

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022 – 1:00 PM**  
**AT THE OAKBROOK TERRACE OTB**

**Directors Present:** Engel, Beals, Hansen, Chupp, Brink, Davis, Franco, Rath, Husted, Grummel, Searle, Fairley, Williams, Leonard.

**Directors Absent:** Teefey.

**Others:** Somone, Watson, Brubaker, A. Mack.

**Approval of July 2022 Agenda:** Williams motioned, Rath second. Motion approved.

**Approval of May and June BOD Minutes:** Williams motioned, Husted second. Motion approved.

**Hawthorne Update:** In our conversations with Tim Carey and Kevin Kline they discussed that their new goal was to get approval at the September gaming board meeting. They hoped to start staging work soon after and begin construction by Nov. with an eye for completion by early 2024.

**Executive Directors Report:** Hawthorne has told us that the recent movie that was supposed to be shot this week has been cancelled. All horses that had agreed to participate will still be paid by the movie studio. Free programs are now being offered through our website and social media platforms. There will be no formal election this year because only five candidates submitted applications to run. The “Community Foundation of Lincoln Land” will be doing a study to explore the best possible future use of the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield. Tina Schrock and Ed Teefey have been asked to participate. Very general conversations regarding 2023 dates have been started with John Walsh. We will meet shortly, along with the ITHA, to discuss the best scenario from this bad situation.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Legislative** – Veto session is slated for Nov. 15-17, 29-30 and Dec. 1. Gambling bills are expected to arise in this session but they could be pushed off until next year. Online casino gaming will probably be the next big issue explored. We will stay close to the situation. Tinley Park is still trying to acquire the mental health facility.

**Grassroots and Membership** – current membership is 365, last year at this time it was 399. Fabian Johnson and Martin Woodward had a horse die overnight in his stall over the weekend. We will follow-up if we can be of any assistance to the IRB on handling this matter. Discussion ensued on how we assisted with U of I, Champaign in the past.

**County Fairs** – discussion ensued about trying to move the two-year-old races back a day in Springfield to allow them one more day of rest the following week. Most of the fairs have been paid by the state and are up to date.

**Race Track Condition and Backstretch** – late Friday afternoon the racetrack surface was in terrible shape. Tim Becker, of Hawthorne, stepped up and did a great job to get it ready. He was extremely helpful all weekend.

Conversation about the stairwell, or lack of one, over Barn 1 was discussed. Still waiting on stall mats in the secondary paddock.

**Legal** – A lengthy discussion took place concerning allowing directors to attend monthly board meetings through a zoom type meeting or phone call. Also discussed was changing the by-laws to allow these “virtual” attendees to vote on matters, which currently, because of our by-laws is not allowed. We will put together a proposed amendment to the by-laws and discuss it and/or tweak it at our August meeting.

**Purse Account** – as we begrudgingly agreed, there was a 10% purse cut implemented this summer compared to the winter meet. Purses will still remain slightly higher than summer of 2021.

**Payment of Bills** – Beals motioned to pay bills from May and June, Williams second, motion passes.

**Finance** – nothing to report.

**Public relations/social media** – the passing of Curtis Rice was discussed. Husted motioned to send \$100 to his memorial fund, Searle second, motion passes.

**Breeders** – nothing to report.

Motion to adjourn by Husted, second by Williams, meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.