

DRAFT MINUTES
OQHRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Heritage Place Restaurant @ Noon
July 21, 2009

Meeting called to order by Jeff Tebow, Vice President.

Directors in attendance: Jeff Tebow, Lake Newcomb, Andy Golden, Butch Wise, Matt Witman, Mark Sellers, Dr. Bullock, Wendy Keener, Clayton Keys, Sammy Hester, and Connie Barnes. Ed Melzer, Finance Committee Chairman and Darrin Williams were also in attendance. Debbie Schauf, Staff.

MOTION: Dr. Bullock (Matt Witman) moved to approve the minutes of the June board meeting. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Lake Newcomb (Matt Witman) moved to approve the meetings from the horsemen's meeting at Fair Meadows. Motion Carried

MOTION: Dr. Bullock (Matt Witman) moved to accept the financial report. Motion Carried.

Tommy Thomas and Haley Atwood gave an update on the status of the legislative interim studies and discussed the OQHRA position that Teeth Floaters should not have to be veterinarians to level the arcades and remove deciduous teeth. They also presented a list of recommended contributions to be distributed from the OQHRPAC.

MOTION: Clayton Keys (Matt Witman) moved to recommend the PAC trustees approve the contributions as proposed by Tommy and Haley. Motion Carried.

Deb presented the proposed revisions for the 2009 TATPF Directive necessary due to the shortfall of revenue from the Tulsa area tribes. There was a lot of discussion about what can be done to get someone in authority to look at why the tribal money is off when the tribes are reporting increased gaming revenue.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to approve the revised directive. Motion carried.

Fred Hutton discussed the revisions in the Remington Park Stakes Schedule and there was a lot of discussion about the 11 overnight stakes for Oklahoma Bred horses for QH, and 2 for Paints and Appaloosa's. One issue was how the horses would be drawn into the races, whether based on money earned or allow the racing office to handicap and assign weights. Fred preferred to be allowed to assign weights. The consensus was that there would be 4 two year old races, 3 straight three year old races, and 4 three and up races. Fred was going to go back and lay out the schedule and provide us with a new list that includes the new OKB restricted stake races.

Jeff Tebow asked about writing the "preferred" maiden races for Heritage and Remington Park which prompted a lot of conversation.

MOTION: Sam Hester (Matt Witman) moved to retain the provision that all trial horses do not lose their date if they start in trials at Remington Park and that there will be no “preferred” maiden races for the futurities. Motion Carried.

There was additional discussion about whether or not to write 2 year old filly races in the first part of the meet and the consensus was that for two year old QH or P&A this is not the same kind of issue as it may be with TB races and that there should NOT be filly races written for 2 year olds at least in the first book.

They also reviewed the stakes nomination forms for the 2009 Oklahoma Futurity and Derby to see if there were any changes to be considered for the 2010 races.

MOTION: Matt Witman (Dr Bullock) moved to change the payout on the Oklahoma Futurity and Derby so that it is 40,17,11,9,7,5,4,3,2,2 for 2010. Motion Carried.

There was much discussion about the Remington Park proposal to make the Remington Futurity a 12 horse final for 2010. There were concerns about the maintenance of the outside of the racetrack, the number of really qualified headers, the length of time in the gate for those early in the loading, etc. After much discussion and concerns about the effect on the entries if the plan was implemented, Jeff Tebow appointed a sub-committee to go visit with Scott about this issue, the gate crew compensation issue, and the number of races per day during the meet. Debbie suggested we also needed to start negotiating the 2010 horsemen’s agreement if there is to be a meeting with Scott.

The committee is: Clayton Keys, Chair; Lake Newcomb, Ed Melzer, Jeff, and Phillip. Clayton will call Scott to schedule a meeting.

The board then discussed BRD race conditions but did not propose any substantive changes. Butch said he felt that we needed to figure out a way to better promote the race to get more OKB participation or changes would need to be made after 2010 because the added money was wasted on so few entries as there have been in the past couple of years.

MOTION: Lake Newcomb (Matt Witman) moved to make no changes in the 2010 OKB Futurity and Derby as it relates to distance, money added, cost to participate, etc. Motion carried.

MOTION: Matt Witman (Lake Newcomb) moved to make no changes in the Black Gold races for 2010. Motion carried.

Butch said he felt the OQHRA needed to make a video for the website and for YouTube about what is going on with the fall meet, the good purses, etc. at BRD to help let people know what a nice meet it will be this year. Butch also said he felt our OQHRA website had become too cluttered and confusing to find things on easily and he would like to see a redesign of the home page. He also suggested finding a way to run a weekly chart with the leading OKB money earners for each age group in the breeds we represent, and a clearer and easier link to the www.oklahomaracinginfo.com site too.

MOTION: Clayton Keys (Matt Witman) moved to allocate \$3,000 above the current budget for production of a BRD Video. Motion carried.

Butch then offered to have the Corona Cartel Syndicate donate \$500 to sponsor the video with a tag on the video indicating them as a sponsor. Jeff said he felt we also ought to be looking at finding sponsorships to generate revenue on both of our websites. Additionally they talked about getting the “made in Oklahoma” folks to set up a “fair like atmosphere” on the last Monday of the RP meet when we run the OKB day of races.

The directors reviewed the date’s requests for each track for 2010 and briefly discussed the status of the sale of BRD and the proposed bankruptcy sale of Remington Park.

Debbie asked for guidance on preparing the Oklahoma Racing brochure for this fall and the sales.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to go ahead and do the brochure based on 2010 dates submitted in the license applications or in the case of BRD as disclosed by Blaine prior to our horsemen’s meeting at Tulsa. Motion Carried.

There was some discussion about the format for the 2010 stallion service auction and how we could keep the costs down in light of the fewer number of stallions. Some concern was expressed about the number of new stallions we get that do not sell and how some farms put too high of minimums on the horses and they don’t sell but it costs the association to advertise and promote them for the auction. It was suggested that all stallion owners, even those with minimums should let the association sell the breeding after the live auction for whatever they will bring even if it is less than the minimum.

Jeff gave a report from the Personnel Committee. They have interviewed six candidates and felt while some might be qualified, the word that the position was open may have not been widely publicized and that the committee wanted to further consider the current applicants and again publicize the opening.

Jeff also reported that Phillip had prepared a letter to discuss the appointment of someone to fill the director position vacated with the passing of Bobby Webb but that since this July meeting was a special meeting rather than one of the regular meetings and since Phillip and a number of other board members were not present, he wanted to defer the issue to the next meeting.

Deb reminded everyone that the August meeting will be August 11th and will be held at Heritage Place in the restaurant at noon. She pointed out that in the packets are revised lists with all of the new commissioners contact information and all of the current OQHRA directors. There is also a committee assignment list in each directors folder.

Meeting adjourned.