

KANSAS RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION

MINUTES – JULY 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER (A.)

Chairman David Moses called the July 18, 2025, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Eisenhower State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas. Notice of this meeting was given to the public via the KRGC and Public Square websites and the agency's social media pages. Commissioners Brandon Jones and Mike Fleming were also present. Commissioner Turnquist was absent. Others present included Executive Director Don Brownlee, General Counsel Judith Taylor, Director of IT&C-s Dennis Bachman, Director of Security, Licensing, and Backgrounds Roger Bailey, Director of Gambling DJ Lopez, Director of Casino Operations Rick Wilson, Government Relations Manager Randy Evans, and other staff.

MOTION, APPROVE AGENDA (B.)

Executive Director Brownlee noted that the agenda had been amended explaining that item G.2, a license hearing, has been removed from the original agenda.

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION, APPROVE JUNE 13, 2025 MEETING MINUTES (C.)

Commissioner Fleming (Jones) moved to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2025, meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION, APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA (D.)

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved to approve the consent agenda (five items). Motion carried 3-0.

LOTTERY GAMING FACILITY REPORTS/ITEMS; BOOT HILL CASINO & RESORT (E.1.a.)

Ryan Deutsch, General Manager, reported:

- June 2025 revenue numbers compared to June 2024:
 - Total gaming revenue decreased 3.68%
 - Total slot revenue was down 5.47%
 - Table games revenue was up 16.39%
- June 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Revenue \$30,487.00
 - Up 190.28% from June 2024.
 - Handle was \$89,985.00 down 55.2%
 - Hold was up 544.33%
 - Digital Sportsbook Revenue: \$7,281,922.00
 - Up 54.39% from June 2024.
 - Handle was \$75,540,547.00 up 14.05%
 - Hold was up 26.64%
- Upcoming Events and Promotions:
 - June

- 2x Tuesdays – Every Tuesday in June: Players Club members earn 2x Entries for Ultimate Getaway Grand Prize Drawing all day
- Adventure Hot Seats – Drawings every Saturday for free play prizes and bonus entries
- Blackjack Tournaments – Saturdays
- VIP Gift Promotions
- Father’s Day Slot Tournament
- Coca-Cola Giveaway (6/7/25)
- Boot Hill Classic Golf Tournament (6/28/25)
- Ultimate Nashville Getaway – 5/26/25-8/2/25: Grand Prize winner receives a VIP trip to Nashville or \$20,000 cash to plan the trip of their dreams
- July
 - 2x Tuesdays – Every Tuesday in June: Players Club members earn 2x Entries for Ultimate Getaway Grand Prize Drawing all day
 - Adventure Hot Seats – Drawings every Saturday for free play prizes and bonus entries
 - Blackjack Tournaments – Saturdays
 - City of Dodge City Fireworks Show
 - Free Hot Dog Day (7/16/25)
 - Dodge City Days Party Pit
 - Dodge City Days Promotions
 - Ultimate Nashville Getaway – 5/26/25-8/2/25: Grand Prize winner receives a VIP trip to Nashville or \$20,000 cash to plan the trip of their dreams
- Upcoming Entertainment & Events
 - Larry the Cable Guy – June 28
 - Los Tucanes De Tijuana - August 20
 - Rick Springfield – July 25
 - Dustin Lynch – July 26
 - Carlos Mencia – August 29
 - Hairball – September 20
 - MercyMe – November 7
- Chairman Moses asked if the facility does anything in partnership or support of the local community college. General Manager Deutsch responded that the facility does, for example the facility pays for the 300 acres surrounding the facility to be cut and baled and those bales are donated to the college’s rodeo program. Chairman Moses asked if the facility supports the college’s sports programs. General Manager Deutsch responded that the facility does not necessarily with a straight monetary donation, but the college does have several fundraisers throughout the year and the facility does different donations to those fundraisers.
- Semi-Annual Responsible Gambling Report
 - 243 active employees as of June 30, 2025
 - 55 hired during the reporting period

