

# LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

## MINUTES – April 24, 2017 Meeting

*As transcribed by Mary E. Lee DiLeo, Certified Court Reporter*

### COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

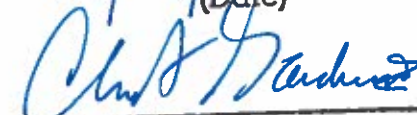
Bob F. Wright, *Chairman*  
Dr. Patrick Bernard  
Thomas B. Calvert  
Donald "Don" Cravins  
R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis  
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.  
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.  
Eric G. Johnson  
Mike R. McHalfey  
Louis Reine  
Kenneth "Kenu" Romero  
Mike Shelton

# APPROVED

At the Commission Meeting c

9/25/17

(Date)



Executive Director  
Louisiana State Racing Commission

### ABSENT

Judy W. Wagner, *First Vice Chairperson*

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) was called to order by the Chairman on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the Event Center of the Evangeline Downs Racetrack & Casino, 2235 Creswell Lane Extension, Opelousas, Louisiana. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

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Commissioner Romero requests a moment of silence in memory of former LSRC Chairman, Mr. Jerry Meaux, on the third anniversary of his death.

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Commissioner Reine motions to approve the meeting minutes from the January 30, 2017 meeting; Commissioner Cravins 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 that Delta Downs' 84-day 2016-2017 Thoroughbred Meet ended March 11, 2017. He states that Delta Downs quarantined the backside for two weeks as a precautionary measure from the EHV-1 virus outbreak at Fair Grounds. He says that the handle was down 8%, of which 3% to 4% could be attributed to the scratches of ship-in horses during the quarantine that reduced field sizes in half. He informs that the winner and fourth-place horses of the 2016 \$1,000,000 Delta Downs Jackpot Stakes, Gunnevera and J Boys Echo respectively, will compete in the 2017 Kentucky Derby. He states that Delta Downs' 46-day 2017 Quarter Horse Meet started on Friday, April 21, 2017 and handle was up 40% for the first two race days. He says that Boyd Gaming bought new state-of-the-art graphic systems for both Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs from their vendor, Sport View, for around \$20,000. He states that Delta Downs has a new kiosk in the OTB that can exchange cash for customers' winning tickets and a new PA system for the backside. He informs that Delta Downs will have a new safety rail installed at the conclusion of the current meet.

Commissioner Guilbeau asks if Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs have a policy and procedure written for pre-race and post-race horse identification. Mr. Warren responds that there are no written procedures for identifying horses at either track but the common racetrack procedure is for the identifier to look at the horse's identification tattoo or use the markings on the horse. He says that if the tattoo is illegible and there are no distinguishable markings on a horse, a backup identifier will help to verify.

Commissioner Guilbeau requests that each racetrack develop and submit a written policy and procedure for pre-race and post-race identification that explains what should be done in the event that there are questions about the tattoo or markings of a horse and whether that issue leads to a scratch or not. He says that there should be an education training requirement for horse and internal quality control to ensure that the horse identifying policies and procedures are being followed and executed consistently. Mr. Warren responds that they will formulate an outline for policies and procedures and forward it to the LSRC Office.

Commissioner Reine asks what changes Delta Downs has made to ensure that horse mis-identification never happens again. Mr. Warren responds that Delta Downs changed the policy to get horses to go to one specific location to be identified. He says that they ended the practice of allowing horsemen to school their horses if they had a horse in a race, which also helps with congestion in full-field races. He states that the identifier is under the supervision of the paddock judge to cut down on mistakes. Commissioner Reine asks if there has been discussion of using a chip as an alternative to illegible tattoos. Mr. Warren responds that it has been discussed for years around the country but has not been implemented.

Commissioner Reine informs that the memorandum from Dr. Matt Cooley, Equine Director of the LSRC, to State veterinarians regarding horse identifying procedure has a troubling provision. He states that the provision calls for an unruly horse that cannot be restrained in the paddock for identification to be brought instead to the backside for identification. Mr. Warren responds that unruly horses have been identified in the backside in the past. Commissioner Reine says that identifying a horse on the backside and then bringing the horse to the paddock gives an opportunity for switching horses. Mr. Warren says that the horses identified on the backside would not be mistaken when brought to the paddock since you can pick them out by notes on their markings.

Commissioner McHalfey asks when the identification microchips for foals will be implemented. Mr. Steve Flint, a Louisiana trainer, responds that foals that are born this year are required to be microchipped. Commissioner Reine asks what identifying number the microchips will show and if they will still have tattoos. Mr. Flint responds that the microchips will have the same identification number as the foal certificate. Commissioner McHalfey says that the horses will be identifiable through microchip scanning, their tattoo numbers, and identifying marks on their paperwork. Mr. Flint says that the microchips will be implemented in all thoroughbreds in the United States.

## **2. QUARANTINE PLAN**

- a. **Update on Delta Downs' quarantine plan per the LSRC's request at the January 30, 2017 Meeting.**

Mr. Warren says that it would be helpful to be provided with a best practices outline with protocol for the tracks to use in developing their quarantine plans. He informs that

Delta Downs currently has a few spots that could be used to quarantine an infected horse reported by the veterinarians. He says that Mr. Steve Kuypers, General Manager of Delta Downs, has started the process of purchasing portable tents and stalls to have excess locations to use for quarantine and for isolation as necessary. He states that Delta Downs will follow veterinarian procedures and recommendations as mandated by the State.

Commissioner Reine thanks Delta Downs for addressing the safety rail issue.

**2017 QUARTER HORSE MEET**

**3. RACES**

**a. Ratification of first condition book for 2017 quarter horse meet.**

**b. Ratification of designated races for 2017 quarter horse meet:**

- 04/21/17 The Old South Derby Trails
- 04/21/17 Delta Dash
- 04/22/17 The Old South Futurity Trails
- 04/22/17 OPEN ME A CORONA (RG II)
- 04/28/17 Lassie Futurity Trials (RG II)
- 04/29/17 Laddie Futurity Trials (RG II)
- 05/06/17 Louisiana Purchase
- 05/12/17 Delta 550 Championship
- 05/12/17 The Old South Derby
- 05/13/17 The Old South Futurity
- 05/13/17 Mother's Day
- 05/19/17 Lassie Futurity (RG II)
- 05/20/17 Vinton
- 05/20/17 Laddie Futurity (RG II)
- 05/27/17 Develop A Plan (G III)
- 06/02/17 Virgil Bond
- 06/03/17 Vals Fortune (RG II)
- 06/09/17 Firecracker Derby Trials
- 06/10/17 Firecracker Futurity Trials (G II)
- 06/16/17 Delta Downs Derby Trails (RG III)
- 06/17/17 Lee Berwick Futurity Trials (RG I)
- 06/23/17 Par-A-Dice Stake
- 06/24/17 Miss Polly Classic (G III)
- 06/30/17 Firecracker Derby
- 07/01/17 Firecracker Futurity (G II)
- 07/08/17 Louisiana Juvenile
- 07/08/17 Louisiana Starter
- 07/08/17 Live Oak
- 07/08/17 Flashy Hemp
- 07/08/17 Louisiana Classic (RG II)
- 07/08/17 Flying Breed Stakes
- 07/08/17 Delta Downs Derby (RG III)
- 07/08/17 Lee Berwick Futurity (RG I)

**4. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT**

**a. Ratification of officials for 2017 quarter horse meet (4/21/17 - 7/8/17):**

- Chris Warren – Director of Racing
- John Simon – Racing Secretary
- Mohamed Alikhan – Asst. Racing Secretary/Stakes Coordinator
- Steve Ruff and Galen Boutte – Association Stewards
- Duane Domingue – Paddock Judge/Alternate Association Steward
- Mark Gilbert, Jeff Jerman, & Michael Phillips – Outriders

- Aaron Pelt – Trackman Supervisor
- Jeremy Courville – Starter
- Michael Bennett – Clerk of Scales
- Oscar Lopez – Head Clocker
- Melissa Dueitt – Horse Identifier (request for approval at Commission Meeting)
- Tami Meyers – Stall Superintendent
- Guy Smith – Jocks Room Custodian/Assistant Clerk of Scales
- Steve Nick, Phillip Walker, Charles Sonnier & Beverly McNeely – Placing Judges/Racing Office Staff

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #3 and #4 with the exception of Melissa Dueitt as Horse Identifier; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries. (See page 28 for final motion to reject the ratification of Melissa Dueitt)

**2017/2018 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

**5. LICENSE APPROVALS**

- a. Approval for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:
  - 1. For 10 year license to own and operate a racetrack, per R.S. 4:158 & R.S. 4:214
  - 2. For 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
  - 3. To serve as concessionaire

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

- a. Approval for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:
  - 1. Thoroughbred racing on the flat
  - 2. 84 thoroughbred race dates (10/18/17 through 3/10/18)
    - October 18,19,20,21,25,26,27,28
    - November 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,21,22,24,25,29,30
    - December 1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,20,21,22,23,27,28,29,30
    - January 3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26,27,31
    - 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
  - 3. Hold a minimum of 9 live thoroughbred races daily Wednesday through Saturday with the exception of live racing on Tuesday, November 21, 2017
  - 4. Dark – no live racing on Thursday, November 23, 2017
  - 5. Daily post time 5:30 PM except:
    - Jackpot Day (November 18, 2017), 1:45 PM post time.
    - November 21, 2017 and November 22, 2017, 1:35 PM post time.

