

TEXAS RACING COMMISSION

MEETING

10:30 a.m.
Tuesday,
December 1, 2010

Via Telephone and GoToMeeting

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

JOHN T. STEEN III, Chair
RONALD F. EDERER, Vice-Chair
TIM KLEINSCHMIDT
CONNIE McNABB, D.V.M.
MICHAEL MOORE
ROBERT C. PATE
ARVEL "A.J." WAIGHT, JR.

I N D E X

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER Roll Call	4
II. PUBLIC COMMENT	none
III. GENERAL BUSINESS	
A. Discussion and consideration of reports by the Executive Director and staff regarding administrative matters:	
1. Budget and finance	5
2. Horse Industry Escrow Account	7
3. Wagering statistics	9
4. Enforcement	8
5. Veterinary update	11
B. Discussion and possible action to approve amendments to the memorandum of understanding with Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab (TVMDL)	16
IV. PROCEEDINGS ON RULES Discussion and possible action to adopt amendments to the following rules proposed in the October 16, 2020, issue of the Texas Register:	
A. 16 TAC § 309.8, Racetrack License Fees	18
B. 16 TAC § 303.321, Allocations to Breed Registries	20
C. 16 TAC § 303.323, Modifications to Approved Events	20
V. PROCEEDINGS ON RACETRACKS	
A. Discussion and possible action on applications by inactive racetrack license holders for license renewal under 16 TAC §309.52:	23
1. Manor Downs	
2. Laredo Downs	

3. Valle de Los Tesoros	
B. Discussion and possible action to approve changes to Lone Star Park's approved race dates	29
C. Discussion and possible action to allocate interstate cross-species purse money under Commission Rule 303.102(d) for the period from March 1, 2020, through August 28, 2021	31
D. Discussion and possible action to allocate funds for the Texas-bred incentive program as provided under Commission Rule 321.505(b)	33
E. Discussion and possible action to allocate purse funds as provided under Commission Rule 321.505(a)	36
VI. PROCEEDINGS ON THE HORSE INDUSTRY ESCROW ACCOUNT	
A. Discussion and possible action on distribution of purse funds from the Horse Industry Escrow Account among the various breeds of horses under Commission Rule 303.311	39
B. Discussion and possible action to modify the disbursement of purse funds throughout the year	44
C. Discussion and possible action to allocate funds in the Horse Industry Escrow Account to state horse breed registries for events to further the horse industry under 16 TAC Chapter 303, Subchapter G	47
VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION	none
VIII. SCHEDULING OF NEXT COMMISSION MEETING	49
IX. ADJOURN	49

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Good morning. At this time I'd
3 like to call today's meeting of the Texas Racing Commission
4 to order. The time is 10:31.

5 Before we begin, I want to remind everyone that
6 it will be extremely important to keep your device on mute
7 until you are called upon, and put your device back on mute
8 afterwards.

9 If you have not previously submitted your
10 intention to comment on any particular item, you will be
11 given an opportunity at the appropriate time. You can send
12 an email to info@txrc.texas.gov; again that's
13 info@txrc.texas.gov at any time to request to comment.
14 Please be specific about which item you want to comment on.

15 Robert, could you please call the roll?

16 MR. ELROD: Yes, sir.

17 Chairman Steen?

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Present.

19 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Ederer?

20 COMMISSIONER EDERER: Present.

21 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Martin?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. ELROD: Commissioner McNabb?

24 COMMISSIONER McNABB: Present.

25 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Moore?

1 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Present.

2 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Pate?

3 COMMISSIONER PATE: Present.

4 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Waight?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. ELROD: Commissioner Kleinschmidt?

7 (No audible response from Commissioner
8 Kleinschmidt, but he's clearly on camera in the video
9 recording and it looks as though he nods. He is also vocal
10 throughout the remainder of the meeting.)

11 MR. ELROD: You're there, aren't you,
12 Commissioner. And Commissioner Mach?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Do we have a quorum?

15 MR. ELROD: Yes, we do.

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Robert.

17 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: This is Commissioner
18 Waight. Good morning.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Commissioner Waight.

20 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: We'll move on to item II.

22 Public Comment. Robert, has anyone signed up?

23 MR. ELROD: No, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Then we'll move on to item III.
25 General Business, A.1. Budget and finance.

1 Gerald Dube, chief financial officer, will you
2 please give us the budget and finance update?

3 MR. DUBE: Yes. Good morning, commissioners.
4 For the record, my name is Gerald Dube for the Texas Racing
5 Commission. On pages 5 through 9 of your agenda packet are
6 the agency's fiscal year 2021 operating budget documents,
7 with revenue collection and expenditures reported through
8 the end of October.

9 With 16.7 percent of the year completed, the
10 agency collected approximately \$1.57 million, or 29.52
11 percent of projected revenue, and expended \$554,669, or
12 approximately 20 percent of budgeted agency operating
13 expenditures. Out of these expenditures, approximately
14 \$397,053 were appropriated expenditures, and \$157,646 are
15 unappropriated expenses, such as the agency's share of
16 employee benefits and retiree health care costs.

17 Simulcast tax supplemental fee revenues from the
18 racetracks in September and October totaled \$375,861. The
19 agency also received a 4th quarter of fiscal year '20
20 related supplemental fee in October totaling \$132,064.

21 If you have any questions, I'll be happy to
22 answer them.

23 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, do you have any
24 questions?

25 (No response.)

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Gerry.

2 MR. DUBE: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN STEEN: The next item is item III.A.2.
4 Report on the Horse Industry Escrow Account.

5 Curley Trahan, director of pari-mutuels, will
6 present this report and the next item, Wagering statistics.

7 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good
8 morning, commissioners. For the record, I am Curley
9 Trahan, the director of pari-mutuels for the agency. I'll
10 be providing a brief status report on the Horse Industry
11 Escrow Account. There's a summary provided on page 10 of
12 your meeting materials.

13 Because the 70 percent of the HIEA designated
14 for purses is paid out monthly, this report reflects only
15 the 30 percent designated for events furthering the horse
16 industry. We ended fiscal year 2020 with approximately
17 \$1.25 million remaining in the account for distribution to
18 the breed registries.

