

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Indiana Horse Racing Commission

**January 28, 2015**

Indiana State Library, Author's Room 203  
315 W. Ohio Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Commission members present: Thomas Weatherwax, Chairman; Commissioners Susie Lightle, George Pillow and William McCarty. Also present were Joe Gorajec, IHRC Executive Director; Lea Ellingwood, IHRC General Counsel; Holly Newell, IHRC Deputy General Counsel; Deena Pitman, IHRC Assistant Executive Director; Jessica Barnes, IHRC Director of Racing and Breed Development; Robin Babbitt, Attorney for Ice Miller; Jack Kieninger, President of the Indiana Standardbred Association; John Keeler, Vice President and General Counsel of Centaur Gaming; Rick Moore, Vice President and General Manager of Racing at Hoosier Park Racing and Casino; Brian Elmore, Vice President of Racing for Centaur; Jon Schuster, Vice President and General Manager of Racing Indiana Grand Racing & Casino; Wendy Brown, Chair of the Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Advisory Committee; and John Shanks, Attorney for Mike Norris.

### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Weatherwax called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present. Chairman Weatherwax then swore in Robin Martz, Court Reporter.

### **II. Approval of the November 17, 2014 meeting minutes.**

Commissioner McCarty moved to accept the minutes for the November 17, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Lightle seconded. The November 17, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.

### **III. Agenda**

*Note: All items on the agenda were transcribed by a court reporter from Stewart Richardson. Transcripts are available at [www.in.gov/hrc](http://www.in.gov/hrc).*

1. Executive Director's Report.
  - a. Cobalt program results
  - b. Equine drug testing program
    - 2014 Results
    - New positive test posting policy
    - 2015 Preview
    - Trainer's Newsletter (Spring)

Executive Director Joe Gorajec reviewed the status of cobalt testing and provided a review and update of Indiana's equine drug testing program.

2. Consideration of the Administrative Law Judge's Proposed Findings on the Mike Norris summary suspension.

General Counsel Lea Ellingwood explained and introduced the oral argument in the proceedings against Mike Norris. John Shanks, counsel for Norris, and IHRC Deputy General Counsel Holly Newell presented oral arguments, and the Commission deliberated.

Commissioner Pillow moved to approve the ALJ's recommendation, with modifications. Commissioner Lightle seconded. The motion passed, 4-0.

3. Presentation by Centaur regarding 2014 race meets and a 2015 preview.

Hoosier Park General Manager Rick Moore and Indiana Grand General Manager Jon Schuster each reviewed the 2014 race meets, and offered highlights for 2015.

4. Consideration of Centaur's Notice and Petition to Close the Merrillville Satellite Facility

John Keeler, General Counsel for Centaur presented the petition to close the Merrillville off-track betting facility on March 15, 2015. The petition also sought approval to retain the license and hold it in escrow, and for authority to enter into a real estate listing agreement for the sale of the Merrillville facility.

Commissioner McCarty moved to approve the Centaur petition to close the Merrillville facility and to enter into a listing agreement to sell the property. Commissioner Lightle seconded the motion and the motion passed, 4-0.

5. Review of Commission Rulings – November 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

Ms. Newell presented the rulings for the Commission's approval.

6. Presentation of the 2015 program by Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee.

Wendy Brown, Chair of the Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Advisory Committee, presented the plans for the 2015 Thoroughbred racing program. IHRC Director of Breed Development Jessica Barnes also offered insight into the program. The Committee's proposal included a request to modify the calculation used in distributing pari-mutuel and slot generated purse monies between open and Indiana bred races.

Commissioner Pillow moved to allow for the requested changes to be made with the executive director's oversight. Commissioner McCarty seconded. The Commission approved the motion, 4-0.

7. Presentation of the 2015 program by Quarter Horse Breed Development Advisory Committee.

Ms. Barnes presented the 2015 Quarter Horse breed development program proposal, which includes a new stakes race, the Harley Green Derby. The proposal also requested repeal of two rules.

Commissioner McCarty made a motion to adopt the proposal and repeal the two rules. Commissioner Lightle seconded, and the motion passed, 4-0.

8. Proposed Amendment to Quarter Horse Embryo Transfer Rule (71 IAC 14.5-2-1.5).

Ms. Barnes presented the proposal for an emergency rule amendment to allow for transfer of Quarter Horse embryos during breeding season by allowing a mare to leave the state to go to have the embryos flushed and transferred to multiple donor mares.

Commissioner Pillow moved to approve the emergency rule amendment. Commissioner Lightle

seconded the motion. The rule was approved, 4-0.

9. Presentation of the 2015 Program by Standardbred Breed Development Advisory Committee.

Ms. Barnes presented the 2015 Program by the Standardbred Breed Development Advisory Committee. The program for 2015 is almost identical to the 2014 program with a few changes, focusing mainly on enforcement of changes made last year.

Commissioner McCarty moved to approve the 2015 program presented by the committee. Commissioner Pillow seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Presentation of the 2015 Program by Standardbred Advisory Board.

Ms. Barnes continued with the presentation of the 2015 Program by the Standardbred Advisory Board. Jessica introduced the history of the Board and noted that the board does not receive any funding from slots revenue, but comes from appropriation from gaming funds by the legislature. This board has five governor-appointed members who work closely with the Standardbred Breed Development Advisory Committee. The Standardbred Advisory Board also oversees the racing at the county fairs.

Commissioner McCarty made a motion to approve the 2015 program for the Standardbred Advisory Board. Commissioner Lightle seconded the motion. The Commission approved the motion, 4-0.

#### **IV. Old Business**

Executive Director Joe Gorajec made a further clarification to the Commission regarding cobalt testing.

#### **V. New Business**

John Keeler, General Counsel of Centaur made a presentation for a proposal to install ventilation equipment to the newly constructed barns.

Commissioner McCarty moved to approve Centaur's contract for construction. Commissioner Lightle seconded the motion, and the vote carried 4-0.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

Chairman Weatherwax adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.