

LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES – August 25, 2014 Meeting
As transcribed by Mary E. Lee DiLeo, Certified Court Reporter

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bob F. Wright, *Chairman*
Dion Young, *Second Vice Chairman*
Keith W. Babb
R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis
Kevin S. Delahoussaye
Thomas H. Grimstad, M.D.
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.
Richard M. "Dick" Hollier, Jr.
Kenneth "Kenu" Romero
Luke Turner
Judy W. Wagner

ABSENT

Delia A. Taylor

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission was called to order by the Chairman on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 9:05 AM in the Queen Anne Ballroom of the Monteleone Hotel, 214 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

Announcement of new Chairman Bob F. Wright

Introduction of new Commissioners:

R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis

Mr. Wright introduces new commissioner R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis.

Mr. Hollier motions to approve the meeting minutes from the April 22, 2014 and April 29, 2014 meetings; Dr. Grimstad seconds; motion carries.

I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS

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

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren*. Mr. Warren informs Delta Downs 2014 46-day Quarter Horse Meet ended on July 12, 2014. He states the bet-in handle was up 10% and the overall handle, with bet-in live and simulcasting was up 7%. He informs as a new promotion Earl Campbell (former University of Texas and Houston Oiler running back) attended the Lee Berwick Trials to meet and greet the horsemen and customers. He informs it was so successful that other celebrities are being considered for future meet and greet promotions such as Randy White (former player of the Dallas Cowboys). Mr. Warren informs Delta Downs 2014-2015 88-day Thoroughbred Meet will begin on October 15, 2014. He informs the Jackpot, Delta Downs' marquis race, will be held on

Saturday, November 22, 2014. He informs Delta Downs has strengthened the Jackpot day by increasing purses. The purse for the Delta Mile will be \$250,000 and the Treasure Chest will be \$200,000. Mr. Warren informs, in addition to painting, the stalls have been refurbished on the backside.

Mr. Gardiner acknowledges other guests in audience. He informs there are members of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office and members of the House Commerce Committee Staff in attendance.

2014/2015 THOROUGHBRED MEET

2. RACES

a. Approval of first condition book for 2014-2015 thoroughbred race meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

b. Approval of designated races for 2014-2015 thoroughbred race meet:

- 10/24/14 My Trusty Cat
- 10/25/14 Jean Lafitte
- 10/31/14 Magnolia
- 11/1/14 Gold Cup
- 11/22/14 Delta Mile
- 11/22/14 Treasure Chest
- 11/22/14 Delta Downs Princess GIII
- 11/22/14 Delta Downs Jackpot GIII
- 11/22/14 Sam's Town
- 11/22/14 Orleans
- 11/22/14 Louisiana Legacy
- 11/22/14 Louisiana Jewel
- 12/19/14 Lookout
- 12/20/14 B-Connected
- 1/9/15 By The Light
- 1/10/15 Big Drama
- 1/16/15 Eldorado
- 1/17/15 Fremont
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Distaff
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Ladies Starter
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Championship
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Gentlemen Starter
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Prince
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Starlet
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Ragin Cajun Starter
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Sprint
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Bon Temps Starter
- 2/7/15 LA Bred Premier Night Matron
- 3/6/15 Azalea
- 3/7/15 Pelican
- 3/13/15 Gold Coast
- 3/14/15 Borgata

Mr. Hollier motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

3. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Approval of officials for 2014-2015 thoroughbred race meet (10/15/14 - 3/14/15):

- Chris Warren – Director of Racing
- John Simon – Racing Secretary
- Mohamed Ali Khan – Asst. Racing Secretary/Stakes Coordinator
- Steve Ruff and Galen Boutte – Association Stewards
- Duane Domingue – Paddock Judge/Alternate Association Steward
- Mark Gilbert – Outrider
- TBA – Outrider
- Jeff Jerman – Alternate Outrider
- Bob Beaubien – Trackman Supervisor
- Dennis Schmidt – Starter
- Jeff Jerman – Clerk of Scales
- Jason Grudzien – Head Clocker
- Susan Berard – Horse Identifier
- *Mike Ramsey – Stall Superintendent
- Michael Bennett – Jocks Room Custodian/Assistant Clerk of Scales
- Steve Nick, Phillip Walker, Charles Sonnier & Rose Caster – Placing Judges/Racing Office Staff
- *new official*

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Babb seconds; motion carries.

b. Approval of Tom Davis to serve as state steward for 2014–2015 thoroughbred race meet.

