

Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission Meeting
November 18, 2020
Rillito Clubhouse

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ronnie Reyna, Chair
John Ochoa
Tim Kelly

OTHERS PRESENT

Martina Gonzales
Jaye Wells
Claudia Alvarez

ABSENT

James Collins
Geronimo Ramirez

- 1) Welcome and Introduction
Call to order at 5:30 pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.
 - 2) Approval of February 19, 2020 minutes
Commissioners made a motion to approve and second the minutes.
 - 3) Discussion of Racing Dates for 2021: Claudia Alvarez, Member of the University of Arizona, representing Mike Weiss spoke to the commission. She was asked whether she had received any dates but she informed them that she had not received them yet. She reminded them that the County Fair dates had to be approved by the Board of Supervisors at their December 1, 2020, meeting and that approval had to be taken to the Arizona Department of Racing in January 2021. Mr. Reyna said that they had discussed dates with Ms. Martina Gonzales and they will go to Mr. Robert Padilla, so the dates can be scheduled. Mr. Reyna was asked about future racing dates and he said that due to COVID, nothing was sure at this time but that racing could not survive without spectators. He said that if the race track was just breaking even with 4,000 spectators, it would not survive with 2,000. The Rodeo has also been cancelled for next year. Mr. Reyna explained that NRPR obtained a government liquor license and asked Ms. Gonzales whether the county will get a percentage of their sales. Mr. Reyna stated they do not have to pay state tax for 5 months if they keep liquor certificate. Mr. Reyna wants to use it for events, etc. Mr. Wells explained he had to get rid of it or sell it.
 - 4) Updates on 2020 Season (Ed Ackerley)
 - 5) Treasurer Report (Tim Kelly)
 - 6) PCFHRC Status (Ronnie Reyna): FHRC will be disbanded.
8. Call to Audience:
The horsemen are not happy that they will not have a voice, and asked who will submit their dates for them, it needs to be a non-profit group. Joanne (past Miller asst.)

encouraged the group to go to board meeting on 12-1-20 & to call their board members.

Horsemen asked whether this year's last four races will take place and are happy that dates have been submitted. They asked if they could practice at track for 2-3 months longer and could pay. They also asked who would do the advertising for them. Mr. Tellez said it's not that easy to practice since insurance is involved plus sports groups are using the infields.

9. Adjournment:

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Next meeting is February 17, 2021 at 5:30pm