19 Of that amount, \$155,810 has already been
20 approved but not yet disbursed. We have thus far received
21 two equal payments for the September and October
22 agriculture tax from the Comptroller in addition to the
23 escrow funds earned from the one open greyhound track,
24 totaling a little over \$1.25 million.

25 Before you today and a little later in the

1 meeting are 11 proposed event requests from the breed
2 registries, totaling just over \$1.91 million. If each of
3 these requests are approved, the account balance is
4 projected to be \$437,234 once the funds are disbursed.

5 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, do you have any
7 questions?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Curley.

10 MR. TRAHAN: You're welcome.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: The next item is III.A.4.
12 Enforcement.

13 Jim Blodgett, would you please give us the
14 report?

15 MR. BLODGETT: Mr. Chairman, commissioners, good
16 morning. This is Jim Blodgett, the director of
17 investigations for the Texas Racing Commission. Your
18 enforcement report this morning is found on pages 14 and 15
19 of your packet.

20 Commissioners, Lone Star Park opened its Fall
21 Quarter Horse meet on September 4, 2020, and concluded this
22 meet on November 28, 2020. Lone Star, as well as Gillespie
23 County Fair, Retama Park, Sam Houston Race Park, and Gulf
24 Coast Racing are currently conducting simulcast operations.

25 Commissioners, please notice that your report

1 this morning is broken down into three separate charts for
2 your review. The charts reflect completed cases, pending
3 enforcement cases at Lone Star Park, as well as a
4 compilation of all of the animal drug positives by
5 category/class from January 2020 through November 15, 2020.

6 The specific drugs are absent from your report to protect
7 the Commission in the event that any of these drug cases
8 should be appealed to you for action.

9 I would be happy to answer any questions that
10 you might have.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, do you have any
12 questions?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Jim.

15 MR. BLODGETT: Yes, sir.

16 COMMISSIONER PATE: Commissioner Steen, were we
17 going to get Curley's report on the wagering statistics?

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: I'm sorry. You're right,
19 Commissioner Pate.

20 Curley, we had actually had both of those lined
21 up for you to go at the same time, if you don't mind just
22 taking that up now.

23 MR. TRAHAN: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Commissioners, in your meeting materials on
25 pages 11 through 13 is the comparison report on wagering

1 statistics for the calendar year period of January through
2 October. The report compares this calendar year's handle
3 figures against those from the same period for 2019.

4 The report shows that total wagering activities
5 at the greyhound racetracks decreased by 59.03 percent,
6 equating to approximately \$20.08 million less handle.
7 Total wagering activities at the horse racetracks showed an
8 increase of 0.08 percent for the period in 2020 as compared
9 to 2019. This increase represents approximately \$243,000
10 in handle.

11 Overall, the report shows that total wagers
12 placed in Texas decreased by approximately \$81.32 million,
13 representing a 35.12 percent decline from last year, while
14 total wagers placed on Texas races showed an increase of
15 just over \$53.09 million, or 45.49 percent.

16 This concludes my report, and I'd be happy to
17 answer any questions.

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, any questions on
19 that?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Curley.

22 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So with that we'll go ahead and
24 move on to agenda III.A.5., Veterinary update, and I
25 believe Chuck will be giving us the update there.

1 MR. TROUT: Good morning, commissioners. For
2 the record, I'm Chuck Trout, executive director of the
3 Texas Racing Commission. I asked for this time to update
4 you on a veterinarian program that has shown promise in
5 reducing race horse fatalities at Texas tracks.

6 In calendar year 2018, Texas horse racetracks
7 experienced a spike in the number of race horse fatalities.

8 All told, at least 39 horses died. I say at least because
9 we are not always notified when a horse dies, especially if
10 the horse is taken off of the track for a veterinarian
11 examination and subsequently euthanized. Of the 39, 20
12 died as a result of injuries received during races, 15 died
13 as a result of injuries sustained during morning training,
14 and four died due to illness.

15 The Commission's veterinarians believed that
16 their presence during the training sessions in the morning
17 could possibly make a difference in the injury rate during
18 that time. So beginning with the Lone Star Park Quarter
19 Horse meet in September of 2018, the Commission has had a
20 staff veterinarian on the track for training hours.

21 With the veterinarian on the track during the
22 training hours, compared to the 15 horses that died in
23 2018, five died in 2019 and four died this year. These
24 numbers are all the more significant because in spite of
25 the COVID pandemic, there were far more horses exercising

1 on the tracks this year than in 2018 or 2019.

2 As I mentioned earlier, the number of fatalities
3 due to racing injuries in 2018 was 20. In 2019 it was 14,
4 and this year 12. This also is more significant because
5 there were 611 more starts this year than in 2018, and 796
6 more starts than last year. The racing fatality rate, that
7 is the number of deaths for 1,000 starts, has dropped from
8 1.72 in 2018 to 1.30 in 2019, and then again to 1.03 this
9 year.

10 So we've seen a significant decrease in both the
11 racing and training fatality rates. I believe this program
12 of observing horses during training hours has played a
13 significant role in these decreases in fatalities.

14 The program does this in two ways. First, the
15 veterinarians take action when they observe horses that
16 show lameness while exercising. Depending on the severity
17 of the lameness, they may warn the trainer that the horse
18 has a problem, or they may place the horse on the vet list,
19 which means the horse may not race until it has
20 demonstrated to the state vet that it is racing sound.

21 The second, and more important, way the program
22 works is it has resulted in a positive change in behavior
23 on the part of most trainers and backside vets. We know
24 this because of the numerous comments from trainers,
25 backside vets and exercise riders. Put simply, some

1 trainers are less likely to send a questionable horse to
2 the track, for fear the state vet may place it on the vet
3 list.

4 As you may have noticed when you were reviewing
5 our Legislative Appropriations Request, we have an
6 exceptional item to obtain additional appropriations to
7 continue and improve on this program. In my opinion, this
8 program is the most significant step taken by the
9 Commission to reduce injuries to horses and riders in the
10 26 years I've been with the Commission. Of course, only
11 time will tell if this program will continue to enjoy the
12 initial success we've seen over the last two years.

