

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES

July 14, 2014 5:00PM

Meeting Called to Order By	Benard Chatters
Type of Meeting	Board of Directors
Place	Louisiana Downs Field Office
Meeting Secretary	Ed Fenasci
Roll called by Ed Fenasci and Quorum Declared	Benard Chatters, Tom Abbott, Judy Behler, Bret Calhoun, Sturges Ducoing, Bobby Dupre, Christine Early, Keith Hernandez, Eddie Johnston, Arthur Morrell, Don Stemmans
Prayer Lead By	Chrisie Early
Other in Attendance	Keith Gee, Ed Fenasci, Larry Hamburger, Mike Fenasci, John Duvieilh

The President called the meeting to order

Motion	<p>Motion to waive 10 day notice</p> <p>Motion by: Arthur Morrell</p> <p>Second by: Tom Abbott</p> <p>Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to Adopt minutes from the Board meeting of June 24, 2014</p> <p>Motion by: Chrisie Early</p> <p>Second by: Judy Behler</p> <p>Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Benard Chatters

Presentation - Meeting with Louisiana Downs	<p>Benard reported that Judy Behler, Ed Fenasci and himself met with the management of Louisiana Downs and Representative Burns. Louisiana would like to reduce race dates in future meets. LAD believes that in order to get the average purse to higher levels they need to reduce race days. Benard expressed concern that if we agree to cut days at LAD then the other racing associations will also want to cut days. Keith reported that he received an e-mail from Trent McIntosh projecting purse amounts for future meets with various race days. Benard also expressed his concerns that LAD does not do enough to promote racing. Judy Behler reported that LAD claims they are marketing horse racing through various means including reward points.</p>
---	---

Motion	<p>Motion to ask PJ to give a report to the board regarding the Harrah's lawsuit.</p> <p>Motion by: Sturges Ducoing</p> <p>Second by: Don Stemmans</p> <p>Motion withdrawn</p>
--------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to go into executive session</p> <p>Motion by: Bobby Dupre</p> <p>Second by: Judy Behler</p> <p>Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to exit executive session</p> <p>Motion by: Tom Abbott Second by: Eddie Johnston Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	---

Legislative Report	<p>Keith reported that all of the bills that we supported in the last session, passed. Benard reported that Mary Landrieu send him a letter supporting the horsemen. Sturges reported that he received a letter from Harry Benoit asking that the HBPA release our other lobbyists and make him our primary lobbyist. Benard read the letter. Keith reviewed the current lobbyists services.</p>
--------------------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to keep our Lobbyist as currently engaged</p> <p>Motion by: Eddie Johnston Second by: Tom Abbott Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	---

Discussion	<p>Keith explained that he and John Duvieilh are working with Fair Grounds to have language changed that would remove some onerous indemnity provisions from the stall agreement.</p>
------------	---

Discussion	<p>Tom Abbott noted that Mike Fenasci was not included earlier in the year when several employees received raises above the 3% amount. He believes Mike works hard and does a good job and should get a \$500 per month raise.</p>
------------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to raise Mike Fenasci's pay \$500 per month retroactive to the Board meeting of March 18, 2014</p> <p>Motion by: Tom Abbott Second by: Don Stemmans Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to raise Stacey Lynn Benjamin's pay to \$12.50 per hour</p> <p>Motion by: Tom Abbott Second by: Chrisie Early Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Discussion	<p>Keith explained the procedure he would like to use for new hires. Candidates will be interviewed and recommendations will be sent to the board. Board members asked why we staff the EVTC as we do. Mike reviewed the operation of the EVTC office. John Duvieilh explained that the field staff is important to control claims for HWCIT.</p>
------------	---

Motion	<p>Motion to issue Keith Gee a three year contract extension</p> <p>Motion by: Eddie Johnston Second by: Sturges Ducoing Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	---

Motion	<p>Motion to give Ed Fenasci a contract</p> <p>Motion by: Chrissie Early</p> <p>Second by:</p> <p>Motion withdrawn</p>
--------	--

Track Reports	<p>Edward Johnston reported that he went to the Fair Grounds barn area recently and they have done a lot of work such as cleaning the barns, adding soil to the stalls and shed rows, etc. He thinks that the local FG staff is making an effort to improve conditions. He mentioned to H. Withers that FG may want to consider using spillway sand instead of the "White" sand. Eddie believes that Paul Gregoire would be a good consultant for FG to use for the track surfaces. John Duvieilh stated that if HBPA wanted to hire someone as a consultant, they should hire him/her for all of the race tracks in Louisiana. Keith Hernandez reported that many of our members are concerned with the Evangeline Downs racing service. Keith Hernandez believes that the race tracks should hire consultants and not</p>
---------------	---

Discussion	<p>Benard stated that some potential trainers have difficulties passing the trainers test and that the HBPA might have an interest in helping them in order to prevent situations where someone might be running horses under someone else's name. John Duvieilh stated that running a horse under someone else's name is not allowed under LSRC rules and could constitute insurance fraud and that anyone who is aware of this should report it to HWCIT immediately. Benard stated that he wants to work with the board to address the issues that face our members and let bygones be bygones.</p>
------------	--

Motion	<p>Motion to Adjourn</p> <p>Motion by: Bobby Dupre</p> <p>Second by: Chrisie Early</p> <p>Motion passed 10-0</p>
--------	--

Adopted 12/16/14


Edwin J. Fenasci