- 45 new hires have taken TIPS testing during the reporting period
- 31 existing employees have recertified their TIPS testing for another 3-year period
- All active employees are scheduled to take annual refresher training for TIPS/Responsible Alcohol Service by the 4th Quarter of 2024
- BHCMC, LLC has two certified TIPS Trainers on property
- 55 new hires have taken Responsible Gaming during the reporting period
- All active employees are scheduled to take annual refresher training for Responsible Gaming during the 4th Quarter of 2023
- 0 VEPs were refused entry to the casino floor
- 7 VEPs were removed from the casino floor
- 76 individuals were refused entry because they appeared intoxicated
- 42 individuals were removed because they appeared intoxicated
- 140 minors were refused entry to the casino floor
- 0 minors were removed from the casino floor
- 284 patrons were refused entry for not having an ID
- 227 patrons were refused entry for having an invalid ID
 - Chairman Moses asked how VEPs access the gaming floor and how the facility determines them to be VEPs. General Manager Deutsch explained that the facility's ID checking system does not have a way to integrate the VEP data and that the facility is currently looking at several programs to update their software. If a VEP plays with a card or is recognized, which causes an alert, and the standard procedure would take place. Chairman Moses noted that presumably that if the facility had that software in place, the number of VEPs refused entry would increase and the number of VEPs removed from the casino floor would decrease. General Manager Deutsch responded that it would help. Chairman Moses asked what the timetable was for getting the software updated. General Manager Deutsch said that it was end of the calendar year. Chairman Moses asked that General Manager Deutsch inform the commission when this update has occurred.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;
KANSAS STAR
(E.2.a.)

Alli Kuplen, General Manager, reported:

- June 2025 revenue numbers compared to June 2024:
 - Total gross gaming revenue was up 5.2%
 - Total slot revenue up 4.28%
 - Table games revenue up 12.39%
- June 2025 Sports Wagering revenue
 - Retail Sportsbook Revenue of \$24,700.00.
 - Down compared to June 2024's revenue of \$62,300.00.

- Digital Sportsbook Revenue: \$5,900,000.00
 - Up from June 2024's revenue of \$3,900,000.00.
- June 2025 Sports Wagering
 - \$59.1 million was wagered on FanDuel online in June.
 - The total handle in retail was \$947k for June. This was up over \$180k from May.
 - The handle was led by the NBA at 64%. This was followed by MLB at 23%, UFC at 5%, NHL at 3%, WNBA at 3% and Soccer, Tennis and Golf rounded at the handle.
 - The largest wager in retail was a \$52,200 single bet on the Oklahoma City Thunder 1st Half -4.5 against the Indiana Pacers in Game 7 of the NBA finals. This wager was a loser.
 - The largest winning wager in retail was a \$45,000 wager on the Oklahoma City Thunder ML in Game 7 over the Indiana Pacers. This wager paid out \$60,000.
 - We had 17 wagers of \$10,000 or more at retail in June.
 - The Oklahoma City Thunder being in the NBA Finals really helped generate traffic during the normally slow month of June.
- Upcoming Events and Promotions:
 - Double Down | Friday and Saturdays in July | 10am -11:59pm
 - Blazing Hot Seats | Thursdays in July | 6pm - 9pm
 - 50th Anniversary Cooler/Pepsi Gift Giveaway | Friday, July 4 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Quilted Backpack Gift Giveaway | Friday, July 11 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Quilted Nova Bag Gift Giveaway | Friday, July 18 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Quilted Tote Bag Gift Giveaway | Friday, July 25 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Quilted Duffle Bag Gift Giveaway | Friday, August 1 | 4pm-9pm
 - Patriotic Scratcher | Saturday, July 5 | 3pm - 9pm
 - Exclusive Tier Point Multiplier | Saturday, July 12 | 10am – 10pm
 - Beach Party Sit and Go Slot Tournament | Saturday, July 19 | 3pm-6pm
 - VIP Santa Sleighing In July VIP Silent Auction | Saturday, July 26 | 5pm-8pm
- Upcoming Entertainment & Events:
 - The All-American Rejects | Arena | August 29
 - Midland | Arena | December 18
- Semi-Annual Responsible Gambling Report
 - During the first half of 2025, Kansas Star Casino processed 122 new team members through new hire orientation, Responsible Gaming, and Alcohol Awareness trainings.
 - All Front of House Food and Beverage managers and team members that participate in the serving of alcoholic beverages, all Security Staff, all Valet Staff, Slot Floor persons and above, Table Games Dealers and above, Surveillance Staff, and all Directors are subject to a more intensive alcohol awareness training program called, ServSafe.
 - In the first half of 2025, 133 team members took the ServSafe training, and 0 team members failed.