13 This concludes my report.

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Chuck.

15 Commissioners, do you have any questions for
16 Chuck?

17 COMMISSIONER McNABB: I do have a comment. This
18 is Connie McNabb.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Go ahead.

20 COMMISSIONER McNABB: I've had the opportunity
21 to go out, watch this program in action, talk with the
22 veterinarians, visit with the trainers, and I'd say that
23 everything that Chuck said it absolutely on the money. The
24 insight for those who have not lived on the backside is,
25 this starts the conversation between the state vet and the

1 trainer at a time that this is not going to cause the
2 trainer to lose face with an owner.

3 If indeed we are not really looking or
4 scratching a horse or putting a horse on the vet's list
5 until it's either a pre-race exam, or heaven forbid, after
6 a race, then that trainer and their relationship with the
7 owner -- that is a very different dynamic than when we see
8 them in the morning, the horse has not entered in a race
9 but we can see there's something wrong with this horse.

10 And a lot of trainers, especially those with a
11 big string, they just say all right, these horses go out
12 and do this, these horses go do that, they may not be
13 focused in and their staff is just doing what they're told.

14 As we have these conversations with the trainers during a
15 non-controversial time, now everybody is concentrated on
16 let's make this horse right and let's get this horse sound.

17
18 The trainer is not having to explain to an
19 owner, well, I didn't know the horse was lame or that so-
20 and-so state vet, the horse is fine and I'm telling you --
21 you know, you get away from all of that ego business and it
22 concentrates on the health and the welfare of the racing
23 animals.

24 Whether or not Texas ever gets to zero
25 fatalities, probably not, because racing is an inherently

1 dangerous sport, but the fact that we are having these
2 conversations at a time when everybody is on the same piece
3 of paper, and that is the health and the welfare of the
4 racing animal. So that then when the trainer enters the
5 horse, he has a greater level of confidence that indeed the
6 horse is sound and also has a greater level of confidence
7 that he's not going to lose face getting scratched going
8 into a race, because we've all been working together to
9 make sure that that horse is ready to go.

10 COMMISSIONER EDERER: Thank you very much for
11 your comments. I was just about to ask if you did have any
12 comments, and I really appreciate your comments there. I
13 think it's very encouraging for racing.

14 COMMISSIONER McNABB: I'm seldom without an
15 opinion especially when it comes to the protection of the
16 racing horses.

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Commissioner McNabb.
18 Anybody else have anything?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, I think we'll move on
21 to B. Discussion and possible action to approve amendments
22 to the MOU with the TVMDL.

23 Chuck, would you please present this item, as
24 well?

25 MR. TROUT: Yes, sir. Once again, I'm Chuck

1 Trout, executive director of the Racing Commission.

2 On page 17 of your packet, you'll find an
3 amendment to the TxRC-TVMDL MOU covering testing. The
4 purpose of the amendment is to add arsenic and cobalt to
5 the list of elements for testing and the associated cost
6 for the test.

7 Staff requests that you approve the amendment.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, any questions?

9 COMMISSIONER McNABB: I do have a comment.

10 Cobalt and arsenic as is are not so much the issue, but
11 cobalt and arsenic are key elements that we can test
12 for. These are elements that are common in the drugs that
13 are used for blood doping.

14 Much of what is happening in the human athletics
15 and the cheating scandals of all of the substances that
16 cause, whether it's a human or an animal body to greatly
17 increase the blood production but it also has a lot of
18 other negative effects. Arsenic and cobalt are very
19 commonly part of the metabolism of those drugs. So if we
20 find those outside of low level environmental
21 contamination, it certainly raises a high level of
22 suspicion and helps us then look for the more specific
23 drugs.

24 This is a very sophisticated doping program. It
25 is of great concern in human athletics and, you know, the

1 folks that are into cheating, if it worked for cheating
2 with humans, then they're trying it on the horses. So it's
3 not that people are just going up and just giving a handful
4 of arsenic or a handful of cobalt, but those are
5 essentially the key triggers that we can detect that then
6 let us pursue, are the people using some of these very
7 dangerous compounds for an unfair advantage and very much
8 to the detriment of the health of the horse.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Commissioner McNabb.

10 Robert, did anybody sign up to speak on this
11 item?

12 MR. ELROD: No, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Are there any further questions
14 or comments from commissioners?

15 COMMISSIONER PATE: Mr. Chair, I'd move approval
16 of the amendment to the memorandum of understanding between
17 the Racing Commission and the A&M Veterinary Medical
18 Diagnostic Lab.

19 COMMISSIONER McNABB: I'll second.

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
21 Pate, seconded by Commissioner McNabb. Any further
22 discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, we'll take it up for a
25 vote. All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

1 (A chorus of ayes.)

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN STEEN: That motion carries.

5 Moving on to proceedings on rules, on agenda
6 item IV.A.1. Discussion and possible action to adopt
7 amendments to Section 309.8, Racetrack License Fees.

8 Devon, would you please present this item?

9 MS. BIJANSKY: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

10 Commissioners, as you may recall, at your
11 September meeting you proposed amendment to the racetrack
12 fee rule, which you'll see beginning on page 20 of your
13 materials. As we discussed previously, the amendments
14 include updates to the base license fees to allocate Gulf
15 Greyhound Park's share proportionally among the nine
16 remaining tracks, provisions to automatically adjust fees
17 if we lose another track or if another track license is
18 issued, a requirement that was requested by the tracks that
19 the Commission undertake rulemaking to amend this rule
20 again if the base fees increase by more than 15 percent, a
21 new formula for calculating supplemental fees due to
22 simulcast tax shortfall tied to fiscal year 2018 simulcast
23 figures, a transition provision that ensures any
24 supplemental fee amounts that accrue while these amendments
25 have been pending are still due once they're adopted, and a

1 provision requiring at least 30-days notice to the tracks
2 of any fee increase.

