

LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES – August 25, 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
Thomas B. Calvert
Donald "Don" Cravins
Eddie J. Delahoussaye
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.
Roy Griggs
Peter J. Hamilton III
Mike R. McHalfey

ABSENT

Lane T. Cortez
Deano Thornton

APPROVED
At the Commission Meeting of
10/26/2021
(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, August 25, 2021 at 9:00 AM on the Zoom Conference Call. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve the meeting minutes from the June 17, 2021, June 29, 2021, and July 1, 2021 meetings; Commissioner Bernard seconds; motion carries.

Commissioner Reine requests that the Chairman appoint a committee to review submitted race date applications and to meet with concerned parties to discuss those applications prior to Commission approval votes in light of Act 436 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. The Chairman responds that he will put together a committee for that purpose with Mr. Charles Gardiner III, LSRC Executive Director.

I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS

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

2021-2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET

1. RACES

- a. **Approval** of first condition book for 2021-2022 thoroughbred meet.
- b. **Approval** of designated races for 2021-2022 thoroughbred meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve; Commissioners Delahoussaye and Finkelstein second; motion carries.

2. STEWARD

- a. **Approval** of Tom Davis to serve as state steward for 2021-2022 thoroughbred meet.

Mr. Arthur Morrell, Attorney with Morrell & Morrell, LLC, states that he has a complaint against Mr. Tom Davis for performing actions that he feels are unethical

according to the Rules of Racing. The Chairman responds that it is not appropriate for the Commission to take up Mr. Morrell’s complaint, which the LSRC Office received in writing, due to active litigation.

Commissioners motion to approve; Commissioners second; motion carries.

2022 QUARTER HORSE MEET

3. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2022 quarter horse meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

a. Approval for 2022 quarter horse meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

a. Approval for 2022 quarter horse meet wagering as provided in Meeting Agenda.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #3, #4, and #5; Commissioners Bernard and Finkelstein second; motion carries.

B. THE OLD EVANGELINE DOWNS, LLC

d/b/a EVANGELINE DOWNS RACETRACK & CASINO

Commissioner Reine motions to compel Boyd Gaming to address the issues at Evangeline Downs as listed by the Racetrack/HBPA Liaison Committee and discussed at the August 20, 2021 meeting between representatives of LSRC, Boyd Gaming, and the Louisiana Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA) by no later than September 30, 2021, which if not remedied, will subject Boyd Gaming to possible fine of \$1,000 per day after the deadline until resolved; Commissioners Cravins and Bouie second; motion carries.

Commissioner Cravins requests that a meeting with Mr. Vincent Schwartz, Senior Vice President of Operation at Boyd Gaming, be scheduled with LSRC and LaHBPA representatives so that the Commission can get definitive answers for these issues. Ms. Janet Boles, Attorney for Boyd Gaming, responds that she will help facilitate a meeting with Mr. Schwartz.

2021 QUARTER HORSE MEET

1. STEWARD

a. Approval of Charles Ashy, Jr. to serve as state steward for 2021 quarter horse meet.

2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET

2. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2022 thoroughbred meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

a. Approval for 2022 thoroughbred meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

a. Approval for 2022 thoroughbred meet wagering as provided in Meeting Agenda.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #1, #2, #3, and #4; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

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

2021-2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET

1. STEWARD

- a. **Approval** of Roy Wood to serve as state steward for 2021-2022 thoroughbred meet.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve; Commissioner Finkelstein seconds; motion carries.

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

2021 THOROUGHBRED MEET

**1. REQUEST BY HARRAH'S LOUISIANA DOWNS TO AMEND
WAGERING APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 (R.S. 4:158A):**

- a. **Ratification** for Amended 2021 thoroughbred meet wagering as provided in Meeting Agenda.

2022 QUARTER HORSE MEET

2. LICENSE APPROVALS

- a. **Approval** for 2022 quarter horse meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

- a. **Approval** for 2022 quarter horse meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

- a. **Approval** for 2022 quarter horse meet wagering as provided in Meeting Agenda.

2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET

5. LICENSE APPROVALS

- a. **Approval** for 2022 thoroughbred meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

- a. **Approval** for 2022 thoroughbred meet as provided in Meeting Agenda.

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

- a. **Approval** for 2022 thoroughbred meet wagering as provided in Meeting Agenda.

Commissioner Bernard motions to approve Items #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

II. RULE

A. FORMAL ADOPTION:

1. LAC 35: XIII Chapter 116 – Pick N
§11609. Procedure [amend]

Commissioner Bernard motions to approve for Formal Adoption; Commissioner Bouie seconds; motion carries.

III. OTHER

A. SPORTS WAGERING LICENSES

1. **Consideration** to approve licensees to apply to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board for a sports wagering license pursuant to La. R.S. 27:604(c).

Mr. Brett Bonin, Attorney for LSRC, informs that LSRC has received written requests for Delta Downs, Evangeline Downs, and Fair Grounds to apply for sports wagering licenses. The Chairman states that the Commission will respond as quickly as possible if Louisiana Downs' existing ownership or new ownership, pending sale of the racetrack, petitions the Commission for approval to apply for a sports wagering license.

Commissioner Bernard motions to approve Delta Downs, Evangeline Downs, and Fair Grounds to apply for sports wagering licenses from the Louisiana Gaming Control Board; Commissioner Finkelstein seconds; motion carries.

B. HHR CONSULTING SERVICES

1. **Approval** to enter into a Consulting Services Contract with Gaming Laboratories International, LLC for the purpose of assisting LSRC with the implementation and management of regulations for Historical Horse Racing in Louisiana.

Commissioner Bouie asks what the cost of the contract will be. Mr. Gardiner responds that the total amount will be \$74,400.00.

Commissioner Bernard motions to approve the Consulting Services Contract; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioners motion to adjourn; Commissioners second; motion carries.



Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director