Mr. Hollier motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

2015 QUARTER HORSE MEET

4. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2015 quarter horse race meet:

1. 10 year license to own and operate a race track, per R.S. 4:158.
2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
3. Serve as concessionaire.

Mr. Babb motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

5. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A), RACES AND POST TIMES

a. Approve 46 live race dates on the flat for the 2015 quarter horse race meet:

- April 22,23,24,25,29,30
- May 1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,20,21,22,23,27,28,29,30
- June 3,4,5,6,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26,27
- July 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11

b. Approve minimum of 9 daily live quarter horse races – 6:15 PM post time on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Mr. Hollier motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

6. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.Ch 103-127)

a. Approve 2015 quarter horse meet wagering:

1. \$1 WPS, quinella & exacta on all races
2. \$1 Rolling Daily Double beginning on 1st race
- 3 .50¢ Trifecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
4. .10¢ Superfecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
5. .50¢ Rolling Pick 3 beginning on 2nd race
6. .50¢ Pick 4 on first 4 & last 4 races
7. .50¢ Pick 5 on last 5 races

Mr. Delahoussaye motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

7. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Approval of Tom Davis to serve as state steward for 2015 quarter horse race meet

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

B. THE OLD EVANGELINE DOWNS, LLC

d/b/a EVANGELINE DOWNS RACETRACK & CASINO

1. PROGRESS REPORT, *by Mr. Chris Warren*. Mr. Warren informs Evangeline Downs 2014 84-day Thoroughbred Meet will end on Saturday, August 30, 2014. He informs there are 2 new stakes races, the Star and Starlet, which will be held on the last day of the meet. He states there will be 11 races, 2 of which will be the new stakes races. Mr. Warren informs currently the total handle for the meet is up 2%. He informs there has been a lot of bad weather during the meet. Mr. Warren informs a local horse won the Turf Sprint held on June 21, 2014. He informs the Turf Sprint produced a record one race handle of \$645,000. Mr. Warren informs Evangeline Downs is working to improve the track surface and they have sent samples for testing to continue the improvement of the track. Mr. Warren informs the bathrooms and the parking area on the backside are targeted for upgrades and improvements. He states the thoroughbred meet has been good overall and mentions the Copper Crowne Training Center has been very helpful in providing stall space.

Mr. Guilbeau states he and his family visited Evangeline Downs on the day of the Turf Sprint and compliments Mr. Warren and his team on a job well done.

2014 THOROUGHBRED MEET

2. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Ratification of Rebecca McDowell to serve as paddock judge for 2014 thoroughbred meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

2014 QUARTER HORSE MEET

3. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Approval of officials for 2014 quarter horse race meet:

Chris Warren – Director of Racing/Racing Secretary
Corey Veazey – Assistant Racing Secretary/Stakes Coordinator
Jeff Williams – Association Steward
Frank Rudis – Association Steward
Julie Gipson – Identifier
Rebecca McDowell – Entry Clerk/Paddock Judge
Maranda Quebedeaux – Photo Finish/Placing Judge
Ashley Simon – Entry Clerk/Placing Judge
Mariah Quebedeaux – Placing Judge
Donald Watson Jr. - Clerk of Scales
Sandra Calais – Claims Clerk
Brett Poole – Clocker
Russell Comeaux – Starter
Scot Cole – Outrider
Kenneth Gipson – Outrider

Robert Bard – Stall Superintendent
Garry Gallow – Track Superintendent
TBA – Jockey Room Custodian

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

b. Approval of Brook Hawkins to serve as state steward for 2014 quarter horse meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

2015 THOROUGHBRED MEET

4. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2015 thoroughbred race meet:

1. 10 year license to own and operate a race track, per R.S. 4:158.
2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
3. Serve as concessionaire.
4. Operate as official training facility for 2015 during off-season.

Mr. Hollier motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

5. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A), RACES AND POST TIMES

a. Approve 8+ live race dates on the flat for the 2015 thoroughbred race meet:

April 8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,22,23,24,25,29,30

May 1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,20,21,22,23,27,28,29,30

June 3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26,27

July 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,22,23,24,25,29,30,31

Aug 1,5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,19,20,21,22,26,27,28,29

b. Approve minimum of 9 daily live thoroughbred races – 5:45 PM post time, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

6. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.Ch 103-127)

a. Approve 2015 thoroughbred meet wagering:

1. WPS, quinella & exacta on all races
2. Daily Double on all races
3. Trifecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
4. Rolling pick 3 beginning with 2nd race
5. Pick 4 on 1st thru 4th races and on last 4 races
6. Superfecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*

Mr. Hollier motions to approve; Mr. Babb seconds; motion carries.

