

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
HORSE RACING ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Constitution Hall
Coleman Young Conference Room
525 W Allegan St
Lansing, MI 48933**

and

**Remote Technology via Microsoft Teams
Dial: 1-248-509-0316, Conference ID 474 016 094#**

**MEETING MINUTES
August 24, 2023**

PRESENT IN PERSON:

Brian Nielsen, Chair, Horse Racing Advisory Commission
Thomas Barrett, Member, Horse Racing Advisory Commission
Michael Carlo, Member, Horse Racing Advisory Commission
Sylvia Renteria, Member, Horse Racing Advisory Commission

PRESENT REMOTELY:

William Frank, Member, Horse Racing Advisory Commission

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Nielsen called the meeting of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Horse Racing Advisory Commission (MDARD HRAC) to order at 2:00 p.m. on August 24, 2023. Roll call was taken by each member introducing themselves.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: MR. BARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA FOR AUGUST 24, 2023. SECONDED BY MR. CARLO MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: MR. CARLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE JULY 20, 2023, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MR. BARRETT. MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The currently next scheduled meeting is September 21, 2023, to be held at Constitution Hall, 525 W Allegan St, Lansing, MI at 2:00 p.m. Remote technology via Microsoft Teams will also be offered. The commission discussed amending the schedule and decided to wait until the end of the meeting.

UPDATE ON THE CIVIC ECONOMICS PROJECT

Chairman Nielsen asked if any additional corrections were needed for the original report. No commissioners found issues with the original report. Chairman Nielsen also

presented a future report possibility from the company. The Chair opened discussion if this future report would be beneficial to the commission. Commissioner Carlo agreed the new report would be helpful. Commissioner Barrett agreed the future report would be helpful in promoting racing. All commissioners agreed that an outside report would be unbiased. Commissioner Barrett will review the request and submit to MDARD's Finance Department to start the process. The commission agreed procurement will stay under the maximum amount.

PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN ITEMS

Commissioner Barrett explained the sale bill has been released. All grant agreements are in the process and will be submitted by the end of the week.

RACING AND GAMING CONFERENCE AT SARATOGA SPRINGS:

Commissioner Carlo explained his recent trip to Saratoga Springs for the Racing and Gaming Conference. He explained the experience of Saratoga Springs keeps the public entertained for multiple hours to keep the public engaged. The conference did discuss Historical Horse Racing (HHR) and the profits the industry is seeing across the nation.

OTHER

Commissioner Carlo updated the commission on the license and approvals from Plymouth Township on the new Northville Downs construction.

Commissioner Barrett explained Current Meet live racing is up from last year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

MOTION: MR. CARLO MOVED POSTPONE THE SEPTEMBER 21ST MEETING TILL OCTOBER 26TH AT 2:00 PM, AT CONSTITUTION HALL TO THE 2023 MEETING SCHEDULE. SECONDED BY MR. BARRETT. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURN

MOTION: MR. BARRETT MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MR CARLO SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:59 P.M.