

North Dakota Racing Commission Meeting
Sky Dancer Casino & Resort
3965 Sky Dancer Way NE, Belcourt, ND
Thursday, May 12, 2022 – 1:30 pm, Central Time

Minutes

Call to Order: Chairman Hanson called the meeting to order at 1:29 p.m.

Present: Chairman John Hanson, Commissioner Richard LaFromboise, Commissioner Tracy Hanson, Commissioner Jessica Benson, Legal Counsel Carl Karpinski, Executive Director Jack Schulz, Administrative Officer Gail Allensworth, and Safety Steward/Investigator Brian Burkett

Not Present: Commissioner Tim Kreidt

Others Present: LaRoy Kingsley, Doug DeMontigny, Joyce DeMontigny, Hugh Drexler, Robbie Wilson, and James Petty

Others on the Phone: Bill Yucatonis

Chairman Hanson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Exec. Director Schulz asked to move the KK Bold presentation before the Legislative Update.

AGENDA

1. **Approval of Minutes – February 17 & 25, 2022 Meetings**
2. **New Service Provider/ADW – License Application** – ELS Gaming, LLC
3. **Legislative Update**
 - a. Strategic Planning with the Governor’s Office
 - b. 2023 Legislative Session Ideas
 - c. Administrative Rules
4. **2022 Live Race Meets**
 - a. ORDA (Chippewa Downs)
 - b. HRND (ND Horse Park)
 - c. NDRC State Race Meet Positions
5. **Strategic Planning**
 - a. Survey Results
 - b. IT Plan
6. **Breeders Fund Administration**

7. **Budget Items**

- a. Breed Fund Database
- b. Update ROAP Training & Payment
- c. Executive Director's Salary

8. **Hall of Fame**

9. **Next Meeting Dates and Locations**

- a. July meeting in Fargo – to coincide with race meet
- b. November 17 meeting in Bismarck

10. **Any other business to come before the Commission**

11. **Adjournment**

1. **Approval of Minutes – February 17 & 25, 2022 Meetings**

Previously, all Commissioners had received a copy of the minutes to review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanson and seconded by Commissioner LaFromboise to accept the minutes of February 17 & 25, 2022, as presented. All Commissioners voted aye and hearing no negative vote, the motion passed.

2. **New Service Provider/ADW – License Application** – ELS Gaming, LLC

Exec. Director Schulz provided an overview of ELS Gaming. Exec and recommended approving their ADW license conditionally upon a successful completion of their Limited Scope review from the Thoroughbred Racing and Protective Bureau (TRPB).

Exec. Director Schulz introduced Bill Yucantonis from ELS Gaming who provided additional information about their ADW application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Benson and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to approve the ADW application from ELS Gaming, LLC conditionally upon a successful completion of their Limited Scope review from the TRPB. Benson – Y, T. Hanson – Y, J. Hanson – Y, and LaFromboise – Y. Motion passed.

5. **Strategic Planning**

- a. Survey Results

Exec. Director Schulz introduced LaRoy Kingsley from KK Bold who gave a presentation of the survey results. The Commissioners asked questions which Mr. Kingsley answered.

No motions needed.

3. **Legislative Update**

- a. Strategic Planning with the Governor's Office
- b. 2023 Legislative Session Ideas
- c. Administrative Rules

- a. Strategic Planning with the Governor's Office

Exec. Director Schulz provided an update on the strategic planning with the Governor's office.

No motions needed.

b. 2023 Legislative Session Ideas

There was discussion among the Commissioners regarding being prepared for the 2023 Legislative session. Commissioner Benson and Commissioner Hanson volunteered to be on the Committee.

The motion was amended to appoint a single person to provide the leadership for the liaison committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaFromboise and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to appoint a single person to provide the leadership for the liaison committee regarding Legislative goals. LaFromboise – Y, T. Hanson – Y, J. Hanson – Y, and Benson – Y. Motion passed.

Chairman Hanson appointed Commissioner Benson to be the single point of contact for the Liaison Committee.

c. Administrative Rules

Exec. Director Schulz provided an update on the Administrative Rule changes and asked for approval on the changes.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaFromboise and seconded by Commissioner Benson to approve the Administrative Rule changes. LaFromboise – Y, Benson – Y, J. Hanson – Y, and T. Hanson – Y. Motion passed.

4. **2022 Live Race Meets**

a. ORDA (Chippewa Downs)

Chippewa Downs is set to race on the following dates: June 11 & 12, 18 & 19, 25 & 26, and July 2 & 3.

b. HRND (ND Horse Park)

The North Dakota Horse Park is set to race on the following dates: July 15 & 16, July 23 & 24, and July 30 & 31.

c. NDRC State Race Meet Positions

5. **Strategic Planning**

a. Survey Results

b. IT Plan

b. IT Plan

Exec. Director Schulz provided a PowerPoint presentation on the IT architectural overview plan for the next biennium. Potential projects were presented but need to be prioritized and cost estimates are going to be provided by IT, hopefully before the next meeting.

No motions needed.

6. **Breeders Fund Administration**

Exec. Director Schulz stated that Tammy Holm is no longer the Breed Fund Administrator due to the costs going over budget limits. Administrative Officer Gail Allensworth is handling the Breed Fund registrations for the time being.

No motions needed.

7. **Budget Items**

a. Breed Fund Database

b. Update ROAP Training & Payment

c. Executive Director's Salary

a. Breed Fund Database

This item was previously discussed under 5b.

b. Update ROAP Training & Payment

Exec. Director Schulz stated who was planning on attending the ROAP training regarding the Commission and staff. A grant was made to ORDA to pay for the ROAP training. ORDA sent in the payment to ROAP.

No motions needed.

c. Executive Director's Salary

The Commissioners discussed the executive director's salary for the next fiscal year and made a recommendation to provide a 2% legislative increase.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaFromboise and seconded by Commissioner Benson to give Exec. Director Schulz a 2% legislative increase for the next fiscal year. LaFromboise – Y, Benson – Y, J. Hanson – Y, and T. Hanson – Y. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaFromboise and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to establish a metric system to evaluate the Director position. LaFromboise – Y, T. Hanson – Y, J. Hanson – Y, and Benson – Y. Motion passed.

8. Hall of Fame

Chairman Hanson asked Commissioner LaFromboise for an update regarding a possible Racing Hall of Fame in North Dakota. Commissioner LaFromboise provided an update to the other Commissioners.

No motions needed.

9. Next Meeting Dates and Locations

- a. July 29 meeting in Fargo – to coincide with race meet. NDHP General Manager, Hugh Drexler said that he would assist in finding a meeting location, if needed.
- b. November 17 meeting in Bismarck

No motions needed.

10. Any other business which may properly come before the Commission

- Chairman Hanson expressed concern with the State Steward.

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Benson and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye and hearing no negative vote the motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.