

**DRAFT**

**CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS  
Board of Directors & Live Racing Committee  
Concurrent Meeting  
Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

**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, February 6, 2024. The meeting was held via teleconference originating at the CARF office, 1776 Tribute Road, Sacramento, CA 95815.

CARF Board Directors joining by conference call: Daniel Castillo, Stephen Hales, Jerome Hoban, Dan Jacobs, Tom Martinez, Dana Stoehr and Kelly Violini.

CARF Live Racing Committee members joining by conference call: Jerome Hoban and Tom Martinez.

Staff and Guests participating via conference call: Larry Swartzlander, Heather Haviland, Juliana Gomes, Raechelle Gibbons, Ann Grottveit, Louie Brown, Matt Cranford, Moira Kenney, Tiffany Loushin, Ruben Gastelo, Marielena Rodriguez, Marielena Trujillo, Bill Patterson, Becky Bartling, Stacey Lapham, Annie Donahey, "Donnie", "Bill D." and "Samsung SM-A146U".

**Agenda Item 1 – Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, March 5, 2024, via teleconference.

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment.** None.

**Agenda Item 3 – Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation and Public Employee Performance Evaluation.** Ms. Grottveit reported that the CARF Board met in closed session, heard advice from legal counsel regarding several issues of anticipated litigation and took the following action:

{ACTION} The CARF Board voted unanimously, with one abstention, to approve Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association as a potential site for a fall 2024 combined-fair live racing meet during the dates being vacated by Golden Gate Fields.

**Agenda Item 4 – Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2023.** {ACTION} Mr. Martinez moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 12, 2023, as presented. Mr. Hales seconded, unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item 5 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any, on Legislative Program.** Item deferred to March 5, 2024.

**Agenda Item 6 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any, on Calypso Challenge.** Mr. Swartzlander reported that he has received a draft agreement from United Tote to provide tote services for Calypso Challenge. Mr. Swartzlander and Mr. Knapp will review the agreement and keep the Board apprised of continued negotiations. Mr. Swartzlander anticipates an Aug. 1 launch date with ADW wagering in dedicated lounges located within the satellite network facilities.

**Agenda Item 7 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any, on Fair Racing Calendar and Live Racing Operations.** Mr. Swartzlander noted that the fair racing schedule in 2024 will be similar to 2023 race dates. Mr. Swartzlander presented a working calendar with the most current schedule titled, “Northern California Dates Proposal – Draft H.” This schedule extends the Big Fresno Fair rate meet into September to help fill the gap in the calendar created by the closure of Golden Gate Fields.

**Agenda Item 8 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any, on Northern California Racing.** No report at this time.

**Agenda Item 9 – Executive Director’s Report.** Mr. Swartzlander welcomed Daniel Castillo, CEO of the San Joaquin County Fair, to the CARF Board as a newly elected at-large member.

Mr. Swartzlander and Mr. Hales reported that Thomas Keaney has been named the new CEO of the Solano County Fair and will begin serving his new position March 1.

Mr. Swartzlander reported that he will be having a TAVR valve procedure on February 8. The procedure is not overly invasive and the doctors expect a 99 percent survival rate with a two-week recovery.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Haviland