

TTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 17, 2015 10:30am Sam Houston Race Park

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Carson and the roll was called with the following Directors present: Adger, Carson, Few, Hartis, Huntsinger, Keene, Leckinger, Penn, Savage, Tracy, and Witt. Directors Adams, Bradfield, Maikranz, Stephens, Taylor, and Vardeman participated via conference call. Directors Asmussen, Hessee, Melcher and Wiggins were absent. TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle and Accreditation/Racing Manager Jennifer Gibbs also participated, as did guests Danny Shiflett, Steve Ross from Retama Park, Schott Wells from Lone Star Park, Andrea Young and Fred Hutton from Sam Houston Race Park and John Greytok.

President Carson welcomed new TTA directors and invited racetrack representatives to address the board.

Steve Ross with Retama Park, Andrea Young and Fred Hutton with Sam Houston Race Park and Scott Wells with Lone Star Park each provided a recap of the prior year as well as plans for 2015.

John Greytok provided a brief legislative update, stating that committee appointments would be made by the end of January. Both bodies of the legislature have a significant number of new members, with seven new Senators out of 31 and a large turnover in the House as well, where almost half are freshmen or sophomore Representatives. He explained that the budget bills must have spending limits below the revenue estimates provided by the Comptroller.

President Carson reported that Fasig-Tipton has agreed to stay on to produce the upcoming 2-Year-Old Sale, but TTA must make alternate plans for future sales, as Fasig-Tipton no longer wants to participate in Texas. Director Adams provided a brief report on his legal review of the previous Sale Pavilion Partnership Agreement. Carson also reported that he and Director Stephens had a meeting with Lone Star Park's Scott Wells, who indicated that the track is interested in continuing to host Thoroughbred sales.

The board discussed possible persons/entities that may be interested in submitting proposals to conduct the sales, and possible incentives to attract horses and buyers.

Director Hartis suggested allowing horses of racing age to participate in the upcoming 2-year-old sale, and Carson agreed to discuss it with Boyd Browning and Tim Boyce.

Director Few made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 1, 2014 Board conference call meeting, the November 19, 2014 Board and Sales Committee conference call meeting, the December 19, 2014 TTA Sale Subcommittee conference call meeting and the January 6, 2015 Board conference call meeting. Director Witt seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Adger made a motion to approve the purchase of updated accounting software, which was not provided for in the current fiscal year budget. Director Carson seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Tracy made a motion to approve staff recommendations for use of source funds derived from wagering on horses at greyhound tracks. Director Carson seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Witt made a motion to approve Lone Star Park as the host for the TTA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on June 20, 2015. Director Leckinger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Adger nominated Director Rick Penn to fill the position on the Executive Committee previously held by Mark Martinez. Director Tracy seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, Director Tracy made a motion that nominations cease and Penn be elected by acclamation. Director Few seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

After a short lunch break, the meeting resumed with the presentation of committee reports and financial statements. Director Tracy reported on plans for the Paddock Foundation's inaugural Roses to Ribbons event to be held at Sam Houston Race Park prior to the end of the meet, with the goal of helping former racehorses find new homes and careers.

The next regular meeting was set for Monday, March 30 in conjunction with the 2-Year-Old Sale at Lone Star Park, with the exact location and time to be determined.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.