**C. CHURCHILL DOWNS LOUISIANA HORSERACING COMPANY, LLC
d/b/a FAIR GROUNDS RACE COURSE & SLOTS**

1. PROGRESS REPORT, by Mr. Tim Bryant.

a. Update to commitments presented at the April 29, 2014 Commission Meeting.

Mr. Bryant informs Fleming Construction was selected as the contractor to complete the drainage work for the turf course. He informs the drainage work is scheduled to be completed by early October 2014. Mr. Bryant informs Fleming Construction mobilized equipment last week and began videoing the drainage lines and vacuuming the existing lines. He informs larger equipment will be mobilized

this week so they can start trenching for the 8-inch sock pipe. He informs of work done on turns 3 and 4 with the 8-inch sock pipe, with some French drainage. He further informs they are going to work on the front stretch, turns 1 and 2, and the full backstretch.

DRAINAGE/TURF DISCUSSION WITH JOHN STEWART, ARCHITECT & CONTRACTOR

Mr. Stewart, a registered architect and contractor, informs Providence Engineering has been hired to do the engineering portion of the project. He informs one broken pipe has been discovered and there is significant clogging in other pipes which are being cleared. Mr. Stewart submitted drawings and pictures of the progress and the outline of the scope of work managed by the contractor. He explains how the upgraded and replacement of piping, the drainage improvements and the retention pond cleanup will greatly improve the existing system. He states another system will be added that will catch the water and drain it more freely as well. Mr. Stewart further explains how the piping and drainage will tie in together and improve the turf track and infield and states the dirt track is not tied into the system.

INSPECTION UPDATE

Mr. Delahoussaye informs the Commission inspected the backside of the track and the Fair Grounds has done an excellent job on the backside. He also states he hopes Fair Grounds will send the Commission a report on the pipe video. He states the turf track is a concern, but Fair Grounds is cooperating with correcting the issues. Mr. Bryant informs Fair Grounds will begin accepting thoroughbreds on October 4, 2014. Mr. Delahoussaye adds most of the stalls have been pressure washed, dirt has been put into the shed rows, and barns and all rotten wood has been replaced. He states the horsemen should be pleased with the changes.

SERVICE

Mr. Bryant informs Fair Grounds has transitioned to a new pari-mutuel operational model of enhanced service developed by H. Withers, General Manager of Racing. He informs the primary focus is to have more tellers during the live meet to take wagers and to cash-out at the end of the day. Mr. Bryant informs a new customer service assistant manager position has been created at the Fair Grounds. In addition, he states staff has been added to several OTBs and new promotions are being introduced to customers. He informs monthly theme parties are being held at random parlors, which has been well received. Mr. Bryant informs a VIP event featuring Kermit Ruffins was held in July for the pari-mutuel VIPs as well as the slots and video poker players and it was well attended. He informs 254 carol TVs have been installed in the Kenner, Elmwood, Metairie and LaPlace OTB locations. He also informs 64 carol TVs will be installed at the Gretna OTB.

MARKETING

Mr. Bryant informs Fair Grounds will increase the marketing budget by more than one-third (an additional \$174,000) for the 2014-2015 thoroughbred meet. He informs all marketing updates will be shown on the next monthly report. He informs there will be over 20 promotional events to draw in bigger crowds, in addition to handicapping contests.

FACILITIES

Mr. Bryant informs Fair Grounds team, especially H. Withers and Jason Boulet

have put a lot of hard work into improving the backside facilities. He informs Coogan & Coogan, a local firm has been selected to provide and install the two new video boards (one for the infield and one replacing the paddock board).

Mr. Jerry Coogan, at the request of Mr. Wright, explains the features of the new video boards. He informs the 16-millimeter infield board has high resolution and has the capabilities of displaying live video. Also, it can display pre-recorded canned video and it can record an out of the track video feed (video of another track's racing). Capabilities also include showing an instant replay of a finish on the video screen. The 10-millimeter paddock board has high resolution video display which will provide information about the horses and jockeys as they are walking around the paddock area. He informs the paddock board will have the same capabilities as the infield board. Mr. Coogan informs the equipment has a 5-year warranty and the Fair Grounds is considering extending the warranty. Mr. Bryant adds that the infield video board will be centered behind the tote board to enhance the customer experience.