- The Kansas Star Casino has 3 Responsible Gaming Trainers on property.
- As of June 30, 2025, Kansas Star Casino had 598 active team members.
- Underage individuals denied gaming floor access: 125
- People denied access for not having ID: 406
- People denied for invalid ID: 315
- Intoxicated individuals denied gaming floor access: 93
- VEPs denied access to the gaming floor: 11
- There were 254 intoxicated individuals ejected from the casino.
- 9 VEPs were removed and turned over to the KRGD and the Mulvane Police Department
- 1 underage person was caught and ejected from the casino
- 105 people were removed and 16 excluded from the casino for a variety of other reasons.
- During the first half of 2025, there were 633,656 guests who entered the casino floor. Security team members checked 82,740 IDs. In addition, 70 ID checks took place on the gaming floor in situations involving suspected minors.
- Several other ongoing efforts are noteworthy as the Kansas Star Casino is an active member and participant in the Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling, Problem Gambling Program Committee, and the South-Central Task Force on Problem Gambling.
- Chairman Moses noted that he has seen more digital advertisements for the facility and its sportsbook, he asked General Manager Kuplen if this was by design. General Manager Kuplen confirmed that it was. Chairman Moses asked if the additional advertising has paid off. General Manager Kuplen confirmed it had.
- Chairman Moses asked if the number of guests were unique individuals or if duplicates were included. General Manager Kuplen explained that duplicates were included as the figure is determined by turnstile.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;
HOLLYWOOD CASINO
AT KANSAS
SPEEDWAY
(E.3.a.)

Lydia Garvey, General Manager, reported:

- June 2025 admissions were down 6.3% compared to June 2024
- June 2025 revenue numbers compared to June 2024:
 - Total gross gaming revenue increased 2.9%
 - Slot revenue increased 2.5%
 - Table games revenue increased 2.5%
- June 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$318,117.00
 - Up 19.2% from June 2024.
 - Handle was \$2.09M, a decrease of 41.8%.

- Hold was 15%
- Handle percentages: MLB 56%, NBA 17%, and UFC 4%
- Digital Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$496,211.00
 - Down 23.9% from June 2024.
 - Handle was \$4.1M down 45.8%
 - Handle percentages: MLB 58%, NBA 16%, WNBA 6%.
- Recent/Upcoming Events and Promotions:
 - July 1 – Blackjack Bonus
 - July 4 – PENN Heroes Independence Day Bonus
 - Friday July 11, 18 & 25 - \$10,000 Kansas Lottery Summer Scratch Off
 - Saturday July 12, 19 & 26 - \$40,000 Full Throttle Fortune
 - July 23 – Magic Treasures Gold Caribbean Cruise Giveaway
 - August 1 - \$200,000 Progressive Board
 - August 2 – Break the Bank
 - August 7 – PENN Play App Summer Spin & Win
 - August 16 – Coca Cola Giveaway
- Semi-Annual Responsible Gambling Report
 - At the end of the reporting period, Hollywood Casino has a total of 533 employees. During the reporting period, 180 employees were hired.
 - Of those new hires, 43 were hired into positions which require additional training to understand the proper procedures for responsible alcohol service. All of those employees successfully completed the TiPS training. In addition, there were 9 existing employees who successfully completed refresher TiPS training.
 - 46 minors were refused entry to the casino.
 - 1 minors gained access to the casino.
 - 252 individuals were refused entry because of appearing intoxicated.
 - 15 VEPs gained access to the casino.
- Chairman Moses asked when the next big race is at the Kansas Speedway. General Manager Garvey responded that it was the weekend of September 28th.
- Chairman Moses asked if there has been any action on where the Royals will end up. General Manager Garvey responded that the facility does not take any action on that.
- Chairman Moses asked how the facility's hotel was progressing. General Manager Garvey responded that the hotel is progressing well, they are very close to identifying a flag, and preparing ready to submit plans to the unified government.
- Chairman Moses asked if the facility has the same software issue as Boot Hill. General Manager Garvey explained that they do have software that can check IDs at the door for VEP status, but that they only card individuals who appear under thirty. If a VEP does not get carded at the door, there are other procedures in place to be able to identify them.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;

