed by Mary Lee DiLeo, Certified Court Reporter*

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr., *Chairman*  
Louis Reine, *First Vice Chair*  
Dr. Patrick Bernard, *Second Vice Chair*  
Leslie M. Bouie  
Lane T. Cortez  
Eddie J. Delahoussaye  
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.  
Roy Griggs  
Peter J. Hamilton III  
Mike R. McHalfey  
Deano Thornton

**ABSENT**

Thomas B. Calvert  
Donald "Don" Cravins

**APPROVED**  
At the Commission Meeting of  
11/19/2021  
(Date)  
  
Executive Director  
Louisiana State Racing Commission

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) was called to order by the Chairman on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM via Teleconference Call. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

**I. ASSOCIATION REQUEST**

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

**2021-2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

**1. ACTION TO ADDRESS LIGHTING ISSUES:**

- a. Consideration** of Emergency Amendments to Delta Downs' 2021-2022 Thoroughbred Meet due to Lighting Issues.
1. Cancelled Racing on October 15 & 16, 2021
  2. Consideration/Action of moving Friday and Saturday racing from night to day.

Mr. Steve Kuypers, Vice President & General Manager of Delta Downs, informs that Delta Downs' lighting system was completed on time at the end of September and that the contractors and lighting company have been adjusting the lights for the last two weeks based on ongoing feedback from representatives of Delta Downs, Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA), and jockeys. He states that the jockeys had concerns about shadows on the turns, and based on a closed-ballot vote in which the jockeys voted that they did not want to run due to the shadowing issue, Delta Downs cancelled races on October 15 & 16, 2021. He requests that the Commission approve daytime racing on Fridays and Saturdays at Delta Downs temporarily until they can safely return to night racing.

Mr. Chatters, President of LaHBPA, states that he is in agreement with Mr. Kuypers' request and that they want to return to night racing as soon as possible. Mr. John Beech, Regional Manager for the Jockeys' Guild, states that his organization and the jockeys at

Delta Downs want to ensure that the lighting is sufficient for the safety of jockeys and horses before returning to night racing at Delta Downs.

Commissioner Bouie asks if Mr. Chatters is satisfied with Delta Down's lighting conditions as they are. Mr. Chatters responds that he is satisfied with the response to the lighting issue and ready to return to night racing as soon as possible.

Commissioners Bouie and Delahoussaye ask how long this change from nighttime to daytime racing is anticipated to be. Mr. Kuypers responds that he is anticipating a timeline and plan of action to resolve the issue by tomorrow from the lighting company. He states that they will return to night racing next week if an agreeable solution is possible by then.

Commissioner Reine asks if Delta Downs intends to make up the cancelled races. Mr. Kuypers responds that they are planning to make up those races.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve daytime racing at Delta Downs for October 21 & 22, 2021 and to revisit this issue at the October 26, 2021 LSRC Meeting; Dr. Bernard seconds; motion carries

The Chairman requests that representatives of Boyd Gaming, LaHBPA, and Jockeys' Guild attend the October 26, 2021 LSRC Meeting to give an update on the situation so that the Commission can decide on and take appropriate action then.

Commissioner Reine requests that Evangeline Downs representatives be prepared to address the outriders work performance problem as described in the letter from Mr. Charles Ashy, Jr., State Steward at Evangeline Downs, which will be an Agenda item at the October 26, 2021 LSRC Meeting.

**II. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioners motion to adjourn; Commissioners second; motion carries.



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Charles A. Gardiner III  
Executive Director