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

- a. Approval for wagering format for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:
  - 1. \$1 WPS & Exacta on all races
  - 2. 50¢ Trifecta on all races with 5 or more entries
  - 3. 10¢ Superfecta on all races with 6 or more entries
  - 4. 50¢ Rolling Pick 3 on Race 1 through last race
  - 5. 50¢ Pick 4 on first 4 & last 4 races
  - 6. 50¢ Pick 5 on last 5 races
  - 7. 50¢ Super Hi-Five on designated races
  - 8. \$1 Rolling Daily Double on first through last races

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Commissioner Reine motions to defer Items #5, #6, and #7 until after the Eduardo Ramirez case is discussed. Chairman Wright agrees to defer.

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(The following motion occurred chronologically on page 28)

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve Items #5, #6, and #7 (see page 4); Commissioner Davis seconds; motion carries.

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Commissioner Cravins thanks the Commission, staff, and audience for coming to Opelousas and Evangeline Downs for hosting this meeting. He says that the Commissioners are interested in moving the meeting from time to time so that people in different areas of the State can participate and see the meeting process in motion.

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**B. THE OLD EVANGELINE DOWNS, LLC  
d/b/a EVANGELINE DOWNS RACETRACK & CASINO**

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren*. Mr. Warren informs that Evangeline Downs' 84-day 2017 Thoroughbred Meet, which started on April 12, 2017, is down 15% in handle after the first two weeks. He says that the meet started in March last year versus starting on Easter week this year to the detriment of the meet. He states that Evangeline Downs is beating its thoroughbred meet competitors, Penn National Race Course and Charles Town Races, in handle by 29% and 15%, respectively, for the first two weeks. He informs that Evangeline Downs has a billboard off of Interstate-10, TV ads, and radio ads promoting the racetrack. He says that Evangeline Downs provided a free crawfish boil on opening day for the horsemen and at a small price for B-Connected members as well as a free fish fry on Friday, April 21, 2017. He states that they installed a kiosk in the OTB to provide horsemen with access to the same promotions and coupons that casino customers have as well as outgoing direct mail for those offers.

Mr. Warren says that Evangeline Downs will host a handicapping contest for the fans each month from May through August. He informs that Evangeline Downs gave up its host fee in exchange for Twinspires.com promotion of its wagering, such as the Rolling Pick 3 and Daily Double. He says that Evangeline Downs took the expense to try to increase its past performance lines in the Daily Racing Forum (DRF) to increase overall exposure by 200%, according to the projection by Jim Kostas, President of DRF Print. He states that Silk's Dining Room in the clubhouse has a new food and beverage supervisor and currently offers a smaller buffet on Wednesdays and Thursdays and an upscale buffet on Fridays and Saturdays. He says that there are a few new trainers on the grounds, including Mr. J. R. Caldwell who owns Super Derby winner, Texas Chrome, and Mr. Efren Loza, Jr., who owns Evangeline Mile winner, Fear the Cowboy.

Mr. Warren informs that the backside is in great shape and the new 70-stall receiving barn has received nothing but compliments. He says that Boyd Gaming has been improving Evangeline Downs' problematic track surfaces since acquiring the racetrack and he has heard no complaints except for moisture on the racetrack. He states that Evangeline Downs is trying to work with the horsemen in regards to their letter about how to deal with the water on the racetrack over the course of the night, morning, and during races. He says that Evangeline Downs is not happy with the turf course's appearance because no rye grass was planted, which usually covers up Bermuda grass for better appearance but makes it hard for Bermuda grass to grow for the summer. He informs that Evangeline Downs has top dressed, aerated, and added sand, weed control chemicals, and strong fertilizer to the turf course. He states that they have delayed the

turf course opening to May 12, 2017 but feels that the turf course will be in consistently great shape down the road.

Commissioner Cravins asks if, after the complaints of the last few racing seasons, the clubhouse has improved to a suitable standard to serve guests. Mr. Warren responds that the new food and beverage manager met with the horsemen to get their critiques on the clubhouse buffet and hasn't heard any criticism over the past two weeks.

Commissioner Cravins says that he was at a meeting three weeks ago between the horsemen and Evangeline Downs officials, in which they were assured that the turf track would be ready to run for the start of the current meet. Mr. Warren responds that he saw that the turf course was not up to the specifications needed to run on it and Evangeline Downs delayed the turf course races according to their turf consultant, Mr. Kyle Ducote, by two weeks in the best interest of the horsemen and the public.

Commissioner Reine asks if Evangeline Downs made some staff adjustments to improve service in the clubhouse. Mr. Warren responds that they have a new supervisor but is not sure of any new wait staff. Commissioner Reine says that he has received comments questioning the quality of the food and suggests that Mr. Warren closely monitor the service and food quality.

Commissioner Romero commends Evangeline Downs for improving its racetrack-specific advertising. Mr. Warren says that Mr. Ashby Pettigrew, Vice President and General Manager of Evangeline Downs, has been making sure that the racing product is presented to the public and the horsemen in a positive manner.

Commissioner Cravins asks how the attendance has been in the current season. Mr. Warren responds that Evangeline Downs doesn't keep attendance figures for racing because they can't separate who is there for the casino versus the racetrack. He says that the live handle is not as down percentage-wise as the overall handle and they are doing everything they can to get more people into the building in competition with online gambling and nearby casinos.

Mr. Benard Chatters, President of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA), informs that the horsemen feel Evangeline Downs' staff retention issues come from not paying enough for people to work those positions and the food they serve needs to be good quality in order to bring the handle numbers up. Commissioner Cravins says that, since being on the Commission, there has been a constant litany of complaints about the operations of Evangeline Downs and the Commission will need to address these issues until they are resolved. Chairman Wright says that Mr. Warren has indicated that Evangeline Downs has begun doing things to promote attendance with some positive results so far.

Mr. Warren introduces Evangeline Downs' turf consultant, Mr. Kyle Ducote. Chairman Wright asks how much experience Mr. Ducote has with racing facilities versus golfing facilities. Mr. Ducote responds that he has no specific experience with racing facilities but the track is treated the same as a huge fairway. He says that he has put double the normal amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in the turf course and applied urea at a high rate, which has helped to get the temperatures right and grass to spread. He states that the track was full of alligator grass, crab grass, and weeds when he took over the care of the turf course on October 10, 2016. He says that the soil samples that

he originally took from the turf showed it was very hard and he has since improved the firmness of the track through aerifying it twice and top dressing it with half an inch of sand. He informs that now they are waiting for the turf to re-grow.

Chairman Wright asks if Mr. Ducote thinks that the turf conditions will be much improved in the next few weeks. Mr. Ducote responds that it will be much improved but the progress depends also on the unpredictability of the weather. Commissioner McHalfey asks if staffing is a problem for Mr. Ducote's work. Mr. Ducote says that he has enough people from Farm D'Allie Golf Course to help as needed. Commissioner McHalfey asks if Mr. Ducote has enough time to work for both the golf course and Evangeline Downs' turf course. Mr. Ducote responds that he does.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if the turf course was runnable at this time last year. Mr. Warren responds that they planted rye grass last year which covered the whole course but didn't allow the Bermuda grass to grow at the proper time, which left the turf course in a bad state with holes and crab grass. He says that everyone they've talked to, including Louisiana Downs' team and Mr. Ducote, recommended not growing rye grass to allow the turf course to grow on its own. Commissioner McHalfey asks why this process just started last October rather than at the end of the last meet. Mr. Warren responds that Evangeline Downs parted ways with the last turf specialist because he wasn't hands on or at the track very often.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if the turf will be ready in three weeks. Mr. Ducote responds that it'll be close but he can't predict with certainty. He says that the turf course grass is growing like they want it to and they have promoted lateral growth by lowering the turf course height and spraying it with growth regulators. Chairman Wright asks if Mr. Warren has consulted with other turf experts to supplement or assist Mr. Ducote. Mr. Warren responds that he has discussed the turf with many people, especially the turf workers at Louisiana Downs.

Chairman Wright asks how old the turf track is. Mr. Warren responds that the turf track was built after moving the facility to Opelousas. He says that they didn't originally put in a drainage system underneath like the newer courses do and that the contractor involved with building the facility said the turf was sodded rather than seeded, which is not a good starting root structure. He informs that the Track Superintendent, Randall Leger, has been working on the drainage and they are buying a ditcher to help keep the drainage under control.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if the Commission can put a deadline on turf course improvement, for which he suggests four weeks. Dr. Finkelstein says he doesn't think it'll be ready in four weeks. Commissioner Reine asks Mr. Ducote what his time table is for turning the Evangeline Downs turf course into a first class turf course. Mr. Ducote responds that the turf course will be runnable realistically between a month and six weeks from now. He says that October will be a full year of implementing the proper actions and he must build off of that every year to give the turf time to mature, though there is always a risk of losing turf due to things like the last flood. Chairman Wright asks if Mr. Ducote thinks there will be substantial improvement to gauge by May 12, 2017. Mr. Ducote responds that it should be. Chairman Wright says that if the turf doesn't appear to be improving enough by May 5, 2017, then Mr. Warren should let the Commission know so that it can take other action.

Mr. Warren asks if using the turf course at 80% of full expectation would be detrimental to its growth. Mr. Ducote responds that the turf grass will still grow and not be adversely affected by use at that point. Commissioner Cravins says that, while he thinks the necessary steps are being taken now, the improvements should have been made years ago. Mr. Warren informs that Evangeline Downs has had issues the last two seasons of being overwhelmed with water. Chairman Wright says that he recalls there being a lot of effort by Boyd Gaming to improve the turf, which hasn't worked, but if enough improvement doesn't come by the deadline, then more drastic measures may need to be taken.

Commissioner Romero asks if Evangeline Downs reached out to Fair Grounds about the turf issues considering their turf improvements from four years ago. Mr. Warren responds that Evangeline Downs did use a consultant that Fair Grounds recommended but the consultant didn't put much as much time into Evangeline Downs' turf as they thought he should. Commissioner Shelton says that hearing from somebody with Fair Grounds might be helpful since they fix their turf course every year after the strains of Jazz Fest. Chairman Wright asks if anyone has concrete suggestions to fix the turf, and if not, requests that the Commission wait until May 12, 2017 to take further action.

Chairman Wright says that Evangeline Downs should consult with another expert for a second opinion and requests Mr. Warren to gather information about the history of the turf track regarding the contractors who installed it.

**2. QUARANTINE PLAN**

- a. **Update** on Evangeline Downs' quarantine plan per the LSRC's request at the January 30, 2017 Meeting.

Mr. Warren informs that Evangeline Downs is in the process of acquiring supplies, portable tents, and portable stalls. He says that Mr. Kuypers has instructed purchasing to get the materials needed to construct temporary housing in case isolation is needed.

**2017 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

**3. RACES**

- a. **Ratification** of first condition book for 2017 thoroughbred meet.
- b. **Ratification** of designated races for 2017 thoroughbred meet:

05/05/17	Equine Sales Oaks
05/06/17	Equine Sales Derby
06/02/17	The Spotted Horse
06/03/17	Evangeline Mile
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Sprint
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Mademoiselle
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Classic
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Distaff
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Cheval
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Soiree
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Turf
07/08/17	Louisiana Legends Starter
07/29/17	D.S. "Shine" Young Futurity (Colts & Geldings Division)
07/29/17	D.S. "Shine" Young Futurity (Filly Division)



4. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

a. Ratification of officials for 2017 thoroughbred meet:

- Chris Warren – Director of Racing Operations
- Corey Veazey – Racing Secretary
- Ashley Simon – Assistant Racing Secretary/Stakes Coordinator
- Frank Rudis – Association Steward
- \*Mark Guidry – Association Steward
- Julie Gipson – Identifier
- Traci Vickers – Paddock Judge
- Angela Hebert – Placing Judge
- Bobby Granger – Clerk of Scales
- Vince Cline – Jockey Room Custodian
- Sandra Calais – Claims Clerk/Alternate Placing Judge
- Mariah Quebedeaux – Placing Judge
- \*Paula Kelly – Placing Judge
- Brett Poole – Clocker
- Russell Comeaux – Starter
- Jacob Deville – Outrider
- Kenneth Gipson – Outrider
- Dave Correll – Stall Superintendent
- Randall Leger – Track Superintendent
- \*new official

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #3 and #4; Commissioner Romero seconds; motion carries.

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Commissioner Reine asks if the Commission has an agreement with Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs that there will be no horses permanently stalled in their receiving barns. Mr. Warren responds that Boyd Gaming signed an agreement with the horsemen that no horses will be allowed to stall in the receiving barn for more than a day, except in the case of ship-in horses that the horsemen want to acclimate to the track, which would be allowed for up to four days.

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Mr. Ed Fenasci, Executive Director of the LaHBPA, informs that the LaHBPA has been contracting with the head of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association's (NTRA) Safety and Integrity Alliance Initiative, Dr. Mick Peterson, to assess the Fair Grounds turf course after Jazz Fest. He says that they have discussed bringing him in to assess the Evangeline Downs turf course at the same time. Chairman Wright requests a preliminary report after Dr. Peterson makes the trip. Mr. Fenasci says that he will share it with Evangeline Downs and the Commission.

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2017 QUARTER HORSE MEET

5. LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Approval for 2017 quarter horse meet:

1. For 10 year license to own and operate a racetrack, per R.S. 4:158 & R.S. 4:214
2. For 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 *et seq.*
3. To serve as concessionaire
4. To operate as official training facility during off-season

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

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Commissioner Reine asks if the tracks coordinated on their quarter horse meets to avoid further move-in and move-out issues for the horsemen. Mr. Chatters responds that there was a rule drafted for a previous LSRC meeting to allow horsemen to move-in and train 30 days prior to a meet and move-out by 15 days after a meet. He says that there would have been special concessions when the rule wasn't enforceable, such as due to Jazz Fest at Fair Grounds after the thoroughbred meet ended, but that it is a non-issue as long as the horsemen and racetracks work out any issues together.

Mr. Chatters informs that members have elected Mr. Kenny Roberts to the LaHBPA Board and that Mr. Roberts will act as liaison for quarter horse issues. Commissioner Reine asks if the LaHBPA is comfortable that there will be no problems with the quarter horse racing dates that the racetracks are proposing. Mr. Chatters says that he has been able to work with the tracks over the last three years as the LaHBPA President but it is an ongoing situation in which problems may arise each season.

Mr. Roberts says that he is one of the leading quarter horse trainers in Louisiana and top five in the nation. He says that the horsemen want enough time in between the trials and finals and in between moving in and moving out, particularly moving from Delta Downs to Fair Grounds and then Fair Grounds to Evangeline Downs. Chairman Wright asks if the horsemen have discussed these upcoming move-in and move-out dates with the tracks. Mr. Roberts responds that the racetracks have talked to the breeders association but not the quarter horse trainers. Mr. Chatters says that the LaHBPA is currently negotiating with the Fair Grounds.

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

**a. Approval for 2017 quarter horse meet:**

1. Quarter horse racing on the flat
2. 46 quarter horse dates (10/4/17 through 12/20/17)
  - October 4,5,6,7,11,12,13,14,18,19,20,21,25,26,27,28
  - November 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,21,22,24,25,29,30
  - December 1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,19,20
3. Hold a minimum of 9 live quarter horse races daily (Wednesday through Saturday)
4. Daily post time 5:35 PM

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

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

**a. Approval for wagering format for 2017 quarter horse meet:**

1. WPS & Exacta on all races
2. Rolling Daily Double beginning with Race 1
3. Trifecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing* (§11115)
4. Rolling Pick 3 beginning with Race 2
5. Pick 4 on first 4 and last 4 races
6. Superfecta on all races complying with the *Rules of Racing* (§11701)
7. Pick 5 on last 5 races
8. Super Hi-Five on Race 5 nightly

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

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

**1. PROGRESS REPORT, by Mr. Doug Shipley, Mr. Carey Loshbaugh, and Mr. Jason Boulet.**

Mr. David Waguespack, counsel for Fair Grounds, introduces the new President of Fair Grounds, Mr. Shipley. Chairman Wright asks how much of Mr. Shipley's work time is spent with racetracks versus casinos. Mr. Shipley responds that a third of his time is spent with OTBs and the remainder with the racetrack team. Chairman Wright informs that the Commission is concerned with the effort and time involved with the production and promotion of racing versus casino operations. Mr. Shipley says that he has passion for racing and conducted research on marketing to millennials while working for Maryland Live Casino. He informs that Fair Grounds has been doing more with social media to promote racing this season than they ever have and will utilize GoPros and drones next year. He states that marketing is not as much of a challenge as recruiting millennials to work the racing side but that there is a team video for recruiting for both the racing and casino sides on Fair Grounds' website.

Chairman Wright asks if Mr. Shipley has a plan in regard to Fair Grounds' effort and expense put into the promotion of racing. Mr. Shipley responds that he has approved a budget to invest \$300,000 to \$350,000 in turf course maintenance on an annual basis and they will have a retreat next month, during which they will discuss the details of their strategic plan for the marketing of racing. Chairman Wright requests that Mr. Shipley provide the Commission with specific ideas that they have in regard to added promotion of Fair Grounds racing within the next month or so.