Jeff McKain, General Manager, reported:

- Chairman Moses asked General Manager McKain to speak towards the support the facility provides to the local college. General Manager

KANSAS CROSSING
CASINO
(E.4.a.)

McKain responded that the facility does participate in charity work with Pittsburg's sports and business programs.

- June 2025 admissions were up 11.5% compared to June 2024
- June 2025 revenue numbers compared to June 2024:
 - Coin in was up 8%
 - Table game drop was up 38%
 - Net gaming revenue was up 10.8%
- June 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$1,804.00
 - Up compared to June 2024's loss of \$37,801.00
 - Retail wagers were down 33%.
 - Top Sports by Handle: MLB and NCCA
 - Top Sports by Revenue: NBA and NCCA
 - Largest winning wager was a \$9,271.
 - Largest losing wager was a \$3,550.
 - Digital Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$2,937,801.00.
 - Up compared to June 2024's revenue of \$875,007.00
 - Digital wagers were up 92%
 - Chairman Moses asked if the significant increase in sports wagering revenue was reflective of a change in who the facility's partners were. General Manager McKain explained that was accurate, further explaining that PointsBet was one of the first partners with the facility. That partnership dissolved and the facility partnered with Fanatics, and the facility has been very happy with them.
- Events and Promotions:
 - June
 - Kiosk games on Mondays and Tuesdays.
 - *Camp 49* promotions every Wednesday.
 - *Summertime Spins* promotion every Friday.
 - *Cash Drop* promotion on Saturdays.
 - Casino gifts on Sundays.
 - Corral concerts include *Confederate Railroad* (6th) and *Ying Yang Twins* (14th).
 - July
 - Kiosk games on Mondays and Tuesdays.
 - *Camp 49* promotions every Wednesday.
 - *Cash Climb* promotion every Friday.
 - *Tier Multiplier* promotion on Saturdays.
 - Casino gifts on Sundays.
 - Entertainment includes The Mix Tapes (12th) and Gary Allen outdoors (19th)
- Semi-Annual Responsible Gambling Report
 - 203 active team members as of July 01, 2025
 - 36 team members hired since January 01, 2025

- 2 inactive team members (on leave)
- Out of 148 team members requiring TIPS training:
 - 24 new hires have required certification (hired since 1/1/2025), 0 team members have been re-certified.
 - 0 are pending certification
 - 2 are scheduled for Alcohol Awareness Class
 - Alcohol training class is held during weekly new hire orientation and monthly for re-certification.
 - KCC has three internally certified trainers.
- All team members received Responsible Gambling training in 2025
- The KCC Compliance Officer teaches the initial Responsible Gambling training for all new team members during our weekly new hire orientations. The Compliance Officer also represents KCC at the monthly meetings for the Southeast Kansas (SEKS) Problem Gambling Task Force.
- KCC participated in Responsible Gambling Education Week in March 2025. KCC had activities to improve team member knowledge and stress the importance of Responsible Gambling for the casino and the community.
- 96 Minors were refused entry attempting to enter the casino floor
- 0 Minors were ejected from the casino floor
- 33 Patrons seemingly impaired were refused entry to the casino floor
- 57 Patrons seemingly impaired were ejected from the casino floor
- 2 VEPs were removed or excluded from the casino floor
- 55 Invalid IDs were refused entry to the casino floor
- 332 No IDs were refused entry to the casino floor
- Chairman Moses asked if Kansas Crossing has the software to identify VEPs at the entrance. General Manager McKain explained that the facility does not have the software necessary and is not looking into implementing new software. Chairman Moses asked if General Manager McKain felt there was any value to having the software at the front-end. General Manager McKain stated that he thinks there is value to it, but that many of the facilities have a similar age exemption policy as Hollywood Casino which impacts efficacy.

