

TTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2014 12:00 NOON

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Carson and the roll was called with the following Directors participating: Adger, Asmussen, Bradfield, Carson, Hartis, Huntsinger, Maikranz, Martinez, Penn, Rich, Shifflett, Tracy, Vardeman, Wiggins and Witt. Director Few joined the meeting in progress. Directors Adams, Hesse, Leckinger, Milligan and Stephens were absent. TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle, Accountant Cheri Grant and Accreditation/Racing Manager Jennifer Gibbs also participated, as did guests TQHA Executive Director Valerie Clark and Tommy Azopardi. Director Leckinger had given his proxy to Director Maikranz and Director Stephens had given his proxy to Director Adger.

Ms. Clark discussed the TQHA Board of Directors decision to retain Austin attorney Robert Hargrove to represent horsemen's interests by intervening in the lawsuit challenging the Texas Racing Commission's rulemaking authority for pari-mutuel wagering on historical races. She stated that the Texas Thoroughbred Association and Texas Horsemen's Partnership were welcome to join in that effort with representation by Mr. Hargrove. She then departed the call.

Mr. Azopardi spoke on behalf of his client Greg La Mantia / Valle De los Tesoros Race Park in McAllen, providing an update on track plans.

Azopardi confirmed that TRC rules require provision of reasonable racing opportunities for all breeds. He urged board members to consider all options for the South Texas tracks in order to determine what will be in the best interests of all breeds and horsemen. He then departed the call.

Director Wiggins made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2014 board meeting, the September 16, 2014 Budget Oversight Committee conference call and the September 24, 2014 Nominating Committee conference call. Director Witt seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Witt made a motion to approve the slate of board candidates as recommended by the Nominating Committee, with Mike Danapas, Ed Few, Danny Keene, Tom Keith, Mark Martinez, Wes Melcher, R. L. Rieger, Brent Savage and Fred Taylor Jr. as statewide candidates, Tom Bradfield and Tracy Sheffield as Central Region candidates, and Teofilo Mallet and Hal Wiggins as East Region candidates. Director Adger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Staff was then excused from the call.

Director Adger made a motion to implement a monthly reimbursement for staff use of personal cell phones for TTA business. Director Maikranz seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Wiggins made a motion to approve renewal of the annual employment agreement for TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle. Director Witt seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Penn made a motion to present Gibbs, Grant and Ruyle with Christmas bonuses. Director Wiggins seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Adger made a motion to approve the recommended budget draft for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2015, with modifications to amounts for employee cell phone reimbursement, Christmas bonuses and any legal fees. Director Wiggins seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle then rejoined the conference call.

Director Adger made a motion to allocate funds for joint representation along with TQHA and THP by attorney Robert Hargrove in legal matters pursuant to the effort to implement pari-mutuel wagering on historical races. Director Wiggins seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m., with the date for the next meeting to be determined.