3 We received no written comments in response to
4 the proposal of these amendments and there were no comments
5 at the Rules Committee meeting earlier this month.

6 Commissioner Ederer or Kleinschmidt may want to
7 give some input on that, but otherwise, this is before you
8 for adoption today.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Devon.

10 Robert, is anyone signed up to speak on the
11 item?

12 MR. ELROD: No, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any comments from the Rules
14 Committee?

15 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
16 Kleinschmidt. I would recommend we approve the adoption of
17 the amendments -- we adopt the amendments as proposed.

18 COMMISSIONER EDERER: And I certainly agree with
19 that. This has been thoroughly vetted at the Rules
20 Committee meeting and the tracks have had considerable
21 input, and I agree with Commissioner Kleinschmidt that we
22 should go forward.

23 Do we need a motion?

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Yes.

25 COMMISSIONER McNABB: So moved.

1 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I will second.

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Who was the original motion
3 made by?

4 (Commissioner McNabb raised her hand.)

5 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion by Commissioner McNabb,
6 seconded by Commissioner Ederer. Any further discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, we'll take it up for a
9 vote. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

10 (A chorus of ayes.)

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

14 Next are agenda items IV.B. and C., Discussion
15 and possible action to adopt amendments to Section 303.321,
16 Allocation to Breed Registries, and Section 303.323,
17 Modifications to Approved Events.

18 Devon, will you please present this item?

19 MS. BIJANSKY: Yes, sir.

20 These items on page 24 of your materials are
21 amendments that would allow the executive director to
22 approve breed registry proposals for funding from the Horse
23 Industry Escrow Account up to \$50,000. This was the
24 majority of all the proposals that we received last year so
25 this would lighten your load significantly.

1 The amendments to 303.321 authorize him to act
2 on behalf of the Commission to approve proposals up to that
3 amount or to forward them to you if he has any concerns,
4 and the amendments to 303.323 extend that same principle to
5 requests for modification of approved events.

6 The Horse Industry Escrow Account Committee has
7 reviewed these proposals and received no comments on them
8 at their meeting or otherwise, so they're also before you
9 for adoption today.

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Devon.

11 Robert, is anyone signed up to speak on these
12 items?

13 MR. ELROD: No, sir. Mary Ruyle, with the Texas
14 Thoroughbred Association, is available if you have any
15 questions but she has not signed up to comment.

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
18 Kleinschmidt, I would recommend that we make these changes.
19 It should increase the efficiencies in the Horse Industry
20 Escrow Account.

21 Dealing with matters of this -- monies of this
22 size should allow the executive director to more
23 efficiently move a lot of these requests forward,
24 incidental changes, things that need to be changed as they
25 come up. And we've seen a lot of changes due to COVID and

1 we're going to continue to see changes.

2 And so it adds a lot of flexibility and
3 efficiency to the awards portion of the 30 percent of those
4 funds that we oversee.

5 COMMISSIONER PATE: Mr. Chairman, I would move
6 the approval of the modifications to the Sections 303.321
7 and 303.323 as submitted.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
9 Pate.

10 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I will second.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Seconded by Commissioner
12 Ederer. Any further discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: We'll take this up for a vote.
15 All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

16 (A chorus of ayes.)

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: That motion carries.
20 We'll move on to the next item which is agenda

21 item V.A., Discussion and possible action to approve
22 license renewal by inactive racetrack license holders.

23 Devon, will you please present this item?

24 MS. BIJANSKY: Yes, sir. This item begins on
25 page 26 of your materials.

1 Section 2025.105 of the Racing Act requires the
2 Commission to conduct annual reviews of the inactive
3 racetrack licenses. At the conclusion of the review, you
4 can either renew a license as inactive, re-designate it as
5 active or refer it to the State Office of Administrative
6 Hearings for non-renewal proceedings. In your materials,
7 there's a memo that describes the criteria used in deciding
8 whether to renew a license and it summarizes the
9 applications that we received.

10 Of particular note is that two of the licenses
11 do have grounds for non-renewal under Section 309.52(f) of
12 the Commission rules. Both Manor Downs and Laredo Downs do
13 not currently have either ownership or a leasehold interest
14 in the property where the license is designated to be.

15 Under the rule you're required to consider that
16 as evidence that renewal of these licenses is not in the
17 best interest of the racing industry or the public, but the
18 presence of a ground for non-renewal does not require
19 referral for non-renewal proceedings. It's an option if
20 you believe it's not in the best interest of the industry
21 or the public or if you believe that an association has
22 failed to make good faith efforts to conduct live racing.

23 That decision is before you today after
24 consideration of all of the factors.

25 COMMISSIONER PATE: I have a question, Devon.

1 Is this the first time these have come up, and if not, how
2 have they been handled in the past? How has the Commission
3 approached these in the past?

4 MS. BIJANSKY: These have been issues in the
5 past. Manor Downs had property. I don't recall exactly
6 when they let, I believe it was an option on the property
7 go. As you know, the original designated property, they
8 conducted racing there for quite some time.

9 They ceased racing. The Sam Houston group took
10 over the license and had the property for some time and
11 then hasn't in the last couple of years. So this was an
12 issue last year.

13 The Laredo Downs property, I don't know as much
14 about the history of, but I know it has been essentially
15 the same situation in the past. And when the Commission
16 has looked at it the last few years has chosen, after
17 considering all the factors, to renew the license.

18 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I can give a little more
19 history. As far as the Valley, Laredo Downs and Valle de
20 los Tesoros, both of those -- yes, they have had their
21 problems as far as setting up and getting ready to go
22 forward with live racing and to find various tracts of land
23 to put the tracks on.

24 As we all know, racing has had a lot of problems
25 over the many, many, many years. These two tracks -- the

1 owners of these tracks have, in my opinion, have done
2 considerable work toward furthering racing in the State of
3 Texas.

4 They have been very active as far as working
5 with the legislature. They have been very supportive of
6 the Commission, and they have been paying their licensing
7 fees all of these years with absolutely no profit
8 whatsoever going into the pockets of the owners of these
9 various licenses.

