

Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission Meeting
20February2019
Rillito Clubhouse

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
James Collins District 1	Diane Frisch
Ronnie Reyna, Chair District 2	Monica Ortega
Tim Kelly District 3	Joann di Filippo
John Ochoa District 4 (late arrival)	Mike Weiss
Geronimo Ramirez District 5	Jaye Wells
	Assistant GM Zack ...

1. Welcome and Introduction – Chairman Ronnie Reyna

Call to Order at 5:48pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

2. Approval of 16January2019 Minutes

Minutes review and approval, moved to approval by **Commissioner Ramirez, Seconded by Commissioner Tim Kelly.**

3. Treasury Report – Commissioner Tim Kelly

Reported \$400 balance. Accepted as reported.

4. Arizona Legislative Funding for Rillito

Joann - House Bill 2731 excluded Rillito; Pima County Fair Race Commission applied for State funds that are allowed; approved if \$ is put up front, the State will double it. ADOR awarded \$40,000 each to Sonoita & Douglas as they put up \$20,000 and they each received \$40,000 for their racing. ADOR awarded Globe; said they're looking at racing next year. ADOR said the \$ was held until next year until an application is submitted. Pima County and Maricopa County cannot apply for the \$ because only populations with less than 800,000 may apply for funding. Email azpeopleslobbyist.com for House & Senate to strike out line.

5. Arizona County Fair Racing Association – Commissioner Jim Collins

Happy to announce **Commissioner Jim Collins** is the President (SEE ATTACHED INFO). Globe is running next year; plan is to start right after the fair. Meeting on 27Feb for Safford & Duncan with race day on 4May.

6. Race Updates

- A) El Moro – **Commissioner Ramirez**: Scheduled for 17March. 10 Days before Stakes Race & no conditions; horsemen do not know how to get into the race. Male: disagree – posted online. Not on Equibase. Putting up \$10,000. Race may not be here next year.
- B) Pony Express – Joann: Scheduled for 17March with trials on 2March. Distributed race finances to Commissioners. All BOS except for two are giving \$ for the race. Ronnie working on Visit Tucson. Calculating at least a \$2,500 purse; kid-size t-shirt giveaway for audience. Veterinarians charging \$100 per pony. Each kid gets a 16” trophy, winner gets a 20” trophy and a medal for each pony. The winner also gets a blanket. Press will be present.
- C) Sicilian Slammer: Joann: Scheduled for 16March. Will give \$1,000 to PCFRC. Memorial race - 3yr olds and up.

7. Barn Update – Jaye or Mike

Mike: Tough couple of weeks due to rain. **Commissioner Ramirez** heard possibilities of portable stalls. Fair grounds does not have due to horse show going on. 20 more stalls needed. Currently have 118 stalls.

8. New Business

Commissioner Ramirez: Asked if better to hold meetings at 6pm versus 530pm. 3rd Wednesday of every month. Assistant GM Zack: Student program helping students with successful jobs in the racing industry. Able to work and gain school credit. Equine wellness project – general wellness seminar for horsemen on 22February. Goal is 100% pre-check for all horses scheduled to race.

Commissioner Kelly and **Chairman Reyna** met with Councilman Fimbres regarding betting parlor restriction of trying to let Jerry Sims come into Pima County. Invited to Study Session with other councilmembers to discuss the impact of stopping Turf Paradise from coming into Pima County on new parlors.

Chairman Reyna thanked Mike and Jaye; was able to get two days with KVOI Radio for Mike and Jaye to speak with Steve Rivera. Radio Personality Ed Alexander wants to interview Mike and Jaye. Received call from the John C. Scott Show and was asked to go on show to advise of statistics of number of participants 6,000 on opening Saturday, 4,000 next day.

9. Call to Audience

Female: Regarding Equine Wellness - Lots of horsemen do not understand what’s going on; appears invasive when wellness people go into the stalls prior to a race and the horsemen do not know who they are.

10. Adjournment

Next meeting is 20March2019 @ 530pm