## CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS Board of Directors & Live Racing Committee Concurrent Meeting Tuesday, April 5, 2022

## **MINUTES**

A concurrent meeting of the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) Board of Directors and Live Racing Committee was held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, April 5, 2022. The meeting was conducted via teleconference originating at the CARF Office, 1776 Tribute Road, Sacramento, CA 95815.

CARF Board Directors joining by conference call: Stephen Hales, Jerome Hoban, Lauri King, Rick Pickering and Kelly Violini.

CARF Live Racing Committee members joining by conference call: Jerome Hoban, Lauri King and Rick Pickering.

Staff and Guests participating via conference call: Larry Swartzlander, Heather Haviland, Tom Doutrich, Juliana Gomes, Raechelle Gibbons, Ann Grottveit, Cody Boyles, Mike Francesconi, Greg Gomes, Jeanne Wasserman, Tiffany Burrow-Loushin and Corey Soltau.

**Agenda Item 1 – Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting:** The next CARF Board of Directors and Live Racing Committee meeting is May 3, 2022 via teleconference.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment. None.

Agenda Item 3: Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. The Board of Directors heard from legal counsel. No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 4 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any on Fantasy Sports.** Mr. Swartzlander reported that the target date for Calypso Challenge to be implemented at all satellite locations is August 1, 2022.

Mr. Swartzlander added that there had been changes to the timeline due to the resignation of Thoroughbred Owners of California "TOC" CEO Greg Avioli and a possible change in venue from Southern to Northern California. Mr. Swartzlander is hopeful that the beta test will happen in May 2022.

**Agenda Item 5 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any on Legislative Program.** Mr. Boyles noted that the legislative "spring break" was near and that legislators will return after a week off.

Mr. Boyles added that he and Mr. Hoban had met with Assemblymember Miguel Santiago, the chair of the Senate G.O. Committee, to discuss the possibility of CARF member fairs being written into the proposed sports wagering legislation. Unfortunately, Mr. Santiago echoed Senator Dodd's opinion that any compromise on sports wagering language would most likely not include the fairs.

Both the tribal gaming initiative and the FanDuel initiative have gained enough support that it is most likely California voters will see both on the November ballot. Mr. Boyles adds that while CARF member fairs will not see any inclusion in the November initiatives, cafe style sports betting in satellites may be the best route to pursue at this time.

**Agenda Item 6 – Western Fairs Association Update.** Ms. King reported that the Western Fairs Association had their board planning meeting and plans to update their bylaws and restructure the board seats. Ms. King added that once the revisions are made, they will be made available to the membership within 30 days.

**Agenda Item 7 – Financials.** Ms. Gibbons presented the preliminary financials from February 2022. No questions.

**Agenda Item 8 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any on Live Racing Operations.** Mr. Swartzlander reported that he has submitted the license for the Alameda County Fair for CHRB's review and has notified the following fairs that he will be contacting them to address their licenses. The Alameda County Fair license will be heard on May 19, 2022.

Mr. Swartzlander added for that he and Mr. Doutrich have reached an agreement on what is required to accommodate both horses and horsemen for stabling during Golden Gate Field's closure. Mr. Swartzlander noted that he will be touring the Alameda County Fair barn areas with California Thoroughbred Trainer's Alan Balch and Thoroughbred Owners of California Lindsay LaRoche to discuss any concerns either party may have.

Mr. Swartzlander included that he has reached out to the Sonoma County Fair to coordinate auxiliary stabling for their August meet. At this time Mr. Swartzlander has not had any replies from Ms. Bartling.

**Agenda Item 9 – Executive Director's Report.** Mr. Swartzlander reported that he had a successful hip replacement surgery and looks forward to travelling for the next set of meetings.

Respectfully submitted, Juliana Gomes