HISTORICAL HORSE
RACING FACILITY
LICENSEE
REPORTS/ITEMS;
GILLEY'S
(E.5.a.)

Scott Beeler, Gilley's Representative, reported:

- The project remains on schedule. The finishing work is progressing.
- KRGC staff visited the site, toured the buildings, and could see the work being done.
- Ninety-one workers were on site daily last week and ninety-five the week before.

- Chairman Moses noted that there has been a lot of activity regarding economic development in the Park City area with Champtown and Crosswinds, are there any changes in how Gilley's is approaching the project or additions to phase one. Mr. Beeler said that there really is not much he can disclose at this point, other than to say they continue to work with Park City. Mr. Beeler shared that they believe their project is a lot of the driving force behind the activity. Mr. Beeler noted that he previously shared that the hotel was moved to phase one and a flag has already been announced, Fairfield. Chairman Moses noted that the facility across from Gilley's, Crosswinds, announced a \$200M improvement package that was worked out with Park City that includes a fifteen-story hotel. Chairman Moses asked how does all of that work into Gilley's, if at all. Mr. Beeler responded that he believes it is the high tide raising all boats and that the area is becoming a hot spot. Chairman Moses shared that he wonders if there will be enough patrons to service both facilities to the extent they want to be serviced. Mr. Beeler said he agrees with that and shared that in his private practice one of his clients is Home Depot and he is always amazed at how many times a Home Depot will be built across the street from a Lowe's, or vice versa but there is a lot of thinking that goes in from a market standpoint and statistics show that these destination collections pull in more patrons.
- Chairman Moses recalled discussing Gilley's and Crosswinds proximity with someone and their comment was that if you do not like how you are doing at one facility you could try your luck at the other. Chairman Moses asked if there is any discussion by Park City to build a walking bridge between the two facilities. Mr. Beeler and Mr. Watkins said that they did not know if that had been discussed. Mr. Beeler noted that he does agree with the premise and why Vegas is big in the gaming world. Chairman Moses noted for General Manager Kuplen that he has a similar question for how the north side of Sedgwick County is affecting the North side of Sumner County.

COMMISSION ITEMS –
OLD BUSINESS (F.)

There was no old business.

COMMISSION ITEMS –
NEW BUSINESS: LIVE
HORSE RACING
INDUSTRY
STAKEHOLDER
PUBLIC COMMENT (G.)

Chairman Moses thanked everyone that has come for this particular new business item regarding the live horse racing industry and the issues in recent/new legislation. Chairman Moses noted that there were ten speakers, and each speaker would get five-minutes. Chairman Moses shared that he has been on the commission the longest out of all the commissioners but horse racing was not active when he joined the commission so this is an exciting time.

Director of Gambling DJ Lopez reported that it has always been a priority of the commission to allow input from the industries we regulate. As we get closer to the possibility of live horse racing returning here in the state, it was determined that a public comment session would be a good first step in this

process. Staff notified industry stakeholders of the July 18, 2025 commission meeting, and anyone wishing to address the commission on live horse racing topics such as but not limited to (Horse Breeding Development Fund disbursements, rules/regulations, and etc.) may do so in person or writing at this meeting. Chairman Moses thanked Director Lopez for all his work on this project and Gilley's opening. Chairman Moses urged commentators to not misunderstand the commissioners' interest if there are no questions from the commissioners at this point, this is the start of the process.