Mr. Loshbaugh informs that, prior to the EHV-1 outbreak, starters and handle were up and purses were in great shape for Fair Grounds' 81-day 2016-2017 Thoroughbred Meet. He says the 14 race days affected by the EHV-1 quarantine had a 34% drop in handle and starters were down. He states that the 67 days of the meet that weren't impacted by the quarantine had a nearly flat handle and starters were up. He informs that they are in good shape for next year and the purses from the meet were up from the prior year and stayed consistent despite the decline in handle. He says that they ran races on the turf course 85% out of the 299 total races, which Fair Grounds hasn't done since 2000 when less than 200 races were carded on turf.

Mr. Boulet informs that Mr. Shipley joined the Fair Grounds team in January and is enthusiastic about the racing operations.

**2. EQUINE HERPES VIRUS**

**a. Update on EHV-1 outbreak and containment at Fair Grounds.**

Mr. Boulet informs that the State officially released Fair Grounds from quarantine on February 15, 2017 and Kentucky was the last official state to let Louisiana horses ship in starting on March 15, 2017. He states that about 800 horses were shipping out from Fair Grounds to go back to Kentucky for Keeneland's spring meet.

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Mr. Boulet says that Fair Grounds had a lot of new trainers this year and a lot of them said that they are excited to return next year. He informs that the 2017 Louisiana Derby winner, Girvin, is the points leader for and will run in the Kentucky Derby. He says that Fair Grounds Oaks winner, Farrell, will be one of the top fillies running in the Kentucky Oaks. He states that Fair Grounds will have two special events, exotic racing

and weenie dog races, during the quarter horse meet and are trying to promote quarter horse racing. He says that the weenie dog races brought 7,000 to 8,000 people to the Fair Grounds on a Saturday afternoon during the past thoroughbred meet. He informs that Fair Grounds' leading owner was Keith Plaisance, leading trainer was Brad Cox, and leading jockey was Florent Geroux.

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**3. QUARANTINE PLAN**

- a. **Update on Fair Grounds' quarantine plan per the LSRC's request at the January 30, 2017 Meeting.**

Mr. Boulet informs that Fair Grounds submitted a packet regarding its detailed quarantine plan to each Commissioner and asks if they have any questions.

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Commissioner Guilbeau requests the Fair Grounds to work with the LSRC Office to create a written policy and procedure on pre-race and post-race horse identification ready to be presented before the quarter horse meet. Mr. Boulet agrees.

Commissioner Cravins asks if Mr. Boulet is optimistic about resolving the issues concerning the quarter horse meet race days. Mr. Boulet responds that Fair Grounds hasn't talked about running more days with the horsemen since last year and they will negotiate the move-in and move-out days with the LaHBPA. He says that the ten day quarter horse schedule keeps the purse structure competitive with higher purses than Delta Downs. Commissioner Cravins informs that the horsemen are in favor of running ten quarter horse races per day rather than the minimum of nine. Mr. Boulet states that Fair Grounds runs ten races per day.

Commissioner Reine asks if Fair Grounds has a plan in place in case they need to evacuate horses during the quarter horse meet. Mr. Boulet responds that they have evacuated horses twice before to spots at the local training centers. He informs that Copper Crowne probably still has space but there may be a concern with Evangeline Training Center, which tore down some barns. He says that he will discuss hurricane evacuation preparation with the LSRC Administrative Office.

Commissioner Davis requests that the Fair Grounds team continues to negotiate and agree to move-in and move-out dates with the LaHBPA because, if the Commission has to promulgate a rule that regulates those dates, the rule will be awkward and not to the liking of either side.

He asks how the Fair Grounds Racing Club performed. Mr. Boulet responds that it was very successful and the money is going to the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles Cancer Center. He says that the club's filly ran fourth or fifth at Evangeline Downs last week but the club's colt, Excitations, won his last start at Keeneland and is moving to run in the Pat Day Mile. Commissioner Davis says that the industry needs things like this program to demystify and promote horse ownership and breeding. Mr. Boulet informs that Churchill Downs' three racetracks have their own racing clubs, which are monitored by an employee who is great at spreading information using Facebook and emails. Commissioner Davis requests that Fair Grounds informs the Commission about how to use and do more with the racing club concept so that information can be shared with the other tracks.

**4. REQUEST FOR OTB APPROVAL**

- a. **Approval** to open Meraux Fair Grounds OTB Casino (St. Bernard Parish), 4242 East Judge Perez Drive, Meraux, Louisiana 70075.

Ms. Rhea Loney, counsel for the LSRC, informs that the OTB application is in order pursuant to the LSRC's rules and regulations. She says that Fair Grounds is still waiting on some items but are not planning on occupying the building for a while. She states that there is a lack of a certified record of the referendum in the parish showing the vote to approve OTB wagering due to Hurricane Katrina but that the Commission has a record of emails with parish authorities that confirms the referendum was held.

Commissioner Reine asks if the additional licensing needed for the OTB is subject to the Commission's license approval or if the Commission should make this licensing approval subject to the additional licenses. Ms. Loney responds that the additional licenses are contingent upon the Commission's license approval.

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

**2017 QUARTER HORSE MEET**

**5. LICENSE APPROVALS**

- a. **Approval** for 2017 quarter horse race meet:
  - 1. 10 year license to own and operate a racetrack, per R.S. 4:158 & R.S. 4:214
  - 2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
  - 3. To serve as concessionaire

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

- a. **Approval** for 2017 quarter horse race meet:
  - 1. Quarter horse racing on the flat
  - ~~2. 10 quarter horse dates (8/18/17 through 9/2/17)  
August 18,19,23,24,25,26,30,31  
September 1,2~~

**AMENDED**

- 2. 10 quarter horse dates (8/16/17 through 9/2/17)  
August 16,17,18,19,24,25,26,31  
September 1,2
- 3. Hold a minimum of 9 live quarter horse races daily.
- 4. Daily post time 12:30 PM except:  
August 18 & 26, 2017, 3:00 PM post time

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

- a. **Approval** for wagering format for 2017 quarter horse race meet:
  - 1. WPS and Exactas on all races
  - 2. Trifectas and Superfectas on all races that qualify
  - 3. Rolling Pick 3 beginning on Race 1
  - 4. Rolling Daily Double beginning on Race 1
  - 5. Up to 2 Pick 4's
  - 6. Super Hi-Five on last race
  - 7. Pick Five ("Black Gold 5") on last 5 races

Commissioner Cravins says that the Commission shouldn't approve the racing dates until the conflict over the dates has been resolved by Fair Grounds and the LaHBPA.

Mr. Chatters informs that the LaHBPA will negotiate with the Fair Grounds and return once the dates are in agreement.

Commissioner Reine asks why Fair Grounds is planning to run ten races per day but is only putting a minimum of nine races in its application. Mr. Boulet responds that the nine-race minimum is a precaution in case the number of entries are not sufficient for ten races, for which Fair Grounds would request Mr. Chatters or Mr. Fenasci to agree to drop to nine races for the day. Commissioner Cravins asks if Fair Grounds ran ten races every day last season and why the nine race minimum provision is necessary in the application. Mr. Boulet responds that they ran at least ten races per day the prior year and the provision has been standard in applications for the thoroughbred meet and other tracks as well. Mr. Chatters says that, if the minimum is set to nine, then eventually they will drop to holding nine races per day. Commissioner Cravins agrees with Mr. Chatters and says that the application should reflect a minimum of ten races per day.

Commissioner Calvert asks what minimum was approved last year. Mr. Larry Munster, Assistant Executive Director of the LSRC, responds that the Commission discussed this issue with John Duvieilh, counsel for the LaHBPA, and the consensus reached was that every racetrack's application should have a minimum of nine races per day. Commissioner Calvert says that Mr. Boulet has a record of presenting reliable information. Mr. Chatters states that other racetracks in the state have reduced from ten to nine races per day and Louisiana Downs has reduced to seven races. Mr. Calvert says that it is not fair to compare past actions from other racetracks to Fair Grounds since Fair Grounds has given reliable information in the past.

Commissioner Reine motions to defer Items #5, #6, and #7 until later in the meeting; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries with opposition from Commissioner Calvert.

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(This portion of the discussion occurred chronologically on page 22)

Commissioner Reine asks if there is an agreement on the quarter horse dates at Fair Grounds. Mr. Roberts says that the two-year-olds need at least 21 to 22 days to rest between the trials and futurities. Mr. Duvieilh informs that, prior to the meeting, there were two options presented to the Fair Grounds for racing dates by the LaHBPA, the second of which was accepted. He says that the agreement is for racing from August 16, 2017 through September 2, 2017, with a July 21, 2017 move-in date and a September 21, 2017 move-out date to accommodate the horsemen's move to Evangeline Downs. He states that they have agreed to discuss extending the time period for which horses can run for next year to address Mr. Roberts' concern.

