

Virginia Racing Commission

MINUTES

OF THE

COMMISSION MEETING

Friday, December 12th, 2014

**Patrick Henry Building
East Reading Room
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219**

In Attendance

Commission Members:

J. Sargeant Reynolds, Jr., Chairman
D.G. Van Clief, Jr., Vice Chairman
Carol G. Dawson
Stran Trout
I. Clinton Miller

Commission Staff:

Bernard J. Hettel, Executive Secretary
Courtney C. Reid, Program Support Technician
Kimberly C. Mackey, Office Administrator
David S. Lermond, Deputy Executive Secretary/Fiscal Officer

Office of Agriculture and Forestry

Sam Towell, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
Carrie Chenery, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

Attorney General's Office:

Joshua Laws, Esq.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reynolds at 10:01 AM.

The minutes from the October 15th, 2014 Racing Commission Meeting were unanimously approved.

New business before the Commission included renewal applications for the Account Deposit Wagering (ADW) Companies EZHorseplay, TVG, XpressBet and TwinSpires. Executive Secretary, Bernard Hettel, recommended approval of all four licenses up for renewal.

Before making a motion, Assistant Attorney General Josh Laws, stated the following: “11VAC10-45-20A states No account wagering license shall be granted by the commission unless the applicant meets the criteria specified in section §59.1-369 of the code of Virginia and these regulations. Section §59.1-369 states among other criteria, Notwithstanding the provisions of § 59.1-392, the allocation of revenue from advance deposit account wagering shall include (i) a licensee fee paid to the Commission; (ii) an additional fee equal to 10 percent of all wagers made within the Commonwealth placed through an advance deposit account wagering licensee, out of which shall be paid: (a) one-half to all unlimited licensees and (b) one-half to representatives of the recognized majority horsemen groups.”

Josh Laws then made a motion to grant an ADW license to the applicants who applied for 2015 renewal and are in full compliance with §59.1-369 of the Code of Virginia and all other applicable laws and regulations by January 1, 2015. Upon such demonstration, which may be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Virginia Racing Commission, we approve the applicants ADW renewal license application and grant a license until such time as an unlimited licensee has been granted under §59.1-375, 378 and 382 or the license expires pursuant to 11VAC10-45-20B. If the applicants have not demonstrated compliance by Jan 1st, the Executive Secretary shall be permitted to stay the expiration of any licenses until such time as the VRC can conduct further proceedings related to the conditions described herein.

EZHorseplay, TVG, XpressBet and TwinSpire were each unanimously approved for the renewal of their Account Deposit Wagering license for 2015 upon completion of the conditions set forth above.

Ian Stewart, President of Colonial Downs, introduced Stan Guidroz, who will begin to oversee the operations of Colonial Downs in January 2015.

Debbie Easter, President of the VTA, introduced Jeb Hannum who is the Interim Executive Director of the Virginia Equine Alliance (VEA). The VEA is a collaboration of the VAHBPA, VHHA, VTA and the Virginia Gold Cup Association, who are all working together in order to grow the horse racing industry in the Commonwealth and seek more racing opportunities.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.