

THOROUGHBRED RACING ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA

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Wednesday, December 13, 2023

The TRAO Board Meeting was called to order at 11:30am, Wednesday, December 13, 2023, by Board President Joe Offolter, located at TRAO building.

Roll was called and a quorum was determined.

TRAO Board members present:

Randy Blair	Yes (<i>zoom</i>)	Mike Major	No
Mike Biehler	Yes	Kenny Nolen	No
Danny Caldwell	No	Joe Offolter	Yes
Boyd Caster	Yes	C.R. Trout	No
Terry Westemeir	Yes (<i>zoom</i>)	Scott Young	Yes
Bryan Hawk	Yes	Robert Zoellner	Yes(<i>zoom</i>)
Theresa Luneack	Yes (<i>zoom</i>)		

Also, in in attendance Danielle Barber, Tammy Wright, Joe Lucas and Gary Huddleston with Huddleston Investments. John Lies with Will Rogers Downs was present via zoom.

Scott Young made a motion to approve the October 11, 2023, TRAO board meeting minutes, Bryan Hawk seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Danielle Barber submitted the proposed TRAO lobbyist Gary Huddleston's 2024 contract for board approval, there are no changes at this time from his 2023 contract.

Mike Biehler made a motion to accept Gary Huddleston's 2024 contract as presented, Bryn Hawk seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Racing Secretary John Lies discussed his proposed thoughts for the upcoming 2024 Will Rogers Downs thoroughbred meet. His agenda topics were backside move in date, race dates (to include running on KY Derby Day), purse structure, the WRD stall application and adding a new Stakes. Mr. Lies informed the Board that WRD would be allowing 2 year old's on the grounds for 2024. Furthmore, Mr. Lies discussed the possibility of running a 2 year old stakes race for Colts and Geldings and Fillies. John Lies left the zoom call at 11:45am.

Bryan Hawk made a motion not to allow WRD to use pure money for a 2-year-old stakes race but allow a 2-year-old MSW at the end of the meet. Mike Biehler seconded, Boyd Caster opposed, the motion passed.

Bryan Hawk made a motion allow purse money for a new straight 3-year-old stakes races (for fillies and colts and geldings) at \$75,000 to be run approximately the 3rd week of racing, Scott Young seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Bryan Hawk made a motion to approve 2024 WRD Purse Structure, as presented, Scott Young seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Danielle Barber reviewed the 2023 TRAO 3rd Quarter Financials with the board. Ms. Barber also presented the 2023 audit engagement letter from CPA, Boyd Music.

Scott Young made a motion to approve the 2023 TRAO 3rd Quarter Financials, Bryan Hawk seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee presented the proposed budgets for full board approval of the TRAO 2024 Benevolence Budget, Administrative Budget and the Breeders Budget.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Bryan Hawk made a motion to accept the TRAO 2024 Benevolence Budget, Mike Biehler seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Bryan Hawk made a motion to accept the TRAO 2024 Administrative Budget, Mike Biehler seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Scott Young made a motion to accept the TRAO 2024 Breeders Budget, Bryan Hawk seconded the motion passed unanimously.

Joe Lucas an industry update on legislation issues in Oklahoma and the status of the HISA lawsuit in the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Danielle Barber presented the Remington Park purse report and the handle report.

Danielle Barber discussed the current retired thoroughbred payout of \$200 for retrained thoroughbred horses and \$150.00 for pension thoroughbred horses.

Boyd Caster made a motion to increase the retired thoroughbred payout from \$200 for retrained thoroughbreds to \$250.00 and leave the pension payout the same, Scott Young seconded, the motion passes unanimously.

The PTF was presented to the Board. No action was taken.


The TRAO Board was given the Losing Jock Mount comparison from other surrounding racetracks. No action was taken.

Bryan Hawk updated the Board on the Advisory Committee meeting. More information was requested by Mr. Hawk and another Advisory Meeting will be set for 2024.

Bryan Hawk made a motion to go into Executive Session without staff present, Scott Young seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Scott Young made a motion to come out of Executive Session, Bryan Hawk seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Bryan Hawk made a motion to adjourn, Scott Young seconded, the motion passed unanimously.



Joe Offolter, President

Date 3-20-24