10 In the past what we have done is we have
11 continued their license and they have continued to work
12 toward racing -- to helping racing. We have renewed their
13 licensing and as far as I'm concerned, I think they should
14 be renewed again.

15 I think what is going to happen in this next
16 legislature is going to have a big impact on racing, as the
17 last legislature did have. And I think that if, in fact,
18 things continue to go forward with a little luck we will
19 see Laredo Downs and Valle de los Tesoros opening a track.

20 I don't know, we'll have to wait and see. I hope they do.

21 I don't mean to necessarily be an advocate for
22 them. I believe that they are advocates for racing and I
23 think that they have done considerable work in putting
24 their money where their mouth is to help the racing
25 industry.

1 So I would recommend at this point in time that
2 we renew their inactive license.

3 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: A.J. Waight. I have a
4 question. Is it reasonable to think that there should be a
5 time limit on how long we can keep these licenses open and
6 there not being a track put in place? Is it preventing
7 other people from opening a track?

8 COMMISSIONER EDERER: No, it is certainly not
9 preventing anyone from opening a track, them having their
10 license.

11 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: Okay.

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: And I believe the renewal
13 process is annual. Is that correct, Devon?

14 MS. BIJANSKY: That's correct.

15 COMMISSIONER PATE: Commissioner Ederer, I have
16 a question. So you mentioned something about, is there
17 something proposed for the legislature that's going to
18 change this licensing term and so forth that you see coming
19 down the road? Or are you just kind of guessing that there
20 will be some attention paid to the Racing Act because of
21 prior stuff that we've discussed?

22 COMMISSIONER EDERER: We stay hoping. No, I do
23 not know of any that is pending, but yes, we're all hoping
24 that there will be some legislation that will assist us.

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioner Pate, maybe I

1 could suggest, I don't know if we've got anyone signed up
2 to speak but I think these would potentially be good
3 questions for the holders of the licenses.

4 Robert, do we have anyone signed up to speak?

5 MR. ELROD: No, sir, we do not.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Do we have anybody available?

7 COMMISSIONER PATE: Commissioner, I
8 understand. It really costs the state nothing, it costs us
9 nothing to renew these. Correct? And in order for these
10 tracks with no location, they would have to come back to us
11 and get that approved at the time they wanted to go after
12 it. Correct? Is that correct?

13 COMMISSIONER EDERER: Yes, that is correct.

14 COMMISSIONER PATE: And they're paying a fee,
15 they're participating in the payment of fees, which I guess
16 has the effect of offsetting some of the cost for the other
17 tracks. Is that correct?

18 COMMISSIONER EDERER: That is correct.

19 COMMISSIONER PATE: Mr. Chairman, I would --

20 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: As long as it's not
21 preventing someone else for opening a track, I don't see
22 anything wrong with that.

23 COMMISSIONER PATE: Does it matter, Devon, of
24 these basis for renewal whether it's active other or
25 inactive? I mean, they're inactive.

1 Does that affect the amount of fee they pay or
2 anything like that?

3 MS. BIJANSKY: No, the fees are set by the class
4 of track, not by the active or inactive status.

5 COMMISSIONER PATE: Okay.

6 Well, Mr. Chairman, I would move we approve the
7 renewal of the inactive license for Manor Downs, Laredo
8 Downs, and Valle de los Tesoros.

9 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
10 Kleinschmidt. I'd second.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. We've got a motion by
12 Commissioner Pate, seconded by Kleinschmidt. Any further
13 discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: We'll take this up for a vote.
16 All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

17 (A chorus of ayes.)

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

21 The next item is V.B., Lone Star Park's request
22 for changes in race dates.

23 Ricky Walker, will you please present the item?

24 MR. WALKER: Good morning, commissioners. I'm
25 Ricky Walker, chief steward for the Commission.

1 On pages 32 through 37, Lone Star Park has
2 requested revision of their approved 2021 race date
3 calendar. LSP has requested to revise their 42-day
4 Thoroughbred meet to 48 days, beginning April 22, 2021,
5 through July 11, 2021, and also a revision of their 27-day
6 Quarter Horse meet to 30 days, beginning September 17,
7 2021, through December 18, 2021.

8 There are letters from the Texas Horsemen's
9 Partnership, Texas Thoroughbred Association and Texas
10 Quarter Horse Association in support of approving these
11 changes.

12 Are there any questions?

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ricky.

14 MR. WALKER: Yes, sir. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
16 speak?

17 MR. ELROD: No, sir. But Marsha Rountree with
18 the Texas Horsemen's Partnership wanted to go on record as
19 being in favor, and Mary Ruyle with TTA is available if you
20 need her.

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks.

22 And commissioners, any questions? I think
23 someone was about to ask a question there.

24 COMMISSIONER McNABB: Ricky, as far as we know,
25 Derby Day is going back to its traditional first Saturday

1 in May, so that would be included in these dates?

2 MR. SLABOTSKY: This is Kent Slabotsky at Lone
3 Star Park, and yes, that's correct.

4 MR. WALKER: That's correct.

5 COMMISSIONER McNABB: Always a good day at any
6 track.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any further questions or
8 comments?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, I'll entertain a motion
11 to approve Lone Star Park's request to modify their 2021
12 granted race dates.

13 COMMISSIONER McNABB: So moved.

14 COMMISSIONER EDERER: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
16 McNabb. Was that a second by Commissioner Ederer?

17 COMMISSIONER EDERER: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any further discussion? If
19 not, we'll take this up for a vote. All those in favor,
20 please signify by saying aye.

21 (A chorus of ayes.)

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

25 The next item is item V.C., Request to allocate

1 interstate cross-species purse money.

2 Curley, will you please present this item?

3 MR. TRAHAN: Yes, sir. Good morning again,
4 commissioners.

5 The Texas Racing Act requires horse racetracks
6 to pay a purse in the amount of 5.5 percent of interstate
7 cross-species handle to the Texas Greyhound Association for
8 use at greyhound racetracks in Texas. Under Section
9 303.102 of the rules, the TGA must pay to the greyhound
10 racetracks the purse money it collects pursuant to the Act
11 from Texas horse racetracks, less allowable administrative
12 costs, in accordance with an allocation approved by the
13 Commission. The TGA prepares and submits a proposed
14 allocation for consideration by the Commission.

