

TTA Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting
March 27, 2013 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Gearald Farris and the roll was called with the following directors participating: Adger, Asmussen, Carson, Farris, Few, Hartis, Hessee, Leckinger, Lovell, Maikranz, Rich, Stephens, Wiggins and Witt. Directors Allen, Bradfield, Cook, Jordan, Martinez, Milligan and Shifflett were absent. Executive Director Mary Ruyle and guests Andrea Young and Bryan Brown also participated.

President Farris asked Andrea Young, representing Sam Houston Race Park, to give her views on SJR 64 (Carona) which authorizes casino and slots gaming at racetracks and free-standing casinos. Young stated that they are supportive of the bill, particularly since it calls for a public referendum on the gaming issue. She also believes the bill provides a level playing field between the racetracks and casinos and offers a fair amount to purses. Before leaving the conference call, she encouraged all stakeholders to be supportive and work with the Senator's staff to address any concerns.

Bryan Brown then offered his comments on the bill, stating that there should be several opportunities along the way to address any issues of concern and, therefore, Retama Park and Pinnacle Entertainment are generally supportive.

After Brown departed the call, the board continued discussion of several key points in the legislation, including differing tax rates, percentage to purses, and lack of requirement for live race dates. Dr. Rich stated that a letter on behalf of Texas HORSE had been delivered to Senator Carona's office outlining that organization's concerns with the bill in its present form, which are the same concerns expressed by the TTA board.

Dr. Rich further stated that she and Mary Ruyle will seek a meeting with Senator Carona's staff the next day to review the horsemen's concerns and answer any questions. They will also state that TTA cannot support the bill in its present form. Ruyle will then provide a written report of the meeting to board members.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.