2014 QUARTER HORSE MEET

Mr. Bryant informs Fair Grounds opened the barn area on July 21, 2014 for the 2014 Quarter Horse Meet. He informs, not including ship-ins, 700 horses were on the backside as of August 22, 2014. He informs training began on July 30, 2014 and trials for the futurity were held on August 15, 2014. He informs 6,000 people attended the exotic animal event. Mr. Bryant informs it was a successful family event and they will have some novelty family events for the thoroughbred meet. He informs the average number of quarter horse races is flat, but the starters per race have been slightly higher. Mr. Bryant informs the handle is slightly down by 2% so far. He informs the quarter horse meet will end with the futurity on September 5, 2014. He informs thoroughbreds will be accepted on October 4, 2014. Training will start on October 7, 2014.

Mr. Bryant informs of the class action suit against Fair Grounds by the quarter horsemen which will impact purse structures for the 2014-2015 thoroughbred meet.

Mr. Bryant informs the quarter horsemen are seeking nearly half of the annual video poker purse funds to be used to fund purses in the month of August for the Fair Grounds quarter horse meet. He informs, until now, the funds have been traditionally used to fund purses for the thoroughbred meet. He states Fair Grounds strongly disagrees with the quarter horsemen's legal position and their right to file the suit. He informs if this issue is not resolved prior to Fair Grounds 2014-2015 thoroughbred meet, the funds will not be available for purses and will be placed in the registry of the court or held until the court tells the Fair Grounds what to do with the funds. He informs the end result will cause a purse reduction of over 20% from the purses paid last year.

Ms. Loney states the commission has no comment on the matter due to pending litigation.

Mr. Babb commends Mr. Bryant and his staff on doing an excellent job of addressing the issues at hand.

Ms. Wagner informs she is pleased the bugler is coming back and the Kermit Ruffins event was well done.

Dr. Grimstad asks Mr. Bryant if the quarter horse races are being simulcasted out-

of-state. Mr. Bryant responds yes and the all source handle is around \$28,000 per race; averaging 10 races per day, with 90% coming from out-of-state.

2014 QUARTER HORSE MEET

2. RACES

a. **Ratification** of first condition book for 2014 quarter horse race meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

Mr. Tony Patterson, Executive Director of LQHBA, briefly explains the specifications of the LQHBA Sales Invitational.

b. **Ratification** of designated races for the 2014 quarter horse race meet.

8/16/14	Treme Stakes
8/16/14	Audubon Stakes
8/23/14	Gentilly Dash Stakes
8/30/14	De Saix Stakes
9/5/14	Mid-City Stakes
9/5/14	Faubourg St. John Stakes
9/5/14	French Quarter Starter Stakes
9/5/14	Lakeview Starter Stakes
9/5/14	LQHBA Sales Futurity
9/5/14	LQHBA Sales Invitational

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

3. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. **Ratification** of racing officials for the 2014 quarter horse meet:

Jason M. Boulet - Racing Secretary
 Matt Crawford – Assistant Racing Secretary/Placing Judge
 Barbara Comberrel – Program Coordinator
 Gary Palmisano – Placing Judge/Entry Clerk
 *Patrick Davis – Identifier
 George Graham – Association Steward
 David Wedlake – Association Steward
 Darrin Cain – Outrider
 Robert Mayer – Outrider
 Nelson Menard – Clerk of Scales
 Mario Torres – Stall Superintendent
 Kerry Dubuc – Clocker
 Mike Deliberto – Clocker
 Craig Dalligan – Custodian
 Pedro Zavala – Track Superintendent
 *Nate Sinclair – Placing Judge/Entry Clerk
 Glen Miller – Starter
 Ramon Muniz – Paddock Judge
 *new official

Dr. Grimstad motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

b. **Ratification** of Noble Hay, Jr. to serve as state steward for 2014 quarter horse race meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Hollier seconds; motion carries.

4. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A) AND POST TIMES

a. **Ratification** of 2014 Quarter Horse race meet:

1. 12 Quarter Horse dates (8/15/14 through 9/5/14)

August 15,16,21,22,23,27,28,29,30

September 3,4,5

*added 2 additional days (September 3, 2014 & September 4, 2014).