15 In your meeting materials on pages 39 and 40,
16 you will find the agency's request to the TGA for proposed
17 distribution of the cross-species simulcast purse funds
18 collected by the TGA, followed by a letter from the TGA
19 setting out the paying of these funds to Valley Race
20 Park. The request is for the period of March 1, 2020,
21 through August 28, 2021.

22 This time frame covers the period since Gulf
23 Greyhound Park's last live race meet ended to the next live
24 race meet which is scheduled to be run at Valley Race Park.
25 All funds collected during this period, less allowable

1 expenses, is proposed to go to Valley Race Park for the
2 funding of their purses at their scheduled meet.

3 Staff recommends approval of the allocation to
4 Valley Race Park, as proposed by the TGA, for the period of
5 March 1, 2020, through August 28, 2021. I'd be happy to
6 answer any questions.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Curley.

8 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
10 speak?

11 MR. ELROD: No, sir.

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, any questions or
13 comments?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, I'll entertain a motion
16 to approve the allocation of cross-species purse money for
17 the period of March 1, 2020, through August 28, 2021.

18 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
19 Kleinschmidt. I move to allocate the interstate cross-
20 species funds for the period of March 1, 2020, through
21 August 28, 2021 to Valley Race Park for their scheduled
22 2021 meet, contingent upon that meet taking place, with the
23 TGA continuing to hold the funds should the meet not occur.

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Kleinschmidt.

25 COMMISSIONER PATE: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Second by Commissioner Pate.
2 Any further discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Devon, is that motion clear?

5 MS. BIJANSKY: Yes, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. So we'll take this up
7 for a vote. All those in favor, please signify by saying
8 aye.

9 (A chorus of ayes.)

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: That motion carries.

13 Moving on to agenda item V.D., Discussion and
14 possible action to allocate funds for the Texas-bred
15 incentive program.

16 Curley, will you please take this item as well?

17 MR. TRAHAN: Yes, sir.

18 A portion of the money wagered on simulcast
19 races offered at horse racetracks is dedicated to the
20 Accredited Texas-bred incentive program. Commission Rule
21 321.505(b) requires the Commission to determine the
22 division of funds after affording each official horse breed
23 organization an opportunity to present written information
24 addressing the criteria listed in paragraph (2) of this
25 subsection.

1 Alternatively, the breed organizations may
2 present to the Commission an agreement in lieu of providing
3 written information. The agreement must meet two specific
4 requirements: first, the agreement must be signed by all
5 of the official breed organizations designated in the Act
6 that participate in the program; secondly, the agreement
7 must delineate the percentages by which the Texas-bred
8 incentive program funds generated from simulcasting are to
9 be divided among the various breeds of horses.

10 You'll find on pages 42 through 45 of your
11 meeting materials a submitted agreement signed in multiple
12 parts by all of the participating breed registries in
13 accordance with the rules. The agreement lists the
14 established percentages by which the Accredited Texas-bred
15 program funds will be allocated among the various breeds of
16 horses for calendar year 2021. This agreement maintains
17 the same allocations that were approved for current year
18 2020 and have remained the same since 2008.

19 Since all parties have agreed to the allocations
20 and all requirements of the rules have been met, staff
21 recommends approval of the submitted Accredited Texas-bred
22 incentive program breed split agreement for calendar year
23 2021.

24 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Curley.

1 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
3 speak on this item?

4 MR. ELROD: No. Mary Ruyle is available if you
5 want.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Commissioners, do you have any
7 questions?

8 COMMISSIONER PATE: Chairman, I'd move the
9 approval of the agreement between the breeds as proposed in
10 accordance with Rule 321.505(b).

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
12 Pate.

13 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I'll second.

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Seconded by Vice Chair Ederer.
15 Any further discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, we'll take this up for
18 a vote. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

19 (A chorus of ayes.)

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: That motion carries.

23 Now on to item V.E., Discussion and possible
24 action to allocate purse funds under Commission Rule
25 321.505(a).

1 Curley, would you please continue with this one?

2 MR. TRAHAN: Commissioners, as with the Texas-
3 bred incentive program in the previous agenda item, a
4 portion of the money wagered on simulcast races in Texas is
5 dedicated to purses at the horse racetracks. Pursuant to
6 Commission Rule 321.505(a), each year the racetracks must
7 negotiate with representatives of the officially recognized
8 organizations representing horse owners, trainers and/or
9 breeders the allocation of purse funds earned at each
10 track. Racetrack management then recommends to the
11 Commission the specific allocation of simulcast purse
12 revenue among the various breeds of horses at their
13 respective racetracks.

14 The Commission may look to criteria detailed in
15 Subsection 321.505(a)(4) when evaluating the racetracks'
16 recommendations, however, if the racetracks and all the
17 official horse industry organizations reach a signed
18 agreement, that agreement may then be presented to the
19 Commission for approval.

20 Commissioners, beginning on page 48 of the
21 meeting materials and continuing through page 51 are the
22 racetrack-recommended allocations of the simulcast purse
23 funds. Each of the racetracks have recommended maintaining
24 the status quo for calendar year 2021 of simulcast purse
25 funds.

1 Also included on pages 52 and 53 is a signed
2 letter in multiple parts indicating that all the official
3 breed registries are in agreement with the racetracks'
4 requests. We also received a letter of approval of the
5 recommended allocations from the Texas Horsemen's
6 Partnership, but it was after the meeting material had
7 already been set and is not included in the agenda packet.

8 Since all the breed registries and the THP have
9 indicated their support for each of the racetrack's
10 recommended allocations, staff recommends approval of the
11 racetracks' proposals. I'd be happy to answer any
12 questions.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Curley.

14 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
16 speak on this item?

17 MR. ELROD: No, sir, but Marsha Rountree wanted
18 to go on record as being in favor.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you.

