

Virginia Racing Commission

MINUTES

OF THE

COMMISSION MEETING

December 14, 2017

State Corporation Commission

Tyler Building

Courtroom B

1300 East Main Street

Richmond, VA 23219

In Attendance

Commission Members:

D.G. Van Clief, Jr., Chairman

J. Sargeant Reynolds, Jr.

Stuart Siegel

Commission Staff:

David S. Lermond, Jr., Executive Secretary

Rhonda Davis, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Licensing Coordinator

Attorney General's Office:

J. Duncan Pitchford, Esquire

At 1:00 p.m., the regular monthly meeting of the Virginia Racing Commission (VRC) was called to order by Chairman Van Clief. Commissioners Steger and Miller were not present due to illness.

Commissioner Reynolds nominated Commissioner Van Clief as Chairman for 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Van Clief nominated Commissioner Steger as Vice Chairman for 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 14, 2017 with no changes. Seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

The Virginia Horse Racing Industry Strategic Plan was presented by Chairman Van Clief, Preston Byant from MacGuireWoods, and Jeb Hannum from the Virginia Equine Alliance (VEA). The five main points of the plan were discussed in detail.

Commissioner Reynolds moved to approve the Virginia Horse Racing Industry Strategic Plan as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reynolds moved to approve the 2018 Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) renewal applications submitted by TwinSPIRES, TVG, Xpressbet, and NYRAbets. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve the VTA budget for the administration of the Thoroughbred portion of Virginia Breeders Fund for 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Van Clief moved to approve the VHHA budget for the administration of the Standardbred portion of Virginia Breeders Fund for 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve the VEA operating budget for 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reynolds moved to approve Breeder Awards in the amount of \$525,000 and Stallion Awards in the amount of \$25,000 from the Thoroughbred portion of the Virginia Breeders Fund related to 2017. Seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

During the report from the VEA, Jeb Hannum provided the Commission with an update on the current OTBs, the zoning approval for the Collinsville OTB, and plans for a new OTB site to be opened in Hampton. Debbie Easter gave a report on the new Virginia Certified program. Several Virginia breeders shared with the Commission the effect that the program has had on them, including the hiring of additional workers and the building of new structures at their farms.

At 2:24 p.m., the Commission went into a closed session with counsel reading the following motion at the request of the Chairman “In accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 (A) (8) of the Code of Virginia, I move that the Commission go into closed meeting for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel concerning possible sale of the Colonial Downs racetrack. The Commissioners will only ask counsel questions and will not engage in deliberations or any other activity.” The motion for approval was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Siegel. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Returning from closed session, at 3:11 p.m., counsel read the following motion, “**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Racing Commission has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an

affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and **WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Commission that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Virginia Racing Commission certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Commission in the closed meeting". The motion for approval was made by Commissioner Siegel and seconded by Chairman Van Clief. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business set forth on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.