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

2014/2015 THOROUGHBRED MEET

5. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A) AND POST TIMES

a. Amendment of 2014-2015 Thoroughbred race meet:

1. 81 Thoroughbred race dates (11/21/14 through 3/29/15)

November ~~21,22,23,24,27,28,29,30~~

December ~~1,4,5,6,7,8,11,12,13,14,15,18,19,20,21,22,26,27,28,29,31~~

January 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,12,15,16,17,18,19,22,23,24,25,26,29,30,31

February 1,5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,16,17,19,20,21,22,26,27,28

March 1,5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,19,20,21,22,26,27,28,29

*added 1 additional day (February 16, 2014).

* Request to change Mondays to Sundays as follows:

November 24, 2014 to November 23, 2014

December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014

December 8, 2014 to December 7, 2014

December 15, 2014 to December 14, 2014

December 22, 2014 to December 21, 2014

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

6. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.Ch 103-127)

a. Amendment of wagering format for 2014-2015 thoroughbred race meet:

1. Add Black Gold to wagering menu.

Mr. Bryant, Mr. Withers, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Loney and Dr. Grimstad have a brief discussion regarding the wager.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

7. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Approval of Roy Wood, Jr. to serve as state steward for 2014-2015 thoroughbred meet.

Mr. Babb motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

**D. HARRAH'S BOSSIER CITY INVESTMENT COMPANY, LLC
d/b/a HARRAH'S LOUISIANA DOWNS**

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by Trent McIntosh. Mr. McIntosh informs Louisiana Downs 2014 84-day Thoroughbred Meet will end on September 21, 2014. He informs a seventh casino and competitor has entered the market. He informs all competitors in the area have seen a decline in revenues. He states they are offering purses of \$115,000. Mr. McIntosh informs field sizes have declined to 7.6 horses per race this season. He informs there has been a 20% overall decline in racing wagering at Louisiana Downs. Mr. McIntosh informs their later post time change to 2:50 pm was mildly successful. Mr. McIntosh informs Super Derby is two weeks away and will have a 12 horse field with several graded stakes winners. He informs they will have exclusive coverage on

HRTV and have additional advertising in the Daily Racing Form. He informs the suite level and the sky room is sold-out for Super Derby and the Harrah's Club should be sold-out this week. Mr. McIntosh inform of 2014 improvements, including a new viewing deck, new tote machines and additional sport suites. He informs the restroom improvements in the barn area are complete.

Mr. Turner compliments Mr. McIntosh and states things seem to be turning around based on his recent inspections of Louisiana Downs.

2014 THOROUGHBRED MEET

2. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A) AND POST TIMES

a. Ratification for 2014 thoroughbred race meet:

1. Change the minimum of 9 daily live races to 8 races on Thursday & Sunday and remain at 9 races on Friday & Saturday for the 2014 thoroughbred race meet.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Turner seconds; motion carries.

3. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Ratification of *Kathy Elliot to serve as Mutuel Manager for 2014 thoroughbred meet:

**resume attached*

Mr. Young motions to approve; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

2015 QUARTER HORSE MEET

4. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2015 quarter horse race meet:

1. 10 year license to own and operate a race track, per R.S. 4:158.
2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
3. Serve as concessionaire.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Delahoussaye seconds; motion carries.

5. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A), RACES AND POST TIMES

a. Approve 46 live race dates on the flat for the 2015 quarter horse race meet:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| January | 10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26,27,31 |
| February | 1,2,3,7,8,9,10,14,15,16,17,21,22,23,24,28 |
| March | 1,2,3,7,8,9,10,14,15,16,17,18,21,22,23,24,25 |

b. Approve minimum of 7 daily live quarter horse races -12:30 PM weekend post time.

Mr. Young motions to approve; Mr. Delahoussaye seconds; motion does not carry.

Discussion as follows:

Mr. Bernard Chatters, President of Louisiana HBPA, introduces Mr. Arthur Morrell, Vice President of Louisiana HBPA and Mr. Ed Fanaci, Executive Secretary of Louisiana HBPA. Mr. Chatters states he is opposed to the minimum of 7 daily quarter horse (and thoroughbred) races.

Mr. Morrell commends the Commission on helping to improve the racing conditions at the racetracks. He informs of his past legislative experiences with the racing industry. He states allowing a 7 race minimum will cause a chain reaction by the other racetracks asking for the same. He states the racetracks need to promote live racing and draw more customers to the track. He states if the track owners cannot succeed, they should sell their track.