Commissioner Cravins asks how many days were agreed to for moving in and out. Mr. Duvieilh responds that the Fair Grounds agreed to 30 days to move in and 19 days to move out so that the quarter horse horsemen won't overlap with the thoroughbred horsemen at Evangeline Downs. Mr. Roberts agrees that the move-in and move-out dates are settled but argues that the meet should run until September 9, 2017 to give the horses adequate down time between trials and finals. Commissioner Calvert says that he thought the agreement was worked out and Mr. Roberts' concern was a

discussion for next year's meet. Mr. Roberts responds that he did not agree to the compromise.

Commissioner Reine asks if the LSU Laboratory will have tests back within 17 days in order to assure that the horses in the finals have cleared the test barn. Dr. Dirikolu responds that they will since they report the results within ten working days after receiving a sample. Mr. Boulet says that the agreement reached was concerning the move-in and move-out dates and that the Fair Grounds chose one of the options for race dates presented by the LQHBA to apply for at this meeting. Commissioner Reine asks if there can be some consideration for the safety of the two-year-olds to change the dates for adequate recovery time as requested by Mr. Roberts. Mr. Boulet requests a little more time to discuss this issue with the LaHBPA. Chairman Wright agrees to give them more time.

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(This portion of the discussion occurred chronologically on page 24)

Mr. Chatters thanks the Fair Grounds for working with the LaHBPA on the agreement. Mr. Duvielh informs that the Quarter Horse Meet will be changed to start on August 18, 2017 and end on September 9, 2017. He says that the quarter horses can move in on July 21, 2017 with training beginning on July 22, 2017 for five days per week with gates available two days a week. He states that, starting on August 1, 2017, training will run six days a week with gates available six days a week until the track closes on September 12, 2017. He says that the quarter horses will have to move out by September 21, 2017.

**2017 QUARTER HORSE MEET**

**5. LICENSE APPROVALS**

a. Approval for 2017 quarter horse race meet:

- 1. 10 year license to own and operate a racetrack, per R.S. 4:158 & R.S. 4:214
- 2. 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
- 3. To serve as concessionaire

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

a. Approval for 2017 quarter horse race meet:

- 1. Quarter horse racing on the flat
- ~~2. 10 quarter horse dates (8/18/17 through 9/2/17)~~  
~~August 18,19,23,24,25,26,30,31~~  
~~September 1,2~~

**AMENDED**

- ~~2. 10 quarter horse dates (8/16/17 through 9/2/17)~~  
~~August 16,17,18,19,24,25,26,31~~  
~~September 1,2~~

**AMENDED**

- 2. 10 quarter horse dates (8/18/17 through 9/9/17)  
 August 18,19,24,25,26,31  
 September 1,2,8,9
- 3. Hold a minimum of 9 live quarter horse races daily.
- 4. Daily post time 12:30 PM except:  
 August 18 & 26, 2017, 3:00 PM post time

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

a. **Approval** for wagering format for 2017 quarter horse race meet:

- 1. WPS and Exactas on all races
- 2. Trifectas and Superfectas on all races that qualify
- 3. Rolling Pick 3 beginning on Race 1
- 4. Rolling Daily Double beginning on Race 1
- 5. Up to 2 Pick 4's
- 6. Super Hi-Five on last race
- 7. Pick Five ("Black Gold 5") on last 5 races

Commissioner Calvert motions to approve the agreement between Fair Grounds and the LaHBPA and to approve Items #5, #6, and #7 with amendments as stated on the record; Commissioner Reine seconds; motion carries.

Commissioner Reine motions to clarify that each of the approved racing dates have a minimum of nine races. Commissioner Calvert seconds; motion carries

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8. **STEWARD**

a. **Approval** of Noble Hay, Jr. to serve as State Steward for 2017 quarter horse meet.

Commissioners motion to approve; Commissioners second; motion carries.

**2017/2018 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

9. **LICENSE APPROVALS**

a. **Approval** for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:

- 1. For 10 year license to own and operate a racetrack, per R.S. 4:158 & R.S. 4:214
- 2. For 10 year license to own and operate OTB locations, per R.S. 4:211 et seq.
- 3. To serve as concessionaire

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

a. **Approval** for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:

- 1. Thoroughbred racing on the flat
- 2. 81 thoroughbred race dates (11/18/17 through 3/31/18)
  - November 18,23,24,25,26,30
  - December 1,2,3,7,8,9,10,14,15,16,17,20,21,22,23,26,28,29,30,31
  - January 1,4,5,6,7,11,12,13,14,15,18,19,20,21,25,26,27,28
  - February 1,2,3,8,9,10,11,13,16,17,18,19,22,23,24,25
  - March 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,21,22,23,24,25,28,29,30,31
- 3. Hold a minimum of 9 live thoroughbred races daily
- 4. Daily post time 1:00 PM except:
  - November 18, 2017, 3:00 PM post time
  - November 23, 2017, 11:00 AM post time

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

a. **Approval** for wagering format for 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet:

- 1. WPS and Exactas on all races
- 2. Trifectas and Superfectas on all races that qualify
- 3. Rolling Pick 3 beginning on Race 1
- 4. Rolling Daily Double beginning on Race 1
- 5. Up to 2 Pick 4's
- 6. Super Hi-Five on last race
- 7. Pick Five ("Black Gold 5") on last 5 races

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #9, #10, and #11; Commissioner Davis seconds; motion carries.



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

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT, by Mr. Trent McIntosh.** Mr. McIntosh informs that the handle was up 5% at the ending of Louisiana Downs' 46-day 2017 Quarter Horse Meet. He says that Louisiana Downs' 84-day 2017 Thoroughbred Meet starts on May 6, 2017 and will have Monday through Wednesday racing and 3:15pm post time as new features. He states that TVG1 will have full coverage of Louisiana Downs' full race cards on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. He informs that, with the help of Commissioner Wagner, Louisiana Downs will host handicapping tournaments over the summer, which will be a part of the NTRA's National Horseplayers Championship Tour. He says that Louisiana Downs was able to purchase a spot on the tour in June exclusively as a partner, which is not available for individual handicappers to purchase and will make Louisiana Downs a regional stop. He states that Louisiana Downs has over 1,000 horses on the grounds right now, which hasn't happened there before a meet started since 2012. He says that reservations are going well two weeks out and they will likely have opening weekend booked within this week. He informs that he hired Ms. Martha Clausen, a well-respected press release writer in the racing industry, to handle media relations about horse racing at Louisiana Downs.

Mr. McIntosh informs that Louisiana Downs will finish paddock renovation this week, which consists of pulling up all tile out of the walking ring and paddock, repainting, and putting in new flooring costing \$110,000. He says that Louisiana Downs completed a lighting project to ensure that the barn area roads are well lit. He states that Louisiana Downs will be sure to have a written plan on properly identifying horses in place before the next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if Louisiana Downs has projected handle numbers for the change in race days to Saturdays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Mr. McIntosh responds that they feel that Louisiana Downs will see growth on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesday but that he doesn't have projected handle numbers. Commissioner McHalfey asks if the handle will improve enough to increase the number of races during the week or the purses in the middle of the meet. Mr. McIntosh responds that those improvements to racing are the intent of the schedule change. Commissioner McHalfey asks if post time for the seven daily races should be later to attract more of the after work crowd. Mr. McIntosh responds that, during the second half of the meet in August and September, sunset is earlier, so Louisiana Downs wouldn't want to change post times mid-meet to ensure sunlight for the races.

Chairman Wright asks about Louisiana Downs' minimum number of races. Mr. McIntosh responds that they requested a minimum of seven races daily. Commissioner Reine asks if Louisiana Downs had trouble filling quarter horse races. Mr. McIntosh responds that they usually have a little trouble filling races for both meets but this past winter saw increases in field size. Commissioner Reine asks if Louisiana Downs will look at increasing the minimum number of races with the improvements in field sizes, and increased TVG coverage. Mr. McIntosh responds that they focus on maintaining their purse structure, which would be cut on average by \$1,500 per added race, but they would consider it if they see large enough handle increase.

Commissioner McHalfey suggests increasing the purses in the middle of the meet when the regulars are racing, not just at the end of the meet. Mr. McIntosh says that Louisiana Downs raised purses slightly in June and in August to avoid big increases at

one time. Commissioner McHalfey asks if there is a possibility that another restaurant will open on the first floor besides the concession stand. Mr. McIntosh responds that Fuddruckers, which is third party owned, is the only restaurant on site besides concessions and some second and third floor dining options. He says that on Saturdays throughout the season, starting on May 6, 2017, a local third-party Cajun food caterer called BeauxJax will be set up like a street vendor next to Fuddruckers. He states that they switched the Saturday club dining menu to a buffet setting, which improved the Louisiana Downs staff's ability to serve food and increased patronage.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if there is anything opened upstairs on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Mr. McIntosh responds that the second floor food outlets and bar will be open those three days but not the third floor.