Chairman Moses called Rita Osborn to the podium for comment. Rita Osborn introduced herself as the president of the Kansas Quarter Horse Racing Association and has held that position for fifteen years. Ms. Osborn recognized three KRGC staff from previous years. Ms. Osborn rhetorically asked if the commission knew why there was no live racing in Kansas. Ms. Osborn explained that there used to be three parimutuel horse racing tracks in Kansas, Eureka Downs, Anthony, and the Woodlands. When the Woodlands was operating, there was nothing there except the Woodlands. Now look at that area. In 2007 and 2008, Kathleen Sebelius was the governor, and the casinos came in on a bill late at night. Governor Sebelius said that the playing field would be levelled the next year. Casinos pay around 22% to the state where if you owned a horse or dog track you paid 40% to the state. Obviously, the live racing tracks needed help, we could not operate the facility without some extra income. We have worked with Mr. Ruffin for many years, and finally the mix is there, he was able to help. Now racing is going to come back to Kansas. Again, it was the I-35 corridor; you go from Oklahoma City, to Eureka, to Prairie Meadows, and keep on going. It brought revenue to the state but now there has not been that revenue. Horses are still running. People are still training horses in Kansas, but they are going to other states. Now is time to bring back an industry that had such an economic impact, especially for Eureka. Ms. Osborn said that she thought it would reignite. That is why there is no horse racing in Kansas right now. Things have changed so now we have that opportunity to bring back this industry that the state needs and the revenue it can generate. There was nonparimutuel racing in Eureka. Ms. Osborn shared that she remembers Vern Miller coming and taking people out of the grandstands because they were gambling. Because it is such a family sport, again had something like Legends been around the Woodlands. Like you are talking about, level the playing field. Let's have competition, you have Arby's you have McDonalds, you have the casino you have the speedway. Just a lot of things. The Woodlands was phenomenal; Wichita Greyhound Park was phenomenal but needed some help.

Chairman Moses called William McGuire to the podium for comment. William McGuire said that it is a very exciting time with horse racing coming back and that a lot of the people present have been working for nearly twenty years to get back to this point. The purpose of our testimony today from the recognized

horsemen's groups is to suggest changes to the K.A.R. 112-12, basically the breeder's development award. First, I am Dr. William McGuire, I am a breeder, trainer, owner, board member of the Kansas Quarter Horse Racing Association, a member of the Kansas Thorough Bred Association, and in my mind, most importantly of all a college educator that teaches in a college with an equine program. A lot of the things we are discussing today affect my life in many facets. The purpose of the Kansas Horse Breeding Development Fund is to promote and enhance the Kansas horse breeding industry by providing financial incentive and support for owners of Kansas-bred horses. This includes awarding owners of stallions and mares of Kansas-bred horses that compete in recognized parimutuel races, as well as supporting equine research and the promotion of the parimutuel industry. This economic development means jobs throughout the industry including for my students. There are many bright young minds in Kansas that want a career in the equine industry, and they do not want to go to another state to do it. They would prefer to stay close to home and see the equine industry come back here. If you look at some of the states since I left after racing ended, I have lived in New Mexico, Arkansas, and I assisted in managing the largest breeding farm in the state of New York. I have seen the jobs these farms can provide, and it is a major impact on the state's economy. Now, I believe the changes proposed by the KQHRA would help promote job growth in the industry and encourage new owners and breeders to get into the industry. Two concerns were voiced recently, the first is that there currently are not enough horses in Kansas to fill Kansas-bred horses. Which is kind of without saying, we have not had a racing and breeding industry for seventeen years. It will come back. Second, the initial breeder's and owner's awards may come across as being too high because if we have a limited pool of horses that first year or two competing for those awards. I say that is exactly what we need. That is the electric jolt we need going through the industry, saying "wow look at the benefits of breeding, raising, and racing horses in Kansas". Horses will be coming back into the state by train loads. In economic terms, when demand exceeds supply producers not only receive more for their product, but they increase production until supply meets demand. If there is reason to do it and it is profitable to do, then producers increase their production. Our production is horses. Every time we breed more horses, we hire more people, we buy more feed. Breeders outside the state will probably send mares into Kansas to participate in the program. Now if done properly, this will add to the state economy if the mares are domiciled in Kansas and paid to be fed and cared for on a Kansas farm, with Kansas veterinarians, and things along that line. There are a lot of people that send mares to these other big racing jurisdiction states that board their horses at the farm, but the money goes to those states. The lack of Kansas-bred horses will correct itself when people see the benefits of breeding and owning Kansas-bred horses. When considering proposed changes to article twelve, I would ask that the commission consider three things. Does the proposed change promote the development of breeding industry in the state

