

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 26 AT 1 PM., BY WEBEX VIDEO AND CONFERENCING**

Directors Present: Davis, Leonard, Teefey, Searle, Jones, Husted, Grummel, Chupp.

Directors Absent: Beals, Fairley, Brink, Williams, Franco, Engel, Hansen.

Others: Somone, Watson, Brubaker, Andrew Mack.

Approval of May Agenda: Grummel motions, Searle 2nd. Motion passes.

Approval of May BOD Minutes: Searle motions, Grummel 2nd. Motion passes.

Executive Director Report: Nominations for our 2025 election have begun. So far, we have four of five directors returning to run. After a threat from Hawthorne of not running our summer races, cooler heads eventually prevailed and our schedule to race is back on track. Hawthorne must submit their 2026 dates application to the Illinois Racing Board by July 31. After that, they have until the dates hearing on Sept. 18 to amend them. We have also been told that Hawthorne is very close to making a positive announcement. We have been disappointed many times before, with similar statements, but we still remain hopeful that one day it becomes reality. For the first time remembered, Hawthorne is also two months late in transferring the IHHA administrative fees. Conversations concerning this have taken place and we are hopeful the monies owed will be paid soon. After a brief discussion it was unanimously decided to make a donation to Mike Brink after his recent barn fire.

Hawthorne/2nd Racetrack Update: no significant updates but we will get together next week for a legislative committee meeting to get everyone on the same page regarding a strategy for the Fall veto session. The Lucas group continues to campaign for a racino in Macon County.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – in this past year's budget, many state funds were changed from non-appropriated to appropriated, including our traditional 708 money. It will be ok for now, but we need to keep an eye on that and get it fixed moving forward.

Grassroots and Membership – current membership is at 341 with more coming in on a weekly basis.

County Fairs – Standardbred Advisory Board was scheduled to meet today but that was postponed until next week. It was reported that the Macon County Fair in Decatur went above and beyond to get their races in after numerous cancellations due to rain. They should be commended for their efforts. Breeder's awards, payable by Hawthorne are also tardy again.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch –no report.

Legal – no report.

Purse Account – There is \$257,000 from ADW money that hasn't been reported on our purse report yet. We are told it was an oversight and will be accounted for on the next report. Also \$220,000 from the same .25% ADW tax will be added after June 30.

Payment of Bills – Searle motions, Teefey 2nd, motion passes.

Finance – no report.

Public relations/social media – Sponsoring Brandon Potts, when he participates in this year's state fair parade, was discussed. After careful consideration, it was decided to decline that offer.

Breeders – There is apprehension out there but they will go forward with the annual sales. It looks like we will have about 300 foals born this year, which is about 100 less than last year.

Searle motioned to adjourn, Teefey seconds, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 2:00pm

