

MINUTES
WV RACING COMMISSION
Tuesday, June 2, 2015
WV Lottery Conference Room

The WV Racing Commission met on June 2, 2015 to conduct business and consider administrative matters. Roll call was taken and present was Chairman Jack Rossi. Commissioner Bill Phillips and Commissioner Greg McDermott were present via conference call. Counsel was represented by Kelli Talbott.

Discussion and approval of proclamation to establish a committee for the improvement of the racing industry

Chairman Rossi stated the purpose of this meeting was a special meeting to discuss a resolution that Commissioner Phillips drafted to establish a committee of the Racing Commission.

Commissioner Phillips stated his sole purpose in drafting this resolution is to find a way to bring together a diverse range of knowledge and voices and opinions to the table. There is a select committee that was established by the Legislature that's going to be looking at the industry as well as other facets of gaming and it seems like to him there should be a committee that can be of value and assist the select committee.

There are 3 objectives he'd like to see accomplished by doing this:

1. To develop some ideas and some information that would be of value to the select committee.
2. Join together all facets of this racing industry to see if we can't develop a common view as it relates to the work being done by the select committee and assist them and provide some answers to the current challenging environment that is faced by the racing industry.
3. Look to the future.

Motion was made by Commissioner Phillips for consideration of the resolution that was published on the website of the WV Racing Commission, seconded by Commissioner McDermott.

Commissioner Phillips provided the following overview of the resolution (the resolution in its entirety is included as an attachment to these minutes): The Chairman of the WV Racing Commission will be the Chair of this committee unless he should designate otherwise. The other Commissioners, the General Counsel and the Acting Executive Director will be non-voting ex-officio members of the committee. The committee is authorized to spend \$10,000, if needed, for facilitator/consulting services. This resolution will establish four (4) sub-committees: Economic growth and revenue enhancement, Marketing, Modernizing the code, and Racing calendars and schedules. Each sub-committee will have not less than 5 members. The committee should convene within 15 days of passage of this resolution. The members of this committee can be found in the full resolution. The committee will be requested to provide a written report to the WV Racing Commission not later than September 1, 2015.

Motion passed.

Chairman Rossi stated there is a commitment in the resolution that the first meeting shall be within 15 days of passage of the resolution and he suggested the first meeting be held on June 16, 2015 immediately after the regular Commission meeting. That will be an organizational meeting where the committees can be decided. Commissioner McDermott made the motion for the first meeting to be held on June 16, 2015 immediately following the regular Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Commissioner McDermott for adjournment, seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Meeting adjourned.

Resolution Establishing a WV Racing Commission Committee

(To be offered by Commissioner Bili Phillips at a special commission meeting June 2, 2017)

Whereas, the racing industry in West Virginia is facing a changing and challenging environment; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Legislature passed legislation to form a select committee for a comprehensive study of West Virginia's racing and gaming industries; and

Whereas, those engaged in the thoroughbred and greyhound industries have the capability to provide knowledge and assistance to the above select committee.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

The West Virginia Racing Commission establishes a committee which will be charged to develop innovative and entrepreneurial ideas to assist the select committee. A goal being to maintain and grow the contribution the racing industry is making to the economy of West Virginia. In addition, their work should include ideas and concepts to address the current challenging environment faced by the industry.

The Chairman of the West Virginia Racing Commission will chair the committee unless he designates otherwise. The other Commissioners, General Counsel and Acting Executive Director will serve as non-voting ex-officio members. The committee is authorized to expend \$10,000 for facilitator/consulting services.

The Committee is to establish sub-committees:

- Economic growth & revenue enhancement
- Marketing
- Modernizing the code
- Racing calendars & schedules

Each sub-committee should have not less than five members. Notice of meetings as required by the Open Meetings law must be followed.

The Committee should convene within 15 days after passage of this resolution.

The membership of the committee is formed to bring together a diverse range of knowledge, voices and opinions. The Commission hereby names and requests the following to serve:

Charles McIntosh	(Racing Secretary, Charles Town Races)
Rose Mary Williams	(Director of Racing, Mountaineer Race Track)
Osi Imomoh	(General Manager, Wheeling Downs)
Joe Funkhouser	(Racing United)
Carol Fulks	(WV Hospitality & Travel)
Erich Zimny	(Vice President of Racing Operations, Charles Town Races)
Ismael Trejo	(Steward, Charles Town Races)
Maria Catignani	(HBPA, Mountaineer Race Track)
Sam Burdett	(WV Greyhound & Breeders Association)

John Cavacini (WV Racing Association)
David Walters (Trainer Thoroughbred, Charles Town Races)
Jana Tetrault (HBPA, Mountaineer Race Track)
Barbara Rumbaugh (Judge, Mardi Gras Casino)
Phil Reale (WV Kennel Owners)
Dr. Beth Albrecht (State Veterinarian, Mountaineer Race Track)
Jesus Sanchez (The Jockey Guild, Charles Town Races)
Bob Lagg (General Manager, Mardi Gras Casino)
Jennifer Johnson (Owner Thoroughbred, Mountaineer Race Track)
Kate Painter (WV Thoroughbred Breeders Association)
Lester Raines (WV Kennel Owners Association)

The Committee is to provide a written report to the WV Racing Commission no later than September 1, 2015.

WEST VIRGINIA RACING COMMISSION

Date: _____

Signed:

JACK ROSSI

R. GREGORY MCDERMOTT

BILL PHILLIPS