20 Commissioners, any questions or comments?

21 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: This is Commissioner
22 Waight. What do you do in the event that someone doesn't
23 agree with the disbursements?

24 MR. TRAHAN: If there's no agreement between all
25 of the breed registries, the organizations and the

1 racetracks, then it would come before the Commission, and
2 the Commission would have to decide the actual allocations.

3 COMMISSIONER WAIGHT: Okay. Thank you.

4 MR. TRAHAN: You're welcome.

5 COMMISSIONER PATE: Mr. Chairman, I would move
6 the approval of the allocations under 321.505(a) as agreed
7 by the registries and proposed.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
9 Pate.

10 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I'll second.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Seconded by Vice Chair Ederer.
12 Any further discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, we'll take this up for
15 a vote. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

16 (A chorus of ayes.)

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

20 Now item VI.A., the allocation of purse funds
21 from the Horse Industry Escrow Account under Rule 303.311.

22 Curley, could you please present this item, as
23 well?

24 MR. TRAHAN: Yes, sir.

25 Commissioners, the distribution of funds

1 collected in the Horse Industry Escrow Account is covered
2 in Commission Rule 303.311. The funds set aside for the
3 Horse Industry Escrow Account are derived from two sources.

4
5 The first source of funds results from the
6 simulcast wagering on interstate horse racing at greyhound
7 tracks in the state. The second source of funds originates
8 via a tax imposed on the sale, storage or use of horse
9 feed, horse supplements and horse tack. The second source
10 is a direct result of passage of House Bill 2463 during the
11 86th Legislative Regular Session.

12 This same bill requires the maximum amount for
13 purses from the Horse Industry Escrow Account be set at 70
14 percent. The allocation of the 70 percent is what is being
15 proposed in this agenda item.

16 The rule states that at least once a year, the
17 Commission shall distribute all funds accrued for purses in
18 the escrow account to the horse racetracks. The racetrack
19 associations are required to recommend the percentages by
20 which the distribution of funds will be divided among the
21 various breeds of horses.

22 The Commission must determine first the
23 allocation among the tracks of the escrowed purse funds,
24 and secondly, the percentages to be divided among the
25 various breeds at each track of their allocated portion.

1 The Commission may look to the criteria listed in
2 subsection (c) of this section of the rules when evaluating
3 the racetrack associations' recommendations.

4 In lieu of this process, if the racetrack
5 associations and all of the official horse industry
6 organizations reach an agreement, that signed agreement may
7 be submitted to the Commission for approval as long as the
8 agreement meets two criteria. First, the agreement must
9 delineate the percentages by which the purse funds in the
10 Horse Industry Escrow Account received by the associations
11 will be divided among the various breeds of horses.
12 Secondly, the agreement must be signed by all organizations
13 recognized by the Commission or in the Act as
14 representatives of horse owners, trainers and/or breeders.

15 Commissioners, beginning on page 55 of your
16 meeting materials and continuing through page 66 is an
17 industry-wide agreement in multiple parts with the
18 recommended distribution of the purse funds from the Horse
19 Industry Escrow Account to each of the Texas horse
20 racetracks and the division of those funds among the
21 various breeds of horses at each track. The agreement is
22 signed by representatives from each of the four Texas horse
23 racetracks and the four Texas breed registries as
24 recognized in the Act. The agreement is also signed by the
25 Texas Horsemen's Partnership as representative to Texas

1 horse owners and trainers.

2 Since all the interested parties are in
3 agreement with the proposed allocation, and having met the
4 requirements of the rules, staff would recommend approval
5 of the distribution of purse funds from the Horse Industry
6 Escrow Account for calendar year 2021 as proposed in the
7 submitted industry-wide signed agreement.

8 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Curley.

10 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
12 speak on this item?

13 MR. ELROD: No, sir, but Marsha Rountree with
14 Texas Horsemen's Partnership is in favor.

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you.

16 Commissioners, do you have any questions?

17 MR. TROUT: Mr. Chairman, this is Chuck.

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Go ahead.

19 MR. TROUT: Could you have Curley explain why
20 the Sam Houston Race Park has a greater share of this than
21 Lone Star Park?

22 MR. TRAHAN: The reason goes back to the prior
23 distribution of funds, and Sam Houston has always gotten a
24 larger share because of the proximity to Gulf Greyhound
25 Park. So the agreements have been through the years that

1 since the Gulf Greyhound Park was so close in proximity,
2 that they syphoned off some of Sam Houston's patrons that
3 Sam Houston would get a larger portion of the purse funds.

4 That is my understanding of the original, how
5 the apportionment was.

6 MR. TROUT: And now that Gulf Greyhound Park is
7 no longer open, do you know whether or not that was ever
8 taken into consideration in this agreement?

9 MR. TRAHAN: I do not. The agreement is between
10 all of the racetracks and all of the organizations, so
11 their negotiations I wouldn't have privy to.

12 COMMISSIONER PATE: I would think they're each
13 defending their own vested interests, so I think there's
14 some natural tension there. I mean, we all witnessed last
15 year, once this Horse Industry Escrow Account came into
16 effect, you know, the massive rush to the pie-eating
17 contest to how it was all going to be administered, so I
18 think their vested interests are well represented.

19 MR. TROUT: Just curious, because Lone Star Park
20 has more race days than Sam Houston Race Park, and I was
21 just curious if anybody from the industry wanted to explain
22 why there is a difference there.

23 (No response.)

24 COMMISSIONER PATE: Mr. Chairman, I would move
25 the approval of the agreement of the distribution of the

1 Horse Industry Escrow Account funds among the various
2 breeds of horses under Commission Rule 303.311 for calendar
3 year 2021.

4 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
5 Pate.

6 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I will second.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Seconded by Vice Chair Ederer.
8 Any further discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: We'll take this up for a vote.
11 All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

12 (A chorus of ayes.)

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

16 We'll move on to item VI.B., Discussion and
17 possible action to modify the disbursement of purse funds
18 throughout the year.

