

TTA Board of Directors Meeting
August 25, 2018 10:30a.m. Lone Star Park

The meeting was called to order and the roll was called with the following directors present: Adger, Asmussen, Carson, Deal, Johnsen, Leckinger, Moulton, Schafer, and Stephens. Directors Eoff, Mallet, Moore, Peek, Sheffield, Tracy, Vardeman and Witt participated via conference call, along with TTA Accountant Cheri Grant. Directors Adams, Bryant, Savage and Smith did not participate. TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle participated along with Accreditation and Racing Manager Jennifer Gibbs, and Director of Sales Tim Boyce.

Director Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 23 Board of Directors meeting. Director Adger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Cheri Grant presented the financial report for the fiscal year through July 31, 2018.

Mary Ruyle discussed the process for using TTA-controlled source funding generated from cross-species simulcasting to help fund stakes purses, specifically the Texas Stallion Stakes. Since source funding is paid to TTA on a monthly basis by the greyhound tracks, there are times when the total committed amount is not available to transfer to the track's stakes purse account. This puts the racetrack in the position of covering the shortfall, and there has been some reluctance to do so.

Director Carson made a motion that TTA, upon request from the host racetrack, shall remit from its General Account all committed source funding to the track's stakes purse account at the time the affected races are run, with reimbursements to be made upon receipt of source funds from greyhound tracks. Director Johnsen seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Sales Director Tim Boyce provided an overview of the Texas Yearling and Mixed Sale, a free seminar conducted by representatives of equineline.com and The Jockey Club scheduled for Sunday morning in the Sales Pavilion and the Pre-Sale Party on Sunday evening in the Alysheba Room of the Lone Star grandstand.

The 2019 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale has been set for April 9th.

Ruyle presented updates on ATB breeding, racing, membership, the PAC, Educational Fund and The Paddock Foundation, and reviewed Thoroughbred wagering statistics to date at Retama Park.

Director Johnsen suggested asking Scott Wells to include the price of TTA membership in the amount paid by participants in the Lone Star Racing Club, and will follow up with him.

Ruyle reviewed actions taken at the August 14 meeting of the Texas Racing Commission, and President Leckinger led a discussion on possible legislative initiatives.

The next regular meeting will be via conference call at 7:30am on Thursday, October 4th.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.