

Colorado Racing Commission
June 10, 2025
Special Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The special scheduled meeting of the Colorado Racing Commission ("Commission") was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, via video conference provided by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM.

Members Present

Tameka Sampson, Chair
Dr. Kjersten Davis, Vice Chair
Jeff Ruebel, Member

Members Absent

John Hammes, Member
Dr. Lori Scott, Member

Racing Staff Present

Michael Phibbs, Interim Director of the Division of Racing Events
David Miller, Agent in Charge
Janina Rivera, Business Analyst
Kelly Haralson, Compliance investigator III
Emily Mauer, Criminal Investigator
Emmalie Baxter, Criminal Investigator
Sanela Simic, Auditor
Dania Cobos-Bejarano, Program Assistant II
Sarah Killeen, AAG

DECISION ITEMS:

1. Approval of meeting minutes 4/9/2025
2. Consideration of 2025 meet application withdrawal for Bally's at Arapahoe Park

Senior Director Michael Phibbs, requested to remove discussion number 2 and change discussion item number 3 and replace it with Bally's Arapahoe Park withdrawal of their live race meet application. Senior Director Phibbs was notified the day before, 6/9/2025, that Bally's would like to withdraw their application.

Gil Romero, presented as Shannon Rushton, Executive Director of Operations, wasn't present due to a family emergency.

Gil Romero stated that Bally's will be withdrawing the application to start the meet August 29th, 2025, and that the new application would be submitted with new dates, opening day 9/11/2025, last race day 11/17/2025.

Gil Romero stated they have not received approval from the county to start construction of the test barn.

Chair Sampson asked, will the deadlines be met?

Gil Romero stated they have received rough inspections for 12 barns.

Gil Romero stated that it would take 3-5 workdays to finish the test barn once the approval of work is granted.

Senior Director Michael Phibbs stated that there are still key items missing from the meet application. Which are:

- Fire Inspection after construction is done.
- Jockey Insurance.
- Colorado Horsemen Association Contract (CHA).

Motion made by Chair Sampson to approve the application to withdraw from Bally's Arapahoe Park. A second was made by Commissioner Jeffrey Ruebel and seconded by Vice Chair KJersten Davis.

Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER:

1. Senior Director's Report
Senior Director Michael Phibbs reported on the process of hiring the temp positions for the live race meet. He stated a vet has been hired and won't be needing a HISA Vet. Consultant David Lermond was hired.
2. Chair Tameka Sampson was reappointed as business representative. Lorrie Scott was reappointed as industry representative.
3. Commissioner David stated she was confused about the 30 day training turning into 7 day. Senior Director Michael Phibbs explained it was a rule where the live race meet application has to be approved 60 days before the track opens and the regulation starts. He explained that he had suggested Mr. Rushton to change to a 30 day on the prior meet. Senior Director Phibbs stated that his team would need 28 days to settle down, set up licensing, test barn, equipment, barn inspection, etc. before horses are settled down. Senior Director Phibbs stated that he is willing to work with the track on a timeframe that would work for all parties.

Adjournment

The June 10, 2025 meeting of the Colorado Racing Commission was adjourned at 10:08 am.

Minutes Approved by the Commission

Dania Cobos-Bejarano

Dania Cobos-Bejarano, Program Assistant II

I certify these minutes were approved by the Commission on the 29 day of July, 2025.