Mr. Babb states the registration of quarter horses and transfers are at 1976 levels. There are fewer quarter horses to enter into races. He asks Mr. Morrell what is the solution if the numbers are not up to the proposed levels. Mr. Morrell states the industry needs to be marketed better. He states if there are attractive purses, the horsemen will show up to run.

Mr. McIntosh informs Louisiana Downs slot revenues are lower than the other racetracks. He says reducing the number of race days is not an option. The only solution is to reduce the number of races per day. He says the field sizes are already low and it makes sense to reduce the number of races in order to have competitive fields. Mr. McIntosh responds to Mr. Morrell's marketing suggestion and states Louisiana Downs has a very good marketing program.

Mr. Wright asks Mr. McIntosh if Louisiana Downs has evaluated whether or not a reduction to 7 races per day would be beneficial. Mr. McIntosh states not officially, but the reduction in purses and short fields have caused owners, even on the track, choosing not to participate in Louisiana Downs racing. Mr. Wright asks if the 7 daily races request is for the entire meet. Mr. McIntosh says yes. Mr. Wright asks Mr. McIntosh, if he would consider compromising with the reduction request for part of the meet. Mr. McIntosh responds he would have to reevaluate the projections. Mr. Wright and Mr. McIntosh agree a long-term solution must be resolved and they continue with the discussion.

Mr. Delahoussaye and Mr. McIntosh discuss the possibilities and projections of reducing the races per day only on specific days.

Commissioners and Mr. McIntosh discuss the horse population numbers comparing quarter horses and thoroughbreds stabled at Louisiana Downs, the averages and trends of the number of quarter horses racing nationally at other tracks and possible reasons and solutions of the issue.

Mr. Chatters asks Louisiana Downs to accept the challenge of increasing the marketing of quarter horse racing and assist in improving the business of the quarter horse industry.

Mr. Morrell states Louisiana Downs condition books need to be reevaluated because he believes horses are excluded due to their requirements.

Mr. Fenaci states the HBPA has worked with Louisiana Downs with their ongoing requests to reduce races and it is time to evaluate the backside and the actual number of horses showing up at the quarter horse meet. He says it is 5 months away from the quarter horse meet and believes it is too soon to make any decision on the request. Mr. Wright agrees with Mr. Fenaci.

A recess was taken.

Ms. Wagner motions to continue Louisiana Down's request for a minimum of 7 daily live quarter horse races until the next Commission meeting; Mr. Romero seconds; **motion carries.**

Mr. Turner motions to approve Louisiana Down's request for 46 live racing days on the flat for the 2015 Quarter Horse Meet – 12:30 PM post time; Mr. Hollier seconds; motion carries.

6. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.Ch 103-127)**a. Approval for 2015 quarter horse meet wagering:**

1. WPS & exacta on all races
2. Rolling Daily Double beginning on 1st race through balance of card
3. Trifecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
4. Superfecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
5. Pick Four on last 4 races

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

7. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT**a. Approval of Noble Hay to serve as state steward for 2015 quarter horse race meet.**

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

2015 THOROUGHBRED MEET**8. LICENSE APPROVALS****a. Approval for 2015 thoroughbred race meet:**

1. 10 year license to own and operate a race track, per R.S. 4:158.
2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
3. Serve as concessionaire.

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

9. RACING DATES (R.S. 4:158A), RACES AND POST TIMES**a. Approve 84 live race dates on the flat for the 2015 thoroughbred race meet:**

May	1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,20,21,22,23,25,27,28,29,30
June	3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26,27
July	1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,22,23,24,25,29,30,31
August	1,5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,19,20,21,22,26,27,28,29
September	2,3,4,5,7,9,10,11,12,16,17,18,19

Mr. Turner motions to approve 84 live race dates; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

b. Approve minimum of 7 daily live thoroughbred races - 2:50 PM weekend post time.

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds. Mr. Turner makes a substitute motion to continue Louisiana Downs' request for a minimum of 7 daily live Thoroughbred races – 2:50 PM post time until the next Commission meeting; Mr. Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

10. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.Ch 103-127)**a. Approval for 2015 thoroughbred meet wagering:**

1. WPS & exacta on all races
2. Rolling Daily Double beginning on 1st race through balance of card
3. Trifecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
4. Superfecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing*
5. Rolling Pick 3 on 1st race thru balance of card
6. Pick 4 wagering on last 4 races
7. Super Pick 5 wagering on last 5 races

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

Mr. Wright asks HBPA and Louisiana Downs to submit their positions in writing to the Commission for evaluation prior to the next meeting.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. MEDICATION COMMITTEE, by *Committee Chairman Thomas H. Grimstad, M.D.*

Dr. Grimstad states he would like to be the first to offer his congratulations to Mr. Bob Wright on his appointment as Chairman of the Racing Commission. He also congratulates Ms. Wagner on her appointment to the National Thoroughbred Racing Association Board of Directors.

