

# THOROUGHBRED RACING ASSOCIATION of OKLAHOMA

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The TRAO Board Meeting was called to order at 10:05 p.m. March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013, by President Bill Anderson.

Roll was called and a quorum was determined.

TRAO Board members present:

Bill Anderson	Yes	Bob Listen	Yes
Wilson Brown	Yes	Randy Oberlander	Yes
Randy Blair	Yes	Joe Offolter	Yes
Ellen Caines	Yes	John Smicklas	Yes
Boyd Caster	Yes	C.R. Trout	Yes
Joan Charlton	Yes	Robert Zoellner	Yes
David Faulkner	Yes		

TRAO staff members present: Danielle Barber, Tammy Wright, Joe Lucas and Accountant, Ric Hedges.

C.R. Trout made a motion to amend the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 minutes to reflect John Smicklas abstaining on the approval of the financials, Randy Blair seconded, motion passed unanimously.

David Faulkner moved to approve the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 minutes with amendments John Smicklas seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Accountant, Ric Hedges, discussed the status of the two new entities. Mr. Hedges is in process of applying for the exemptions, once the budget is approved the application for the exemption should be filed. Mr. Hedges will then apply with the IRS not sure what the timeline will be to get them approved. Question was asked if we could start accepting funds, Mr. Hedges stated yes, but for unforeseen reasons that the IRS doesn't accept our application the funds will not be taxed exempt.

Joe Lucas, Administrative Liaison Report - Horse Slaughter issue. Meat will not be eligible for human consumption. Mr. Lucas believes we need to set back and wait to see what happens in the future with this issue.

Mr. Lucas talked about the Human Society. He stated, they are looking for major contributions and are trying to build an Equine Retirement Center for all horses. Mr. John Smicklas told them the Thoroughbred Industry could not help them because of the wording that was established being that we are strictly helping the horse that helps our industry.

Mr. Lucas discussed his meeting with Ron Shotts. Mr. Shotts is meeting with the Tulsa County Fair Authority to discuss the proposal of moving the race days to Remington Park and Will Rogers Downs for 2013. Mr. Shotts proposal will be to run 13 days between July 1<sup>st</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Fair meadows and 10 days at RP and 13 days at the current TB Meet at Will Rogers Down. This has yet to be decided, but in the next two weeks if this doesn't happen the plan will be running all races at Fair Meadows. With the legislation, all meets cannot have a 20 day gap. Mr. Lucas stated that legislatively they are trying to remove the 20 day restriction for fair meets in 2014. This will open the door for the other two tracks.

Mr. Lucas discussed the Economic Impact. Mr. Lucas has concerns that horsemen are not getting involved enough and wants to stress that this should include all horsemen within the industry.

Mr. Lucas reviewed a letter from Matt Vance of Remington Park regarding RPDC and the possibilities of two new OTB's.

Bill Anderson has requested Mr. Lucas to discuss his current contract with the board.

John Smicklas made a motion to go into executive session, and to excuse the staff, Bob Listen seconded, motion passed unanimously.

C.R. Trout made a motion to accept Joe Lucas to be hired as a contract employee with a salary in the amount of \$125,000 and his new title being Executive Vice President, John Smicklas seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Danielle Barber discussed the Executive Committee recommendations that we hire an Administrative Assistant and is requesting board approval of the full-time employee at \$13.00 per hour.

Robert Zoellner made a motion to approve of the hiring of the employee, Randy Blair seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Danielle Barber had concerns with Marty Howerton conducting the 2012 audit and made a recommendation to the board that we find someone local for logistics purposes to do the 2012 audit.

Robert Zoellner made a motion to remove Marty Howerton and get three bids for the 2012 audit, Joan Charlton seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee reviewed the 2013 budget with the board.

John Smicklas made a motion to accept the proposed 2013 Budget, C.R. Trout seconded motion passed unanimously


Danielle Barber had several different options to the Stallion Stakes to keep it up and running.

Joan Charlton made a motion for the advisory committee to come up with something that is feasible for all involved, to help promote breeding in Oklahoma, Robert Zoellner seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Barber discussed the proposal from TVG that was tabled at the last board meeting. Remington Park was seeking \$50,000 for the proposed plan.

C.R. Trout makes a motion to approve the TVG proposal in the amount of \$50,000, contingent on the funds are written to TVG, Wilson Brown seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Dave Faulkner made a motion to adjourn, Joe Offolter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

  
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Bill Anderson, President

5-30-13  
Date