

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 1 PM. IHHA OFFICE LOWER-LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Directors Present: Beals, Leonard, Teefey, Grummel, Engel, Fairley, Husted, Searle, Williams, Orsini, Franco, Hansen

Directors Absent: Brink

Others: Somone, Watson, Deb Searle, Mike Shivers, Scot Halpin, Donte Williams, Matt Rodriguez, Claude Jones, Mike Campbell, Ron Awsumb, Bill Gaffeo, Pat Curran, Larry Lucas.

Approval of September Agenda: Fairley motions, Williams 2nd. Motion passes.

Approval of August BOD Minutes: Engel motions, Williams 2nd. Motion passes.

Election of Officers: Beals motioned for current officers to be elected for another year. Fairley seconded. All in favor. Officers have been reelected by affirmation for another year.

Presentation by Potential Racino Partners: Claude Jones, Mike Campbell, Ron Awesumb and Larry Lucas made presentations to the board on their plans to request harness dates for 2027 and what they envisioned for the future.

Executive Director Report: Reached out to Fairmount Park concerning racing dates for us for 2027. After a brief e-mail exchange and conversation, it was made clear that it just wasn't possible. The Illinois Racing Board has filed a motion requesting the court for an entry of an order declaring the current automatic stay is inapplicable to the IRB administrative proceedings. The Illinois Gaming Board has filed similar. Once Hawthorne is out of the picture, we will need clarity or a reassignment of ADW dollars.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – Veto session scheduled for late November, early December. Getting Decatur legalized is number one priority.

Grassroots and Membership – membership count remains unchanged at 224.

County Fairs – County Fair and State fair purse monies will be sent out soon.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch – nothing

Legal – nothing

Purse Account – nothing new to report.

Payment of Bills – Beals motioned to pay August and September bills, Engel seconded. Motion passes.

Finance – Without future revenue, we will not be able to operate beyond February.

Public relations/social media –Nothing to add.

Breeders – Bad year for all.

Before adjourning we looked at some potential projections of purses for 2028-2029 and beyond, one for the south suburbs and one for Decatur.

Leonard motioned to adjourn, Beals seconds, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 5:10pm