1. Discussion of uniform medication rules.

Dr. Grimstad informs, at the last meeting in April, the Medication Committee announced plans to begin the process of discussing and moving forward with adopting the National Uniform Medication Policy and Rules. He informs the National Uniform Medication Program consists of 4 parts:

1. An implementation of a two-tier drug classification system: Controlled Therapeutic Medications and Prohibited Substances with regulatory thresholds and withdrawal guidelines provided for each of the 26 controlled therapeutic medications.
2. Any administration of Furosemide (Lasix) on race day be administered solely by veterinarians designated by the local regulatory authority. (He informs Louisiana will not be adopting this portion of the program.)
3. The equine drug testing facilities earn accreditation that meets the recently enacted Racing Medication & Testing Consortium Code of Standards for Drug Testing Laboratories. Dr. Grimstad informs the Commission will be working closely with Dr. Barker regarding the accreditation process.
4. State racing commissions adopting the new RCI Penalty Guidelines for multiple medication violations.

Dr. Grimstad informs the Racing Commission staff has printed the 26 controlled therapeutic medications and the associated withdrawal times and those are in the back of the meeting room. He informs Louisiana will maintain its current threshold limits for all other medications and prohibited substances that are not included on the list.

Dr. Grimstad informs a notice of intent will be circulated and voted on at the next Commission meeting. He informs Louisiana plans to move forward with adopting all but number 2 listed above regarding race day Lasix. He informs if it is passed by the Commission there will be a 6 month period before the rules are formally adopted. He states the floor is open for comment from the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

B. RULES COMMITTEE, by *Committee Chairman Keith W. Babb*

No report.

C. LEGAL COMMITTEE, by *Committee Chairman Bob F. Wright*

Mr. Guilbeau has been appointed as new Legal Committee Chairman. No report.

D. SECURITY COMMITTEE, by *Committee Chairman Kenneth "Kenu" Romero*

Mr. Romero has no report and requests Louisiana State Police Captain Terry Shutz to provide a brief update. Mr. Shutz informs the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 activity report has been submitted to Mr. Gardiner. He states there has been 5,431 total hours of

enforcement time at the tracks and training facilities. He informs 1,404 patrols were conducted and a total of 97 criminal or administrative investigations performed throughout the four racetracks. He informs they have inspected OTBs in Orleans and Jefferson Parish and will inspect others in the outlying areas. He is pleased to inform only a few minor violations have been committed.

Mr. Wright asks Mr. Shutz to reiterate their function and service to the Commission. Mr. Shutz informs the State Police has a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Racing Commission to provide security enforcement/inspection of the backstretch, jockeys room, racing area and training facilities. He says the goal is to assist in maintaining the integrity of the industry. Mr. Gardiner informs the State Police have been assisting the Commission with these matters for 3 years. Mr. Wright asks Mr. Shutz if he has seen a positive impact to the industry with regards to their presence. Mr. Shutz informs the feedback from the horsemen and stewards has been positive. He states the relationships the State Police has built with the horsemen and the Commission have been beneficial to Louisiana racing. Mr. Wright commends Mr. Gardiner for the good work he has done with the State Police. Mr. Wright states he believes there has been fewer problems on the track since the State Police came on board.

Mr. Babb asks Mr. Shutz if all the officers on duty are uniformed. Mr. Shutz informs the officers wear their class C uniform due to the environment, but they are clearly marked as State Police. He says an officer will go undercover occasionally.

Mr. Wright states he believes the use of illegal drugs has been a big problem on the track and he is proud to say it has diminished since the State Police have made their presence known. Mr. Romero concurs.

Mr. Gardiner states there was a large learning curve when the State Police reentered racing and now you will see more pointed operations focused on corruption. Mr. Shutz informs the state stewards have greatly assisted the State Police with the learning and information process.

E. RACETRACK/HBPA LIAISON COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Kevin Delahoussaye

Mr. Delahoussaye states there has been good dialogue from the tracks today. He commends and thanks the tracks for working together with the Commission.

