

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
ILLINOIS RACING BOARD
NOVEMBER 12, 2008
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

On Wednesday, November 12, 2008, a Regular Meeting of the Illinois Racing Board was held at 9:00 a.m. in room 040 on the 9th floor of the James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois. The following Board members were present: Chairman Joseph Sinopoli, Commissioners Dennis Bookshester, Joseph Casciato, Angelo Ciambrone, William Farley, Jr., Tim Martin, Jon Metcalf (telephonic), Michael Murphy, and Robert Winchester. Staff members Marc Laino, Shelley Kalita, Bob Lang and Mickey Ezzo were also present. Commissioners Jack Chamblin and Paul Smith were absent.

Chairman Sinopoli called the meeting to order.

Chairman Sinopoli introduced newly appointed Commissioner Michael Murphy. A resident of Normal, Illinois and a retired insurance professional, Mr. Murphy was the owner and general agent of the Van Gundy Insurance Agency from 1959 to 2000. A Director of the United States Trotting Association from 1978 to 1990, he also served on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association from 1972 to 1975, was the Director of Racing at the DuQuoin State Fair from 1968 to 1980, and was Secretary of the Hambletonian Society from 1968 to 1975. In addition, he is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Illinois Trotting/Pacing Colt Association and the Illinois Colt Association. A former racing official, he also owned, raced and bred Illinois-bred standardbreds from 1980 to 1995. His term expires July 1, 2010.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Wayne and Renee Catalano, trainer and thoroughbred owners, appealed the disqualification of their horse "Jose Adan" in the 10th race at Arlington Park on September 13, 2008. "Jose Adan" finished 1st but was disqualified for impeding the horse "Terrain."

Commissioner Casciato stated he watched the film of the race numerous times and concluded that "Jose Adan" did impede the horse "Terrain" and the unanimous decision of the stewards to disqualify "Jose Adan" be affirmed. Chairman Sinopoli seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

BOARD ITEMS

Section 31.1 of the Horse Racing Act authorizes the Board to make a charitable grant of up to \$750,000 to a non-profit organization that provides medical and family counseling and similar services to persons who reside or work on the backstretch of Illinois racetracks. The Racing Industry Charitable Foundation (RICF) applied for a grant of \$750,000 and no other applications were submitted. Funding is provided by Illinois racetracks based on each track's proportionate share of total live handle during the preceding year and is capped by statute at \$750,000 annually. Peggy Goetsch, Executive Director, appeared on behalf of RICE.

Commissioner Ciambrone moved to approve a \$750,000 charitable grant to the Racing Industry Charitable Foundation, Inc. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

Scientific Games Racing, LLC requested a totalizator license to operate during calendar year 2009. Scientific Games Racing, LLC provides totalizator services at Balmoral Park, Hawthorne Race Course and Maywood Park as well as their affiliated OTB locations. Terry McWilliams, regional sales representative, appeared on behalf of Scientific Games Racing.

Commissioner Casciato moved to approve the 2009 license for Scientific Games Racing, LLC. Commissioner Winchester seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

Amtote International, Inc. requested a totalizator license to operate during calendar year 2009. Amtote International, Inc. provides totalizator services at Arlington Park, Fairmount Park and Quad City Downs as well as their affiliated OTB locations. Tony Mara appeared on behalf of Amtote.

Commissioner Martin moved to approve the 2009 for Amtote International, Inc. Chairman Sinopoli seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

The Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (ITHA) requested a change to rule 1424.355. The rule currently states that the first race meeting of the thoroughbred racing season in Cook County shall open their backstretch and racetrack to horsemen no less than 3 weeks prior to opening day. The ITHA proposed to amend the rule by making the 3 week requirement applicable to all thoroughbred tracks located in Cook County (Hawthorne Race Course and Arlington Park). Greg Szymiski, Executive Director, and Mary Zimmerman, trainer and Board member, appeared on behalf of the ITHA. Roy Arnold, President, appeared on behalf of Arlington Park. Mr. Arnold announced that Arlington was opening their backstretch on April 15, 2009, 16 days in advance of opening day. Mr. Szymiski stated that it was acceptable to the ITHA. No action was taken on the request by ITHA.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Winchester moved that the Board approve the minutes of its regular meeting on October 14, 2008. Commissioner Ciambrone seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:20 a.m. Commissioner Farley motioned for adjournment and Chairman Sinopoli seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Laino
Executive Director