

Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission Meeting
November 30, 2016
Draft Minutes

Present:

Commissioners:

- Zulema (Sue) Echerivel, District 1
- John Ochoa, District 4
- Geronimo Ramirez, Jr. District 5

County Liaison:

- Tom Moulton, Pima County Liaison

Meeting called to order by Chair Ramirez welcoming fellow commissioners for joining him in the second meeting of this new commission at 5:42pm.

First order of business was to approve the November 2 minutes. Motion was made by commissioner Echerivel and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa. Motion passed.

Chair Ramirez asked about the status of the remaining commissioners that needed to be appointed by District 3 and District 2 Supervisors. Moulton gave a brief report that the two BOS members have not submitted any names and recommended PCFHRC chair call those Supervisors with any recommendations he may have on individuals.

Chair Ramirez lead a discussion on securing six (6) County Fair Horse days during the race meet at Rillito. Four would be held at Rillito and two would be held at Turf Paradise. The procedure was discussed with the commissioners and JoAnn a member in the audience that has horses.

A motion was made by Chair Ramirez and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa to hold four fair horse racing days at Rillito designating February 11 -12 and March 18-19, 2017 as PC Fair Horse Racing days. Motion passed.

Nominations were made to vote for an interim Vice-Chair. Commissioner Echerivel. Motion Passed made by Chair Ramirez and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa. Secretary/Treasurer position will be delayed until all race commissioners are in place.

Discussion was held on the next meeting in relationship to agenda item VI and VI. A tentative date was scheduled for January 11, 2017.

An update was given by Moulton on the AZ Liquor License. The license application for a new agent was submitted to AZ Department of Liquor Control and Licenses. Additionally, the AZ Corporation Commission officer changes will be submitted immediately now that a Vice-Chair has been selected.

Commissioner Echerivel asked for clarification on how the Rillito Racetrack Liquor License works for racing and non-racing events.

Moulton gave a scenario on how the liquor license works.

- 1) The PCFHRC conducted fair horse race meets at Rillito
- 2) PCFHRC bought from a third party a Class 6 alcohol license for Rillito racetrack location in order to serve and sell alcohol beverages
- 3) PCFHRC decided to hire the Pima County Horseman's to operate the racetrack on their behalf including Food and Beverages (included alcohol).
- 4) Horseman's Association ran the operations of Rillito for 20 years and added additional racing to the park creating a commercial race meet.
- 5) Rillito Racing Inc. took over the racing operations contracting with Pima County the owner of the racetrack. The alcohol operations with the use of the PCFHRC alcohol license was granted giving 5% of the gross revenues to the PCFHRC to use for purses.
- 6) There are some third party events held at Rillito Regional Park. This events may elect to obtain a special event liquor license from the state. Since only one license can be active per property, the PCFHRC license is suspended during that special event. The special event or through the NRPR representative, makes the request to PCFHRC to suspend the license through the chair. The chair then sends a notification to Arizona Liquor to temporarily suspend the license.

There is also an option for Rillito Racing to provide the alcohol services to a third party event but only with permission from the PCFHRC and NRPR. These are done minimally at Rillito, but Rillito Racing would like PCFHRC to consider allowing more of these arrangements to take place in the future. These decisions would be up to NRPR.

- 7) Each year the Liquor License has to be renewed with the Arizona Department of Liquor. Those fees are paid for by Rillito racing per an agreement with the PCFHRC.
- 8) All liability insurance is covered by the horse track operating partner, Rillito Racing. PCFHRC is added to the liability insurance as additional insured.

Commissioner Ochoa asked about additional revenue opportunities. It was explained since the operational agreement is between the County and Rillito Racing for a horse racing meet, that two revenue streams are possible for the PCFHRC. These two streams include alcohol shared revenues and revenue received from Fair Horse Race meets. Moulton mentioned that all net proceeds from the horse meet must go back into the track.

NRPR agreed to write up the procedures on how this all works and will be sent to the Commissioners. The Commissioners would like to have a meeting with NRPR to discuss on how best to work together on third party events that may want to utilize the serve Rillito Racing would like to offer.

Discussion was held on the current alcohol use agreement with Rillito Racing and PCFHRC. It was agreed to keep the current agreement in place for the 2017 race meet by the commissioners. Commissioner made the motion by Commissioner Ramirez and seconded by Commissioner Echerivel that the current agreement be to uphold the current agreement that 5% of the net profits from alcohol funds go to support the race meet purses and all expenses to maintain the Arizona Liquor License and city taxes paid by Rillito Racing.

Final items discussed was an overview of the item in front of the BOS to extend the operating agreement until 2021. Mr. Wells discussed the relationship with soccer and how he has been trying to work with the Tucson Soccer Academy. Not all has gone well but the future of horse racing depends on a multi-use strategy at Rillito Racetrack. Audience asked the commissions to get with their supervisors to support racing.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Moulton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tom Moulton
Pima County Liaison