19 Curley, will you please present this item?

20 MR. TRAHAN: Yes, sir.

21 On page 67 of your meeting material is a
22 proposal by Sam Houston Race Park to change the
23 distribution methodology of payments to the horse
24 racetracks for the purse portion of the Horse Industry
25 Escrow Account earned from the ag tax. This proposal was

1 discussed in detail at the last Commission meeting. At
2 that meeting you all approved the disbursement of the first
3 two payments for fiscal year 2021 to the racetracks based
4 on this proposal and then to take the item up again at this
5 meeting for a more permanent decision.

6 The first two payments of the purse portion of
7 the ag tax were wholly paid out to Sam Houston Race Park in
8 accordance with the proposal. The proposed methodology
9 prioritizes the payout of the purse funds according to the
10 approved schedule of live race meets rather than equal
11 monthly payments, as has been the standard in the past.

12 This means the track hosting the first meet of
13 the calendar year would get the majority of the purse funds
14 before the next track's meet funds, then funds would be
15 reduced at that track as the next track's meet approaches,
16 and so forth throughout the fiscal year.

17 This item is now before you again for a final
18 determination. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks, Curley.

20 MR. TRAHAN: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Robert, is anyone signed up to
22 speak on this item? Robert, I can't hear you if you're
23 talking.

24 MR. ELROD: I'm very sorry.

25 Marsha Rountree with Texas Horsemen's

1 Partnership is in favor. That's all we have.

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. Commissioners, any
3 questions or comments?

4 COMMISSIONER PATE: I would just remark just to
5 remind everyone that this was a real problem last year
6 because the monies had been advanced by one racetrack and
7 then we had the COVID problem, and Commissioner
8 Kleinschmidt and I, we had to really get on the ball to get
9 monies distributed and make things work, so this is great
10 that we have this agreement. And I would move the approval
11 of the modification of disbursement of purse funds
12 throughout the year as proposed.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. So that's a motion made
14 by Commissioner Pate.

15 COMMISSIONER EDERER: I'll second the motion.

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Second by Vice Chair Ederer.
17 Any further discussion?

18 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
19 Kleinschmidt. I'm assuming what we're also doing is
20 approving Sam Houston Race Park's request for the earlier
21 disproportionate disbursal of funds in that motion, that it
22 would cover and include that. Am I correct?

23 COMMISSIONER PATE: Yes, sir. We actually
24 approved those first two, I think, last meeting, Tim.

25 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: Okay. Just making

1 sure we got that covered.

2 Do we need to -- we don't need any specific
3 authorization for staff to do that, do we, as long as we
4 approve it?

5 MS. BIJANSKY: This would be the authorization,
6 the direction for staff to do that.

7 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: Okay. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. So we'll go ahead and
9 take it up for a formal vote. All those in favor, please
10 signify by saying aye.

11 (A chorus of ayes.)

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion carries.

15 Now to VI.C., the allocation of funds from the
16 Horse Industry Escrow Account to breed registries for
17 events to further the horse industry.

18 Devon, will you please present this item?

19 MS. BIJANSKY: Yes, sir.

20 Beginning on page 69 of your materials are a
21 total of eleven proposals for funding from the Horse
22 Industry Escrow Account from breed registries for events to
23 further the horse industry. There are five from the TQHA,
24 three from the TTA, and three from the Arabians.

25 Staff and the Horse Industry Escrow Account

1 Committee have reviewed these proposals and see no issues
2 that would prevent approval, and I'll defer to the
3 committee members for any other comments.

4 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
5 Kleinschmidt. I would recommend the approval of those
6 disbursements. We covered this pretty thoroughly in our
7 committee and it seems to be in good agreement across the
8 industry.

9 COMMISSIONER PATE: And I would agree with
10 Commissioner Kleinschmidt. And we tried to be, again,
11 consistent as we have been throughout this year in the
12 criteria to approve these. And these were all in
13 compliance with respect to those earlier guidelines that we
14 had set.

15 What kind of motion do you need, Devon? Could
16 it be just kind of a Mother Hubbard motion on these, do we
17 have to do them one by one, or how can we do it?

18 MS. BIJANSKY: A blanket motion is fine.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Let me just be sure we don't
20 have anyone else signed up to speak on the item. Is that
21 correct, Robert?

22 MR. ELROD: That's correct. Mary Ruyle with TTA
23 is available if you have any questions.

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thanks.

25 Go ahead, Commissioner Pate, if you were going

1 to make that motion.

2 COMMISSIONER PATE: Yes, sir. I would move the
3 approval of the applications for grants with respect to the
4 Horse Industry Escrow Account submitted in item C here
5 under chapter 303.5(e), Texas Thoroughbred Association,
6 Texas Quarter Horse Association and the Texas Arabian
7 Breeders Association, for the eleven requests submitted at
8 this meeting.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Motion made by Commissioner
10 Pate.

11 COMMISSIONER KLEINSCHMIDT: This is
12 Kleinschmidt. I'll second.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Seconded by Commissioner
14 Kleinschmidt. Any further discussion, commissioners?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: If not, I'll take it up for a
17 vote. All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

18 (A chorus of ayes.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: That motion carries.

22 There will no executive session today.

23 We are recommending we meet on the third Tuesday
24 of each even month in 2021. That means the next meeting is
25 tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 16. Things

1 could change between now and then, so we'll check with
2 everyone as we get closer.

3 The time is now 11:31, with all business
4 concluded, we are now adjourned. Thank you, everyone.

5 (Whereupon, at 11:31 a.m., the meeting was
6 adjourned.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3 MEETING OF: Texas Racing Commission
4 LOCATION: via telephone and GoToMeeting
5 DATE: December 1, 2020

6 I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages,
7 numbers 1 through 50, inclusive, are the true, accurate,
8 and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording
9 made by electronic recording by Nancy H. King before the
10 Texas Racing Commission.

11 DATE: December 8, 2020
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16
17

18 _____
19 (Transcriber)

20 On the Record Reporting
21 7703 N. Lamar Blvd., #515
22 Austin, Texas 78752
23
24