of Kansas and direct its funds to that end by keeping the funds in Kansas. Any change that would benefit anyone but breeders in Kansas does not likely fulfill the mission of this regulation. Opening up the program to out-of-state breeders or owners sends money out of state and is contrary to the purpose of this regulation. Basically, will the change have an economic impact, will it create jobs in Kansas, will it keep the money in Kansas, does it provide an economic stimulus and benefits fairly to the industry as a whole or does it favor certain sections. I do not care if we are racing Shetland ponies, they should be able to share in the economic development of the breeder's awards fund too.

- Chairman Moses asked what Doctor McGuire's doctorate was. Dr. McGuire explained that he received his PhD in physiology from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University. Chairman Moses asked where Dr. McGuire teaches. Dr. McGuire answered that he teaches at Cloud County Community College.
- Commissioner Fleming asked Dr. McGuire to elaborate on what is meant by a "racing jurisdiction state". Dr. McGuire explained that he was referring to individual states that have legal live racing, such as the New Mexico circuit or the Kentucky circuit. Commissioner Fleming asked how many states Dr. McGuire considers as racing jurisdiction. Dr. McGuire responded that he thinks there are thirty-seven states that have some racing. Commissioner Fleming further asked if any neighboring states were racing jurisdictions. Dr. McGuire responded that Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Chairman Moses asked if Kansas would now be considered a racing jurisdiction state. Dr. McGuire responded that yes, though the gates have not opened yet they are on their way.

Chairman Moses called Stacy Belt to the podium for comment. Stacy Belt introduced himself as board member on the KQHRA, a long-time horseman. Last time I was here in Topeka was 35 years ago. I was a jockey and they brought high school students up that worked in the horse industry to show them the effects, before that I was a little boy missing a race underneath the grandstands at Eureka before parimutuel, later on went onto the Woodlands and won my first steak trace with a thorough bred in my late 20s. Now I'm back here again . Talk about this and reignite it. I don't have anything major, no issues to tell you, except the Kansas Quarter Horse Racing Association the decision we voted on and then turned in June 19th, 9 of the 15 board members have over 400 years of racing experience, which is a pretty big deal and we made decisions for all aspects of Kansas Horsemen thoroughbred, paint, quarter horse because we all want that to be unity. And if you need guidance or any questions, this Kansas quarter horse board is there to help give you solutions and I'm proud to be part of that and that's all I have to say.

- Chairman Moses asked for clarification on the number of associations there are. Mr. Belt responded that there is the Kansas Quarter Horse

Association, there is the Kansas Thoroughbred Association, and there is the Kansas Paint Horse Association. The Kansas Quarter Horse Association has 15 board members. I have been kind of parlaying this for the last 18 months before I joined the board because I've been a lifelong horseman in Kansas. We made decisions that were the same for every breed to try to not get division like we had 20 years ago. It's on merit. It's the same, it's fair and we want to be horseman as a whole not have division. If we take care of Kansas Horseman, everything else a fallen place, you know like the TVA and Roosevelt, the hay man, the grain man, the tractor supply man, you know the 17-year-old me.

Chairman Moses called Sheri Grinstead to the podium for comment. Ms. Grinstead introduced herself and explained that she appeared on behalf of American Paint Horse Association and serves as the state director and is also vice chair of our racing committee, also a past president of Kansas Paint Horse association. I was thinking I could just get up here and sit down because it would all have been said by now, but I drew the short straw. There are three associations. We are stock horse breed very similar, same lineage, basically same pedigrees as the quarter horse association, and I appreciate all the work that the KQHRA did with their presentation, but I will say that the Kansas Paint Horse and American Paint Horse Associations are really asking the commissioners to consider a little different program, than I guess what the quarter horses have proposed. When you do look at their proposal, my review of it, my understanding, is that there will be a definite cutoff date in the not too distant future for horses coming into Kansas. On behalf of Kansas Paint Horse Association and APHA, I would ask the commissioners to look at an on ramping period to allow more horses to come into the state so we can fill races. We see that as a problem at Remington Park, that's the one I'm most familiar with, but that would allow smaller breeds like Appaloosas, like the Paint horse Association, like the thoroughbreds to have some time to build their herd, and also to improve some genetics that are associated with all breeds as well.

