

MINUTES
WV RACING COMMISSION
Monday, January 27th, 2025
WV Racing Commission Conference Room

The WV Racing Commission met on January 27th, 2025, to conduct business and consider administrative matters. Roll call was taken, and present was Commissioner Chip Urling, Commissioner Paul Espinosa and Commissioner Tony Figaretti.

Agenda Item #1 – Annual Election of Chairman

First Item is the annual election of Chairman. Commissioner Urling makes a motion that for 2025 we elect Commissioner Espinosa as Chairman. Commissioner Figaretti seconds the motion. Commissioner Espinosa was asked by Director Moore to comment, and he stated that it would be an honor to serve. Director Moore informs the meeting that the rest of the meeting is Chairman Espinosa's. Chairman responds. Well, to my fellow commissioners, I certainly appreciate your confidence. And as I indicated, I'm certainly happy to serve. So, with that, let's get to it.

Motion made by Commissioner Urling.
Seconded by Commissioner Figaretti Motion passed.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of December 17th minutes

Chairman Espinosa would like to present the approval of our December 17th minutes. Commissioner Urling would like to approve as submitted.

Motion made by Commissioner Urling.
Seconded by Commissioner Figaretti Motion passed.

Agenda Item #3 – Executive Director's Report

Chairman Espinosa would like to let Director Moore present the Executive Directors Report. Mr. Moore forwarded the documents to the commission. It shows through the first six months of the fiscal year, you'll see in your parimutuel wagering comparison that each of the tracks collectively are down about 5.75 percent, with Wheeling Island being your lone track that is outperforming fiscal year 24 in the live handle. Your export handle is down about 5.5% as well, making total in-state handle, which our administrative dollars are calculated on, at nearly 7.5% below last year. I've also provided you the calendar year 2024 advanced deposit wagering detail reports. You've got each month from each of our ADW providers, the distributions of those dollars for the entire year, and what hit the administrative accounts. In your year-to-date administrative report, your account status report. I provided that year to date through December. You can see in our administrative funds where we are through the first six months. We're really in a similar position as we've been in in previous years. There're administrative transfers yet to be made in 7305 that will bring that deficit back into a positive number through the first six months of the fiscal year. I also provided you with a legislative proposal form that was provided to the Secretary of Revenue's office last week for their and the Governor's recommendation in the upcoming legislative session. Unless you have any questions about the reports I've provided to you for your review, that

will conclude my Executive Director's report.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling.
Seconded by Chairman Espinosa Motion passed.*

Agenda Item #4 – Legal Update

Mr. Moore stated that Anthony was unable to be here or provide us with any details this morning. I will follow up with him as soon as I'm able to see if there's any updates that you need to be provided on before the February meeting, and if so, I'll forward them out to you.

Agenda Item #5 – Wheeling Island Requests approval of 2025 Stakes Schedule

Chairman Espinosa would like to present the request from Wheeling Island and ask Mr. Moore to explain the request. Yes, sir. Each year, Mardi Gras and Wheeling Island both submit to you two stakes races for your approval, a \$35,000 juvenile and a \$65,000 open. These races, the purses for these races are paid out of the Greyhound Breeding Development Fund so \$200,000 comes out each year for these two races. The change at Wheeling this year, they're submitting the usual 5/16th juvenile race. They're proposing to repeat that distance for the championship race this year rather than run it at 3/8th. I was provided with some information from track management that just with the availability of that particular grade of dog for distances, it made more sense to card a 5/16 open championship race than did a 3/8. Mr. Moore is told that they had the buy-in of the Kennels Association on that change as well. So unless there are any questions about that, and if so, I know Kim Florence is on the line this morning, I would recommend this agenda item for approval.

*Motion made by Commissioner Figaretti
Seconded by Commissioner Urling
Motion passed.*

Agenda Item #6 – Charles Town Requests approval of modification to 2025 wagering format

Chairman Espinosa would like to present the request from Charles Town request for approval modification to its 2025 wagering format. Director Moore explained that Management at the track has requested that we approve them to make a modification. They'd like to add an additional PIC 5 wager format to what they're currently running, which would result in an early PIC 5 and a late PIC 5 for the patrons that they're offering for more wagering opportunities to the public there. Unless you have any questions, other Charlie's on the line today, but I would recommend the request for approval. Charlie commented This PIC 5 is popular and we wanted to end it to the early part of the card which is kind of weak right now for us. we're looking for that to kind of strengthen the early part of our waging format.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling.
Seconded by Commissioner Figaretti Motion passed.*

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comments

No public comments

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling.
Seconded by Chairman Espinosa Motion passed.*