Commissioner Reine asks if Louisiana Downs could accommodate a Commission Meeting on a Monday during the meet. Mr. McIntosh responds that Louisiana Downs has an event center that could house a future meeting.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if there are any more backside and barn area improvements that have been or will be done. Mr. McIntosh responds that he holds horsemen's meetings to discuss any issues and they repaired all of the electrical outlets in the barns. Commissioner McHalfey requests to be added to the email list for the horsemen's meetings and asks if the drainage issues have been addressed. Mr. McIntosh responds that, prior to the start of each meet, Louisiana Downs pumps out all of the lines in its drainage system and installs new drain baskets and drain covers, which are also replaced as needed throughout the season.

Commissioner McHalfey says that the turf course looks good and main course is one of the best in the state. He asks if Louisiana Downs' turf team has enough people and resources for maintenance. Mr. McIntosh responds that the racetrack team has a staff of 19 and the resources it needs to keep the tracks in shape, as evidenced by the three turf races run per day for 84 straight days. He says that they outsource for labor as needed.

Commissioner McHalfey asks why the Super Derby was changed from the dirt to the turf course. Mr. McIntosh responds that the move has been discussed for five years since Louisiana Downs struggles to get high quality horses that draw national crowds. Commissioner McHalfey asks why Louisiana Downs struggles to get high quality horses. Mr. McIntosh responds that there are a lot more graded stakes, particularly half-million dollar plus graded stakes for three-year-olds, which makes the \$400,000 Super Derby less of a draw for the elite horses that run on dirt tracks. He says that slot machine revenues in the market have declined for years, which gives Louisiana Downs the choice to reduce overnight purses for horsemen or make changes to the stakes schedule. He informs that Louisiana Downs opted to make the Super Derby a \$200,000 turf stakes race since there aren't many turf stakes races for three-year-olds around the country and keep the money in the overnight purses for the other 83 race days since their total purse dollars dropped from \$8,600,000 last year to \$8,000,000 this year.

Commissioner Guilbeau asks if Louisiana Downs' wagering amendment request on the agenda is like the Gulf Stream Rainbow 6. Mr. McIntosh says that it is.

**2. QUARANTINE PLAN**

- a. **Update** on Louisiana Downs' quarantine plan per the LSRC's request at the January 30, 2017 Meeting.

Mr. McIntosh informs that Louisiana Downs doesn't allow stabling in the receiving barn and keeps one 40-stall barn as a quarantine facility. He says that they have grass spaces in the barn area where they can put up temporary stalls and tents as needed.

**2017 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

**3. RACES**

- a. **Approval** of first condition book for 2017 thoroughbred meet.
- b. **Approval** of designated races for the 2017 thoroughbred meet:

08/05/17	Louisiana Cup Juvenile
08/05/17	Louisiana Cup Juvenile Fillies
08/05/17	Louisiana Cup F&M Sprint
08/05/17	Louisiana Cup Sprint
08/05/17	Louisiana Cup Turf Classic
08/05/17	Louisiana Cup Distaff
08/05/17	Super Derby Prelude
09/09/17	Unbridled
09/09/17	River Cities
09/09/17	Happy Ticket
09/09/17	Sunday Silence
09/09/17	Super Derby
09/23/17	A.L. (Red) Erwin
09/23/17	Elge Raspberry

**4. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT**

- a. **Approval** of officials for 2017 thoroughbred meet:

Trent McIntosh – Assistant General Manager  
 David Heitzmann – Racing Secretary  
 Russell Ramstad – Assistant Racing Secretary  
 Constantin Rieger – Association Steward  
 Charles Magee – Association Steward  
 Jimmy Cordell – Starter  
 Richard Miguez – Clerk of Scales  
 Arnold Mueller - Custodian  
 Ronald Ramstad – Placing Judge  
 Koleen Karlin – Placing Judge  
 Trudy Sistrunk – Placing Judge  
 Joseph Peluso – Paddock Judge  
 Tammy Peck – Horse Identifier  
 Jennifer Sokol – Program Coordinator/Claims  
 Betty Fetters – Clocker  
 Melvin Holland – Clocker  
 Laura Hollowoa – Outrider  
 Juan Roman – Outrider

- b. **Approval** of Roy Wood, Jr. to serve as State Steward for 2017 thoroughbred meet.

**5. WAGERING (LAC 35:XIII.11003)**

- a. **Approval** to amend the wagering format for the 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet to include 10¢ minimum Pick Six wager (“Jackpot Six”) on the last 6 races daily.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Items #3, #4, and #5; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

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A ten minute recess is taken.

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Mr. Paul West, Outside Louisiana Regulatory Counsel for Caesar's Entertainment Operating Company (CEOC), informs that the \$22,000,000,000 reorganization and bankruptcy process is plodding along through 16 to 18 jurisdictions. He states that CEOC has filed 60% to 70% of the documents needed by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board. He offers to meet with the Legal Committee or other LSRC subcommittee to explain the whole process and answer any questions. Commissioner Shelton motions to assign the Legal Committee to review and investigate the reorganization and bankruptcy information; motion does not carry.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if any of the CEOC properties could be liquidated when the reorganization is finalized. Mr. West responds that the properties will be transferred to a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT), which will be a publicly-held company with a board of directors who could liquidate CEOC properties if they felt it would be beneficial subject to the master lease. He says that REITs don't flip properties as a long-term goal. Commissioner McHalfey asks if the REIT could liquidate properties to recoup money for bond holders while they are in the bankruptcy process. Mr. West responds that CEOC will come out of bankruptcy in the next 90 to 120 days and will lease Louisiana Downs to the LSRC's and Louisiana Gaming Control Board's licensee.

Commissioner Shelton informs that he is concerned with the long-term viability of the racetrack and whether the master lease may allow the REIT to sell off Louisiana Downs to creditors who would liquidate the facility to get their money back. Mr. West says that the REIT would be selling shares of the stock to the public, not the real estate itself. He informs that Harrah's Bossier City Investment Partnership will transfer the Louisiana Downs real estate to the REIT in exchange for their debt and the creditors will take their debt and swap it for shares of stock in the REIT while the management company will still run the property.

Commissioner Shelton asks if the REIT faults on the master lease, what happens to the racetrack and how is the REIT licensed in the beginning. Mr. West responds that breaching the lease would be no different than being in default of debt, which is the position that Louisiana Downs has been in for three years without any direct effects on the racetrack's operation. Commissioner Shelton says that being in bankruptcy discourages a company from spending money. Mr. West informs that the management and operation of Louisiana Downs has not been affected day to day by the bankruptcy.

Commissioner Guilbeau requests that Mr. West coordinate a conference call with members of the Legal Committee to address the bankruptcy process and respond to questions prior to presenting to and getting approval from the Louisiana Gaming Control Board. Mr. West agrees.

## II. BREEDER UPDATES

### A. LOUISIANA THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LTBA)

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by Mr. Roger Heitzmann, *Secretary-Treasurer of the LTBA*. Mr. Heitzmann informs that the number of Louisiana stallions, mares, and foals are starting to be flat year over year. He says that the economy of the country and the decline of the horse racing industry were the causes of annual drops in the number of foals but now it

appears that the breeders who still produce foals are doing it for a living, not just as a hobby. He states that he thinks there won't be any more drops in foal numbers and the industry is starting to turn around, as evidenced by slots and handle being up for last month.

Mr. Heitzmann informs that the LTBA, LQHBA, and LaHBPA are aware of three bills in the Legislature, two in the house and one in the senate, which would take video poker and slot funds at the racetracks away from purses. He says that the groups are sending emails to members and addressing the bills, including Mr. Heitzmann's planned visit with the Acadiana Caucus tomorrow to address the breeders' expectations from them. He states that the LTBA Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet will be held at Evangeline Downs on June 10, 2017, where they will award their horses of the year, breeders of the years and best overall horse of the year.

Commissioner Cravins asks if there is any pending legislation that would benefit the horse racing industry. Mr. Heitzmann responds that there is a bill that will take away the tax on feed served to race horses. Commissioner Cravins suggests that the horse organizations and associations need to be more proactive to get pro-racing legislation every year to contend with casinos and deter legislation that would take money from the horse racing industry. Mr. Heitzmann informs that legislation that passed in the special session last year took \$120,000 from the quarter horse and thoroughbred organizations, which they did not fight as a compromise to the state budget situation. Commissioner Cravins says that not fighting back was a mistake. He states that there needs to be a discussion between the horse organizations and the casino owners to promote the racing industry in Louisiana.

Commissioner Reine requests a list of the legislative bills dealing with the racing industry. Mr. Duvielh informs that the industry-positive bill mentioned earlier is actually detrimental because it would take away the exemption on feed by recategorizing thoroughbreds. Commissioner Davis says that the Commission wants to help promote the horse associations who need to be more vocal at the Legislature.