III. OTHER

A. Renewal of Delegated Authority:

1. Renewal of delegated authority to Charles A. Gardiner III, Executive Director, to approve various administrative documents and personnel actions for the Racing Commission.

Mr. Turner motions to approve; Mr. Young seconds; motion carries.

IV. LICENSE APPROVALS

A. LICENSE APPROVAL

- 1. **Theodrick D. Ledet, Jockey.** Convicted felon.

Mr. Guilbeau motions to approve Mr. Ledet for a license; Dr. Grimstad seconds; motion carries.

B. REINSTATEMENT REQUEST

- 1. **Anthony J. Lovato, Jockey.** *Attempting to tamper with sample & Human Drug Testing, 3rd offense,* Requesting reinstatement of Jockey's license.

Mr. Guilbeau motions to defer action, until the next meeting, upon Mr. Lovato providing two negative hair tests, at his own expense, at a laboratory approved by the Louisiana State Racing Commission, submitted soon after the Racing Commission meeting and the week of October 1, 2014; Mr. Turner seconds; motion carries.

V. ADJUDICATIONS

A. APPEALS (La. Rev. Stat. 4:154)

- 1. **Colby J. Hernandez, Jockey.** Ruling#ED20584 of 5/1/14 – *Careless Riding.*

Not present for hearing, appeal withdrawn. Mr. Delahoussaye motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 7 calendar days from 8/31/14 through 9/6/14. If jockey participates in a designated race day not subject to suspension; he shall be required to make up the suspension day on the first following race day after the designated day of racing; Ms. Wagner seconds; motion carries.

Dr. Grimstad asks Mr. Munster what are the costs associated with a suspensive appeal. Mr. Munster informs \$500 is the amount set by the Racing Commission. Dr. Grimstad makes a motion that the Legal Committee look at increasing the amount of filing a suspensive appeal; commissioners second; motion carries.

- 2. **Danny J. LaVergne, Jockey.** Ruling#DD20609 of 5/15/14 – *Careless Riding.*

Not present for hearing. Dr. Grimstad motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 7 calendar days from 10/1/14 through 10/7/14. If jockey participates in a designated race day not subject to suspension; he shall be required to make up the suspension day on the first following race day after the designated day of racing; Mr. Babb seconds; motion carries.

B. VIOLATIONS OF LAC 35:I.1797 (Equine Positives)

- 1. **Robert Meche, Trainer** (*Adjudication Referred*)

Ruling#DD20691 of 5/13/14 – *Phenylbutazone & Flunixin (ARCI Category IV, Severity Level I)* (3rd offense of ARCI Category IV/V, Severity Level I within a 12-month period)

Not present for hearing. Mr. Guilbeau motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 60 days effective 8/25/14 through 10/23/14; fine an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500); purse redistributed. Denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the LSRC; Mr. Babb seconds; motion carries.

2. Shawn M. David, Trainer (*Adjudication Referred*)

Ruling#ED20623 of 5/30/14 – *Phenylbutazone (ARCI Category IV, Severity Level I)*
(*3rd offense of ARCI Category IV/V, Severity Level I within a 12-month period*)

Ms. Wagner motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 60 days effective 8-31-14 through 10-29-14; fine an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500); purse redistributed. Denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the LSRC; Mr. Turner seconds; motion carries.

Mr. Wright informs the open 1st Vice Chairman position will be voted on at the next Commission meeting. He asks the commissioners to consider who they want to nominate.

3. Shelton J. Zenon, Sr., Trainer (*Adjudication Referred*)

Ruling#ED20706 of 7/17/14 – *Methocarbamol & Guaifenesin (ARCI Category IV)*
(*3rd offense of ARCI Category IV/V, Severity Level I within a 12-month period*)

Mr. Young motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 60 days effective 8-31-14 through 10-29-14; fine an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500); purse redistributed. Denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the LSRC; Mr. Delahoussaye seconds; motion carries.

4. Theodore M. Arndt, Trainer (*Adjudication Referred/Appeal*)

Ruling#ED20657 of 6/20/14 – *Fluphenazine (ARCI Category II)*

Mr. Turner motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; suspend 6 months effective 8-31-14 through 2-27-15; fine \$1,500; purse redistributed. Denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the LSRC; Mr. Delahoussaye seconds; motion carries.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Young motions to adjourn; Mr. Turner seconds; Mr. Wright adjourns the meeting.



Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director