

Colorado Racing Commission
July 10, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Colorado Racing Commission (“Commission”) was held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 via video conference provided by Zoom. The meeting was not called to order due to new elections of officers.

Members Present

Tameka Sampson, Vice Chair
Kjersten Davis, Member
Jeff Ruebel, Member
Jonathan Horowitz, Member
John Hammes, Member

Members Absent

None

Racing Staff Present

Donia Amick, Director of the Division of Racing Events
Janina Rivera, Executive Assistant to Division Director
Sarah Killeen, Assistant Attorney General

1. New Commissioner Introduction

This did not occur and was addressed by Director Amick later in the meeting.

2. Annual Commissioner Training

AAG Sarah Killeen provided training to the Commissioners Sampson, Davis, Ruebel and Hammes. Commissioner Davis joined the meeting around 10:00 am and did not receive the training..

Director Amick welcomed and introduced the two new Commissioners. Jonathan Horowitz and John Hammes.

DECISION ITEM

Election of Officers - AAG Sarah Killeen

Sarah Killeen, Assistant Attorney General, conducted the elections for chair and vice chair of the Colorado Racing Commission for fiscal year 2024 - 2025.

Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Sampson as chair.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to close nominations for chair with a second made by Commissioner Hammes.

Motion passed unanimously

Vote called to nominate Tameka Sampson as chair for fiscal year 2024 - 2025.

Vote passed unanimously. Tameka Sampson presented as the duly elected chair for the Colorado Racing Commission for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Commissioner Ruebel nominated Commissioner Davis as vice chair.

Vote called to nominate Dr. Kjersten Davis as vice chair for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Vote passed unanimously. Dr. Kjersten Davis presented as the duly elected vice chair for the Colorado Racing Commission for fiscal year 2024-2025.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

3. Updates concerning the 2024 Racing Season - Director Donia Amick and Shannon Rushton

Director Amick mentioned that she, Commissioner Ruebel and AIC Haralson went to the track on 7/9/2024. Director Amick mentioned that Arapahoe county has posted a do not occupy for barns 1 - 33. Shannon Rushton does have a copy of this as well. Director Amick also mentioned that the county has also posted a stop work order on the Division of Racing Licensing office dated 6/18/2024 and South Metro Fire Department was to do an inspection of the facility mid July. Director Amick also mentioned that several of these items are not due until 7/22/2024 so the Division will schedule a meeting at the end of July.

Shannon Rushton, Executive Director of Operations/Director of Racing & General Manager at Bally's Arapahoe Park welcomed Commission Hammes and Commissioner Horowitz and thanked Chair Sampson for her newly appointed role as Chair. Mr. Rushton also thanked Commissioner Davis for her newly appointed role as vice chair. Mr. Rushton had the following updates:
The IMEG report was handed to Commissioner Ruebel at his track visit as well as to Director Amick and the county was sent a copy.
He is currently working on getting a permit for the licensing office and they currently have a design professional drawing up the plans.
They have also ordered new fire extinguishers.

Matt Fout a service technician with Pye + Barker was out and did verify that the pull station (fire suppression) would work without electricity because the fire alarm system is wired through the grandstands.

The association veterinarian has submitted her application for a validation card.

The Arapahoe County health and safety inspectors want to come out for a follow up inspection once the concession stands are open during the live meet to test things such as proper heat and cooling.

He has contacted generator source which is a company they will be working with to lease generators for the horse walkers.

Randy Hill has been contacted and owns a solar power company they may use.

He asked Commissioner Ruebel to discuss his track visit.

Commissioner Ruebel stated that things are moving forward and the deferred maintenance that should have been done in the past decade is getting done now. Commissioner Ruebel stated that after reviewing the IMEG report he felt encouraged.

Chair Sampson asked Mr. Rushton if South Metro Fire Department had been out and approved the use of the generators?

Shannon Rushton said no, they have not been out but once they have the generators onsite South Metro will come out to inspect them.

Director Amick requested that Mr. Rushton provide a plan for the test barn and testing samples.

Heidi Humphreys Executive Director of the Department of Revenue commented that she has been monitoring the situation to see if and when the Division employees can go onsite. The stop work and danger signs that are posted are still a concern to the department.

OTHER:

8. Director's Report

Director Amick mentioned that temporary staff is currently getting conditional offer letters. The Division did get back the ADW numbers and were able to refund \$270,000 back to the purse fund.

Shannon Rushton wanted to add an additional item and said he met with Kim Oliver, President of the Colorado Horseman Association and informed her she can decide how to distribute the \$3,000,000,000 that is currently in the purse fund.

Public Comment

Bkemper (user name) asked if everything works out is the date of 8/12/2024 still the anticipated move in date for the horsemen?

Shannon Rushton responded that yes, 8/12/2024 will be the first day for training.

Adjournment

The July 10, 2024 meeting of the Colorado Racing Commission was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the Commission

Janina Rivera
Janina Rivera, Executive Assistant to the Director

I certify these minutes were approved by the Commission on the 14th day of August,
2024.