Mr. Chatters informs that the LaHBPA with the breeders' groups will be going to the Legislature to request big ticket items at the next regular session. Commissioner Cravins says that the groups shouldn't wait for the state budget to be stable because it won't be anytime soon and advises the horse groups to find legislators who will champion their issues. Mr. Chatters informs that the LaHBPA, LTBA, and LQHBA have joined together within the last three years to work on shared goals and to pay for impact studies for the State. Commissioner Davis says that horse racing is the fifth largest employer in Louisiana, which is what the horsemen must communicate to the Legislature to be effective.

## **B. LOUISIANA QUARTER HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LQHBA)**

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT**, by Mr. Tony Patterson, Executive Director of the LQHBA. Mr. Patterson informs that the LQHBA held its awards banquet and annual membership meeting at Evangeline Downs two weeks ago, which 350 members attended. Mr. Patterson introduces Mr. Lyle Guillory, the new LQHBA President. He says that the LQHBA gave away two scholarships at the quarter horse races at Louisiana Downs last month and thanks Commissioner McHalfey for attending. He states that the LQHBA will make a donation to charity and give away two or three scholarships at its next event on Saturday, July 8, 2017 at Delta Downs. He says that the LQHBA will invite

some local legislators, elected officials, and Commissioners. Mr. Patterson informs that they have 1,131 foal applications for 2016 accreditation, which will likely increase in the next seven months to total about 1,181 applications just like 2015.

Commissioner Reine asks if they can estimate where the number of foals will be for 2017 based on the 2016 stallion reports. Mr. Patterson responds that the foal crop should increase from last year based on the 84 stallions and the 619 out-of-state mares from 2016. He says that the LQHBA has not registered foals with thoroughbred sires over the last couple of years.

Commissioner Reine asks if the quality of stallions is improving. Mr. Patterson responds that the quantity is down but the quality has gotten really good, as evidenced by the Champion of Champions winner being sired by a Louisiana stallion. He states that the breeders and stallion awards paid in 2016 remains healthy at \$4,905,000, which is close to the \$5,038,000 total in 2015.

Mr. Patterson informs that, since 2001, the LQHBA has funded \$444,000 in youth scholarships, of which \$3,000 was given away back at Louisiana Downs in March 2017. He says that Blue Eyed Fance is the first futurity winner in the nation in 2017 and congratulates breeder and owner, Alejandro Moya.

Commissioner Cravins asks how many members there are in the LQHBA and how many are in-state versus out-of-state. Mr. Patterson responds that they have about 1,600 total members, including about 900 in-state members.

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(A continuation of the discussion of I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS – C. FAIR GROUNDS RACE COURSE & SLOTS – Items #5, #6, & #7 occurred here chronologically. See pages 13 through 16 for full discussion.)

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**III. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. MEDICATION COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairperson Judy W. Wagner**

Chairperson Wagner is absent. Mr. Charles Gardiner III, LSRC Executive Director, informs that Ms. Wagner and he attended the Racing Commissioners International (RCI) Convention in Charleston, South Carolina, which focused on its uniform four-point plan, and that Louisiana will be one of three states shown on a survey as “noncompliant” with the plan. He says that the LSRC has adopted the uniform medication plan but is being criticized for not acting on the other three parts of the plan. He states that the RCI requested that the Commission discuss the national multiple penalty point system, which takes positives and assigns points to them in a cumulative fashion that coordinates with a sentencing guideline. He says that the other issues are third-party Lasix administration and RMTC accreditation of the LSU testing lab, both of which he suggests the Medication Committee discuss.

Commissioner Calvert motions that Mr. Gardiner prepare a memorandum on the subject matter, provide the materials from the RCI Convention to the Commissioners for review, and schedule a conference for the Medication Committee to start addressing these issues; Mr. Guilbeau adds that the memo should show a history of the Commission’s prior discussions of these topics, including the LSRC’s equivalent of the cumulative-points

sentencing guideline, the information that the state vets gave about the difficulties of third-party Lasix administration in Louisiana, and the progress made in getting the LSU laboratory RMTC-accredited; motion does not carry.

Commissioner Calvert asks if the point system provides objective notice to the horsemen as to what their penalties will be and if it takes away the Commission's discretion in sentencing. Mr. Gardiner responds that it does provide notice and the main difference is that the national point system accumulates violations in every state, which enhances the sentencing. He says that Louisiana only deals with in-state penalties and wipes every trainer's record clean at the end of the calendar year, so the RCI's recommended system is harsher. Commissioner Calvert requests pros and cons of the point system to be included in the memo. Mr. Gardiner agrees to provide the requested items and memo.

**B. RULES COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis**

Commissioner Davis informs that everyone on the Rules Committee has received the most recent draft of the rules based on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's report with consideration given to the recommendations from the racetracks. He says that there will be a Rules Committee meeting prior to the next Commission Meeting and, if they don't receive any further comments, the Rules Committee will present the Associations' Duties and Obligations rules changes for approval from the full Commission.

Commissioner Davis informs that the racetracks voluntarily came up with quarantine plans, so the Rules Committee doesn't have to promulgate rules. He says that the Rules Committee has tabled the move-in and move-out issue, in hopes that the racetracks and horsemen will work out the issues amongst themselves but, if the issues keep coming to the Commission for arbitration, then the Rules Committee will recommend how to handle the issue that will not necessarily be in the favor of either side.

Commissioner Reine says that, in regard to the Fire Prevention Security rule, there are state fire marshals who contract with some local entities to do inspections but there may not be any local fire marshals. He suggests that the rule should require a notice of formal request from the associations within a specific period of time for the state fire marshal to perform an inspection rather than holding the associations accountable for ensuring that an inspection takes place. He says that they can add language about the associations having to meet the recommendations of a fire inspection but they shouldn't be held accountable for whether or not the fire marshal actually performs the inspection.

**C. LEGAL COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.**

No Report.

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

Commissioner Romero introduces Captain Terry Chustz, Commander of Central Operations of the Louisiana State Police (LSP), to give a security update. Captain Chustz informs that LSP has conducted just under 4,000 hours of patrols on the track, backside, and jockey rooms in the first three quarters of this fiscal year. He says that LSP conducted 39 criminal investigations, 20 Commission assists, and 27 other investigations.

**E. RACETRACK/HBPA LIAISON COMMITTEE**, by *Committee Chairman Donald "Don" Cravins*

Commissioner Cravins informs that the committee met at Evangeline Downs a month ago regarding the racing season and turf track, which were discussed earlier. He says that he is in constant contact with the LaHBPA.

**F. FINANCE COMMITTEE**, by *Committee Chairman Louis Reine*

Commissioner Reine informs that the LSRC took a slight decrease in its appropriation in the special session and the committee will monitor next year's budget in the Legislature.

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(Discussion of the final amendments and motion for I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS – C. FAIR GROUNDS RACE COURSE & SLOTS – Items #5, #6, & #7 occurred here chronologically. See pages 13 through 16 for full discussion.)

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**IV. RULES**

**A. DISCUSSIONS/NOTICES OF INTENT:**

**1. Associations' Duties and Obligations**

LAC 35: III Chapter 57 – Associations' Duties and Obligations

§5702. *Penalty for Failure to Comply [amend]*

§5704. *Public Address System [new]*

§5706. *Barns on Backside of Racetrack [new]*

§5707. *Fire Prevention Security [amend]*

§5709. *Housing of Stable Employees [amend]*

§5710. *Tack Room [new]*

§5713. *Ambulance [amend]*

§5714. *Equine Ambulance [new]*

§5723. *Lighting [amend]*

§5724. *Rails [new]*

§5764. *Surface of Race Course [new]*

**a. Comments regarding the above Rules:**

- *Memorandum from Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs dated March 28, 2017.*
- *E-mail from Harrah's Louisiana Downs dated April 6, 2017.*

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See Section "III. COMMITTEE REPORTS – B. RULES COMMITTEE on page 23 for discussion of "1. Associations' Duties and Obligations".

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No formal action taken on the above Rules.

**2. Receiving Barn**

LAC 35: III Chapter 57 – Associations' Duties and Obligations

§5708. *Receiving Barn [new]*

- *Proposed Rule to address receiving barn occupancy at all racetracks per request at January 30, 2017 Commission Meeting*

Commissioner Cravins motions to approve for Notice of Intent; Commission Calvert seconds; motion carries.



**B. DISCUSSIONS:****1. Claiming Rule and Engagements**

LAC 35: XI Chapter 99 – Claiming Rule

*§9905. Timing of Entering Next Claiming Race [amend]*

Mr. Gardiner informs that this rule amendment discussion is based on a request to change the Claiming Rule's 90-day jail period to 21 days, during which the claimed horse runs on a 25% raise. Chairman Wright asks if there is controversy over this rule request. Mr. Gardiner responds that there is.

