

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY, July 20, 2020 – 1:00PM
CONFERENCE CALL – DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PROTOCOL.**

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

Directors Absent: Coleman

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

Approval of July, 2020 Agenda: Motion by Director H. Williams, Seconded by Director Paul, All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval of the June 2020 BOD Minutes: Motion by Director H. Williams, Seconded by Director Hansen. All in favor. Motion passed.

Executive Directors Report: Election in motion. Accounting firm, “Legacy” will send out ballots on July 24. Hopefully beginning in August we can have our monthly meetings in person again. Illinois Racing Board has agreed not to implement any new medication rules in mid-season but will begin the changes in October. Two new IRB commissioners have been appointed. ICF races originally scheduled for Springfield/DuQuoin have officially been moved to Hawthorne. IRS has granted us a new tax exempt status as a 501c6. Official request to race in Jan. /Feb. at Hawthorne 2021 was made. We spent about \$9,000 on Covid-19 relief for horsemen.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – Hopefully Hawthorne gets their gaming license at the next Gaming Board meeting (July30). The sooner they can begin construction, the quicker we can begin to earn purse money from there. When Hawthorne gets their sports betting license we need to get an agreement with them if they plan on implementing “fixed-odds” racing. We will push hard again to tweak the breeder’s language in veto session.

Grassroots and Membership – memberships are currently at 424

County Fairs – Steve Searle reported that all county fairs have officially been cancelled for the year and those races will be held in Springfield. It was suggested that some of those races may move to DuQuoin. Discussion ensued and everyone agreed that we would support the Director of Ag. in whatever he decided. More discussion on the additional rule this year for supplementing to county fair races and splitting fields at 8 horses. Standardbred advisory board will discuss it again for next year.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch – we need to make sure that golf cart driver for the paddock is allowed to continue to work. Tony will continue to address it. Discussion on previous evening's accident took place. We agreed to support the Hawthorne initiative to make it a rule that all hobbles be taped. July 4 racing for next year needs to be addressed. It was a terrible night for the horses. Casey and Juan said that the racetrack itself has been really good lately. There was one issue regarding someone wearing a face mask, it was addressed and everyone was reminded to lead by example.

Legal – Nothing to report.

Purse Account – is really lagging. Al will meet with Hawthorne to get exact numbers. Cutting purses and/or cutting weekly races may need to be discussed soon. Current ICF preference system was discussed. Motion made by Beals to return to last year's system, seconded by Chupp. Motion passed.

Payment of Bills – Al motioned that pending his review of the bills at the office, all of the bills be paid. Seconded by H. Williams, motion passes.

Finance – Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Social Media – Nothing to report.

Breeders – 350 registered foals this year which is up from 144 two years ago. There is optimism out there.

This being Bernie's last meeting, Clark thanked him for all of his years of service and dedication to the board. Others chimed in as well. Bernie mentioned how he will continue to appreciate and value the friendships that he has made throughout his years on the board.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Director Paul, seconded by Director H. Williams. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.