

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 – 1:00 PM
CONFERENCE CALL**

Directors Present: Searle, Chupp, Hansen, H. Williams, Beals, Engel, Leonard, Grummel, Fairley, Husted, Teefey, Franco.

Directors Absent: Coleman, Rath, Zawistowski.

Others: Somone, Brubaker, Watson, Hoffmann, Gary Mack, Andrew Mack.

Approval of December, 2020 Agenda: Motion by H. Williams, seconded by Engel. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval of November 2020 BOD Minutes: Motion by H. Williams, seconded by Engel. All in favor. Motion passed.

Executive Directors Report: PPP loan has officially been forgiven. May need to pay taxes on it though, still waiting on confirmation. All of our purse money from Hawthorne and the County Fairs has been released to us. Hawthorne still awaits \$150k from Ag. Membership applications and letter have been sent out. About 125 have already been returned. Finance committee has approved the 2021 budget proposal and will recommend it for board approval: To be discussed later in executive session. 2021 Hawthorne contract discussions are ongoing. Currently waiting for Hawthorne's response to our last proposal. December IRB meeting cancelled. Seems very unlikely that we will have a new Standardbred racetrack in 2021. Will meet with Hawthorne management in early January to discuss the status of the second racetrack. Received another \$9,800 from the Maywood/Balmoral bankruptcy case.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – “lame duck” session in early January will probably begin to address the “Black Lives Matter” bills. No official schedule for the spring session but we would anticipate, because of Covid, much of it will be done remotely, at least in the first few months. Governor Pritzker has made budget cuts, including the Dept. of Ag. That may impact any Ag. money expected for the early, June county fairs. Because of the expected 2022 fiscal year (starting July 1st) budget cuts, we will need to be diligent in securing our portion of the Ag. supplements for the majority of our stake season.

Grassroots and Membership – As reported earlier, a steady stream of memberships have been coming in.

County Fairs –All of the money owed has been paid out. Hopeful that 2021 county fairs will be raced as usual. Added fair money for June county fairs is in jeopardy, so we'll need to keep a close eye on that.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch – nothing to report.

Legal – Nothing to report.

Purse Account – Currently \$1 million in the hole. Will finish the year approximately \$700k in the hole.

Payment of Bills – Treasurer Beals had been to the office on Friday, Dec. 18. He reviewed the bills and given his consent to pay the bills. Motion by Leonard to pay the bills, seconded by Williams. All in favor, motion passes.

Finance – Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Social Media – Nothing to report.

Breeders – The future of shipped semen was discussed. Included in our pending legislation to change the stallion ownership law is also to allow shipped semen to continue as currently. Year-end awards were discussed. A motion by Beals was made to spend up to \$500 to contribute to this endeavor. Seconded by Teefey. Motion passes. Kyle Husted began a lengthy conversation to get a new stakes race added to the 2021 schedule. Many thoughts and concerns were discussed. Cooperation from the Dept. of Ag. and Hawthorne is essential to this process. Tim Norman is in possession of the details and will be speaking with Hawthorne. We will stay close to the topic and follow up.

Executive Session: began at 2:15 and ended at 2:40.

Once out of executive session, a motion was made by Williams to except the recommendation of the finance committee on the 2021 budget, seconded by Grummel. Motion passes. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Williams, seconded by Searle. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm