



ASHA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes **for July 6, 2023**

(Meeting online via Teams Meeting)

Attended: Don McDougall, Jackson Wittup, Kelly Crump, Jacques Lambert, Jocelyn Giesbrecht, Bret Litke, John Hind, Nancy Retzlaff, Brandon Campbell, Dave Kelly and Tim Lake

Absent:

Also attending Executive Director Fred Gillis (no vote)

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion Carried

Moved by John Hind and seconded by Jacques Lambert

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for May 20th, 2023

Moved by Tim Lake and seconded by John Hind.

Motion Carried

3. Review of outstanding Action Items

4. Kent Verlik / Dawn Lupal

Kent and Dawn want to attend one of our board meetings and discuss the results of the surveys that were sent to the board members. They will do a presentation about this and have a round table discussion with the board. They are planning on attending the board meeting in September which will be in Leduc.

5. HRA UPDATE–John Hind/Don McDougall:

John Hind

At the end of May, the casino revenues were down about 4%, however, fortunately John has 5% risk in cashflow because of knowing we would more than likely lose money because of the new casino in Calgary. Century Downs had a bad month and is down \$300,000. Century Mile is doing well as they are up \$200,000 in cashflow.

Regarding the B-track, Max Gibb is going to take over for a year and then Kurt Belich from Track on 2 will take over for the B-tracks.

Don McDougall

HRA Governance/Regulatory – There have been some issues with thoroughbred and ruling into a directive to make a rule which did not go through the correct process and was rescinded. We are supposed to receive an update on that in the next regulatory committee meeting in about a month from now.

We are starting to get notes and reminders about the 2024 Horse Population Initiative (HPI). So, by the September meeting we should start discussing rule changes, if there are any required. Those submissions have to be in around November 15, 2023. They are supposed to be finalized by early October 2023.

Race Dates – the next meeting was supposed to be on July 11th, 2023 but it was changed to July 18th, 2023 instead. We have been asked to keep an open mind as HRA and Century have put together a proposal. We are most likely going to have to have a board call at the end of July 2023, and I will be touching base with everyone about this.

6. 2023 RACING

a) Financial Report by John Hind – (report included in meeting package)

John goes over the ASHA budget with the board.

b) Handle/Purse Report by Fred Gillis

Fred spoke about how in 33 race days we are so far averaging \$74,415.15. We were supposed to be at \$68,701.00 by the end of the year, but we lost a day so we moved up and can now average \$69,605.00. We are over \$5000 a day and over 33 days that is a lot of money. The good thing is that we have 5 target dates (July 22, August 5, September 23, October 21 and November 4) where there are very few overnights, so I am confident that it will come back to the average where it is supposed to be.

c) President's Report by Don McDougall (report included in meeting package)

- I. Social Media Update
- II. Executive Committee

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Breeders Committee – Kelly Crump

Discussion about the preparation for the 2023 Yearling Sale.

b) Owners Committee – Nancy Retzlaff

Nancy has helped immensely with the look and management of the ASHA website as well as creating posts for our Facebook pages.

c) Drivers/Trainers Committee – Brandon Campbell

Brandon has been working with Josh Murphy at Century Downs and overall this is a good experience as they are working well together. There have been issues regarding helping people who are concerned about not having a place to stable.

d) Racing Committee – Jacques Lambert

The Board has a discussion about how a lot of issues that come up at the track.

e) Promotions and Events – Bret Litke

Summary: Bret spoke about how he is crunched for time and that Nancy Retzlaff will be helping with moving along the Promotions and Events for the unforeseeable future.

Bret Spoke about some big events coming up which includes “Women in Racing”.

~~~~~

**REMINDER!** - **All Committee Chairs** are requested to email their reports to Laura Webster (laura@asha.ab.ca) one (1) week prior of scheduled Board Meetings so they can be sent as one package to all members of the Board.