**2. Claiming Rule and Engagements**

LAC 35: XI Chapter 99 – Claiming Rule

*§9909. Resale; Movement [amend]*

- *E-mail from Fair Grounds dated February 24, 2017*

Chairman Wright says that they've had some discussion over both Claiming Rule requests and will move on for now.

**V. OTHER****A. Annual Renewal of Training Track Applications:**

1. Review of applications for training track licenses pursuant to LAC 46: XLI.1903-1907.
  - a. Benton Training Center (The Training Center Improvements, Inc.)
  - b. The Training Center at Copper Crowne, LLC
  - c. Evangeline Enterprises, LLC
  - d. Folsom Thoroughbred Training Center Owners Association, Inc.

Ms. Loney informs that the applications for the Training Center Improvements, Inc., the Training Center at Copper Crowne, LLC, and Evangeline Enterprises, LLC are in order. Ms. Loney states that Folsom Thoroughbred Training Center Owners Association, Inc. provided notice of recently updating its Secretary of State annual filing, which has not been updated yet on the Secretary of State's website, but its application is otherwise complete.

Commissioner Romero motions to approve all four training track applications; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

**VI. ADJUDICATIONS****A. EJECTION (LA. REV. STAT. 4:191)****1. John T. Cochran, Patron.**

Fair Grounds/Kenner O.T.B. Ejection.

Attorney –

Representing Fair Grounds – David F. Waguespack

Commissioner Guilbeau motions that, based on the fact that Mr. Cochran is a patron and not directly under the Commission's jurisdiction, it is within the Fair Grounds' right to be able to include or exclude who they want and that, if it becomes a civil law issue, it is outside the administrative function of the Commission; Commissioner Guilbeau withdraws his motion.

Commissioner Reine makes a substitute motion to take no action; Commissioner Romero seconds; Commissioner Calvert argues that the Commission has the duty to help the Fair Grounds and the other Louisiana racing associations to provide a proper environment for patrons and that taking no action is abdicating the Commission's responsibility; Ms. Loney informs that if the Commission hears this matter and ejects the individual from the Fair Grounds, that ejection will carry over to all other facilities and off-track wagering facilities across the State pursuant to Title 4, Section 194; Commissioner Reine withdraws his motion.

Commissioner Calvert motions to uphold Fair Grounds' Ejection and deny Mr. Cochran access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioner Guilbeau and Shelton second; motion carries.

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

1. **William Scott Becker, Trainer.** *(Adjudication Referred)*  
 Ruling#ED22180 of 4/11/17 – *Betamethasone (ARCI Category IV; Gross Violation)*

Attorney –  
 Louie J. Roussel III, Esq.

Mr. Becker and his attorney, Mr. Roussel, were not present. Commissioner Reine motions to approve the Consent to Adjudication, which upholds the Stewards' ruling, fines Mr. Becker \$1,000, redistributes the purse, and Mr. Becker waives any right to Appeal; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

2. **Frank Cavazos, Owner/Trainer.** *(Adjudication Referred)*  
 Ruling#LD22149 of 3/5/17 – *Phenylbutazone (ARCI Category IV; Gross Violation)*  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> offense of ARCI Cat. IV/V within a 12-month period)*

Commissioner Reine motions to approve the Consent to Adjudication, which upholds the Stewards' ruling, fines Mr. Cavazos an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500), redistributes the purse, and Mr. Cavazos waives any right to Appeal; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

3. **Sarah E. Delany, Trainer.** *(Adjudication Referred)*  
 Ruling#LD21920 of 9/15/16 – *Phenylbutazone & Flunixin (ARCI Category IV)*  
*(3<sup>rd</sup> offense of ARCI Cat. IV/V within a 12-month period)*

Continued from January 30, 2017 Commission Meeting.

Attorney –  
 William S. Marshall, Jr., Esq.

Commissioner Reine motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling, fine Ms. Delany an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500), suspend Ms. Delany for 60 days, and redistribute the purse; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; Mr. Marshall objects to the penalty citing Ms. Delany's equine positives as minimal compared to historical cases; motion does not carry.

Commissioner Cravins makes a substitute motion to uphold the Stewards' ruling, fine Ms. Delany an additional \$1,000 (total fine \$2,000), and redistribute the purse; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; Commissioner Cravins withdraws his substitute motion in favor of Commissioner Calvert's proposed substitute motion.

Commissioner Calvert makes a substitute motion to approve a Consent to Adjudication, which upholds the Stewards' ruling, fines Ms. Delany an additional \$1,000 (total fine \$2,000), redistributes the purse, puts her on a 1 year probation period effective 4/24/17 through 4/23/18, and Ms. Delany waives any right to Appeal; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

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A five minute recess is taken.

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**C. VIOLATION OF LAC 35:V.6305 (Identity of Horse)**

**1. Eduardo Ramirez, Owner/Trainer. (*Adjudication Referred*)**

Ruling#DD22154 of 3/10/17 – *Running Switched Horses*

Attorney –  
Daniel G. Guidry, Esq.

Commissioner Calvert motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling and fine Mr. Ramirez an additional \$4,000 (total fine \$5,000); Commissioner Davis seconds; Commissioner Calvert withdraws his motion.

Commissioner Romero motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling, suspend Mr. Ramirez for 60 days effective 5/6/17 through 7/4/17, put him on a 1 year probation period effective 4/25/17 through 4/24/18, fine him an additional \$2,000 (total fine \$3,000), and deny him access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioner Cravins seconds; Chairman Wright calls for a poll vote, in which yea means to agree to Commissioner Romero's motion and nay means to oppose Commissioner Romero's motion; Poll Vote: 7-yea; 2-nay; motion carries.

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Commissioner Reine asks whose employees are responsible for mis-identifying the horses. Mr. Warren responds that the employee in the paddock, Melissa Dueitt, works for Boyd Gaming and that the test barn employee and State vet work for the State. Commissioner Reine says that issues like this and allowing a horse to run two days in a row will bring criticism to the horse racing industry that will stifle everyone's attempts at progress. He suggests moving Ms. Dueitt to another position and offer her an opportunity to increase her credentials rather than trying to get her reapproved as a horse identifier, which would be a bad move for public perception. Mr. Warren responds that the association can only do its due diligence and do a better job. He informs that Ms. Dueitt is a conscientious employee who has, since the investigation and rulings, gone through training to be aware of her mistake and the proper procedure.

Commissioner Reine asks who is currently acting as horse identifier. Mr. Warren responds that the paddock judge, Duane Domingue, is doing the job. Commissioner Reine asks why Delta Downs isn't requesting Mr. Domingue to be their horse identifier. Mr. Warren responds that Mr. Domingue is helping out the track but doesn't want the position. He says that Boyd Gaming believes in progressive discipline and that they are willing to give Ms. Dueitt a second chance as a horse identifier. Commissioner McHalfey states that Delta Downs is responsible for its employees just like Mr. Ramirez is responsible for his horses, yet Mr. Ramirez got a fine and suspension while Delta Downs is not getting any

repercussions. Commissioner Calvert says that he has a problem approving Ms. Dueitt for the position due to the effect it would have on public perception of the sport.

Commissioner Reine asks if Ms. Dueitt would continue to work in the office if she is not approved as horse identifier. Mr. Warren informs that Ms. Dueitt was suspended two weeks but was allowed to use her paid time off to supplement her pay. He says that there is no guarantee that she will have a job in the office because her position is posted pending this meeting's outcome and could transfer only if they had another job opening.

Commissioner Cravins says that he is reluctant to withhold Ms. Dueitt's appointment due to the lack of repercussions to others involved in this issue, her retraining which should entitle her to another chance at the position, and her not having been able to state her side of the story. Commissioner Calvert states that, based on the evidence elicited at this hearing, it is clear that there were no problems with tattoo identification of the involved horses other than neglect by the horse identifier.

Commissioner Calvert motions to ratify the officials for Delta Downs' 2017 quarter horse meet as proposed on the agenda (See Section "I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS – A. BOYD RACING, LLC – 4. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT" on pages 3 & 4) with the exception of Melissa Dueitt as Horse Identifier who will not be approved by the Commission; Commissioner Reine seconds; Mr. Gardiner calls for a poll vote in which yea means to agree to Commissioner Calvert's motion and nay means to oppose Commissioner Calvert's motion; Poll Vote: 7-yea; 2-nay; motion carries.

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The motion to approve Delta Downs' 2017-2018 thoroughbred meet licenses, racing dates and wagering chronologically occurred here (See Section "I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS – A. BOYD RACING, LLC – 5. LICENSE APPROVALS, 6. RACING DATES AND POST TIMES, and 7. WAGERING" on pages 4 & 5 for the motion).

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## VII. ADJOURNMENT

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



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Charles A. Gardiner III  
Executive Director