



Oregon Racing Commission
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Minutes
Oregon Racing Commission
May 16, 2024

Meeting Detail

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) met at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 16th, 2024, remotely via Zoom videoconference.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-chair Quinn Berry called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and Karen Parkman conducted roll call.

In Attendance

Commissioners: Quinn Berry, Scott Beckstead, and Lindsay Fowler.

Staff: Executive Director Connie Winn; Karen Parkman, Program and Administrative Coordinator; Kelly Routt, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

Excused

Chair Margaret Doherty and Commissioner Diego Conde

Approvals:

Meeting Agenda

Action: Approval of the May meeting agenda.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Beckstead

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

Meeting Minutes

Action: Approval of the April meeting minutes.

Moved by: Commissioner Beckstead

Seconded: Commissioner Fowler

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

OLD BUSINESS:

Executive Director's report

Executive Director Winn reported that the ORC was the recipient of the Honor Roll Certificate for excellence in reporting accounts receivable. She thanked Karen Parman for her work in that area.

She commended Grants Pass Downs for joining the Thoroughbred After Care Alliance and industry advertisements she has also seen promoting the rehoming of retired racehorses.

The ORC team is preparing for the summer fair meets, which will start in June with the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (EOLS) in Union.

The ORC has released its annual survey, which will be distributed to industry partners and licensees, and is also available on the ORC website.

Effective July 1, 2024, all ORC meetings will be held on Microsoft Teams. There is a link to download Teams software on the ORC website's homepage. Meeting participants should familiarize themselves with Teams prior to the July meetings.

Budget Committee Report

The Budget Committee met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 13th. This included a high-level overview of the current position in the legislative budget process. There were unexpected pay raises of 6.5% and 6% for the biennium, which exceeded the initial budget allocation of 3% annually. Additionally, budgetary inflation increases for the 2025-2027 biennium have been set at 5%. Due to these increases, there is likely to be a reduction in special payments in the next biennium. Therefore, the ORC is not considering additional allocations from underspent funds for this biennium.

There was discussion concerning potential modifications to handle reporting, which will be further discussed by the ADW committee.

There are 7 legislative concepts proposed for progression which could have positive financial impact if passed. The cost of legislative counsel is currently set at \$225.00 per hour. \$20,000, which was previously unbudgeted, has been allocated for potential cost.

Lastly, the committee discussed the rising costs of jockey insurance. No increase to the allocation for jockey insurance is recommended currently.

Discussion on addition to current rule in process – 462-160-0130 (8) (b) (B) Albuterol – 1 ng/ml.

Director Winn reported that conflicting information was found in the rule. In the past, it was clarified that Clenbuterol and like substances were prohibited in Quarter Horses. There are some subsections in the new rule that do not make that distinction clear, so new language will need to be added for clarification and the specific locations of those changes will be addressed during the rule hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and possible approval to begin the rulemaking process for 462-120-0010 – Who must be licensed.

Director Winn reported that this rule outlines that out of state employees for ADWs who have access to Oregon account holder information must obtain an Oregon license.

Action: Approval to begin the rulemaking process for 462-120-0010.

Moved by: Commissioner Beckstead

Seconded: Commissioner Fowler

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

Discussion and possible adoption of the following rules:

A. 462-140-0150 - Address change.

B. 462-130-0010 – Removes contradictory information.

C. 462-220-0030 – Amends retention schedule.

Director Winn reported that 462-140-0150 still had the old Portland address listed. Commissioner Berry stated that Google still has that address listed as well, which will also need to be corrected. 462-130-0010 has not had any changes since proposal. Legal counsel proposed some changes to 462-220-0030, which cleans up the language, but does not change the rule itself. This change makes it so that entities like Google, which require personal information to be disposed of after a certain period, must hold onto the information. This is important to ensure that excluded individuals, such as those with gambling problems, cannot just open new accounts when one is closed.

Action: Approval to adopt 462-140-0150 – address change.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Beckstead

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

Action: Approval to adopt 462-220-0030 – amends retention schedule.

Moved by: Commissioner Fowler

Seconded: Commissioner Beckstead

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

Action: Approval to adopt 462-130-0010 – removes contradictory information.

Moved by: Commissioner Beckstead

Seconded: Commissioner Fowler

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).

Discussion on Jockey Insurance increase.

Director Winn stated that this was already addressed during the Budget Committee report.

Oregon Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (OTOBA) anti-slaughter policy and Off-Track Thoroughbred Scholarship program – Lynelle Fox Smith.

Lynelle Fox Smith, Director of OTOBA, presented the association’s new policy on horse slaughter, which has been approved by their board. This statement has been posted on their website. OTOBA will also be offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a trainer who acquires an Oregon-bred Thoroughbred with at least one career race, to be retrained for a competitive discipline after retiring from racing. The scholarship will be offered for 4 years and will be advertised over the summer. The application deadline for participants is September 30th, 2024.

Commissioner Beckstead commended OTOBA for their work opposing horse slaughter and advocating for second careers. He challenged the Quarter Horse people to follow suit.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

CONTESTED CASES:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed to Public):

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) for the purpose of discussing proposed Legislative Concepts, information which is exempt from public disclosure, the ORC entered Executive Session at 1:53 P.M. Vice Chair Berry called the public portion of the meeting back to order at 2:17 P.M.

CONFIRMATION OF NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

The next commission meeting is scheduled for June 20th, 2024, at 1:30 P.M. remotely via Zoom videoconference.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 P.M.

Action: Adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner Beckstead

Seconded: Commissioner Fowler

Vote: Commissioners Berry, Fowler and Beckstead voted AYE, and the motion was carried unanimously (3:0).