- Chairman Moses suggested that any issues, concerns, questions, or suggestions that you have be funneled through Director of Gambling DJ Lopez. Because even though we're listening, we're paying attention. Some of us are making notes, if not all of us are making notes, but for example, the specific one you raised about the timetable to bring horses in. I get what you are asking for, but I don't understand it yet. Director Lopez will educate us, but those are the things to make sure that staff know are things the commission needs to be considering. Because what I'm hearing so far is there's some economic issues flowing from starting up horse racing again in Kansas and there are different groups that may have, if not conflicting, they're not overlapping interest. We need to make sure all those get communicated

to staff so staff can sort it all out and try to get everybody on the same page.

- Commissioner Jones said he is not super familiar with horse races and horse breeds but has heard five breeds mentioned: thoroughbred, quarter horses, Appaloosas, Paints, and you said Shetland ponies which I think you're joking. Commissioner Jones asked which horses race in the Kentucky Derby. Ms. Grinstead answered that it is thoroughbreds. Commissioner Jones then asked if thoroughbred only race against thoroughbred or do breeds get mixed together. Ms. Grinstead answered that thoroughbreds race against thoroughbreds but there are some situations where if a race won't fill quarter horses will race paints because they're both stock horse breeds. Commissioner Jones asked what was meant by "stock horse breed". Ms. Grinstead responded that they are ranch horses. Ms. Grinstead further explained that at Remington Park, in Oklahoma City, Appaloosas and Paints typically run together. Commissioner Jones asked for confirmation that when he watches the Kentucky Derby every horse in the field is a thoroughbred. Ms. Grinstead confirmed that was accurate. Commissioner Jones asked if thoroughbreds are considered the fastest. Stacy Belt returned to the podium and answered that quarter horses are called that because they typically run a quarter mile or less, some quarter horses will run with thoroughbreds up to a half mile thousand yards, you'll have dual races together most the time you run loose and paint and quarter horses cause they're derivative of the quarter mile runners. Ms. Grinstead explained that Paint horses can either be a thoroughbred lineage or quarter horse lineage, those that run on the track typically quarter horse lineage.
- Chairman Moses shared that he thinks it would be helpful when we get further down and it's time it would be good to see a chart or something that describes the different horses how they overlap. Director Lopez answered that staff just had that conversation yesterday about putting together information for commissioners on this topic.

Chairman Moses called Stacy Randall to the podium for comment and noted that Ms. Randall is also here on behalf of another individual. Ms. Randall explained that she would speak on behalf of Michael Weiss who was hired as a general manager for Eureka Downs. Mr. Weiss had prior commitments, and he couldn't be here today, but he wrote something out and it says, I want to introduce myself as the new GM of Eureka Downs and I am looking forward to working with and meeting everyone. I have explained to those who have inquired my history, which includes decades and racing experience. I am very comfortable with the teams I have met with so far and the enthusiasm and support that everyone is showing to bringing horse racing back in a strong fashion to the state of Kansas. It makes me feel extremely positive regarding this project. There's already a lot of very hard work mentally and physically

being done by members of the Greenwood County Fair Board. I also felt great enthusiasm when speaking to the Kansas Horse Council last week. I'm going to enjoy working with members of this commission as rules and safety regulations are set in place and I'm also speaking to the Kansas agricultural summit this week regarding the great number of jobs will bring back to the state of Kansas. Thank you all for the support. I love the excitement and teamwork. This is what makes a project like this successful I will be at the fairgrounds Monday, Tuesday, and a good part of Wednesday if anyone is around to say hello, I will also have a lot more to report after this trip as we have experts looking at the racing surface, the racing office, the jockeys quarters, and test barn while I'm there.

- Chairman Moses asked if Ms. Randall could give a copy of the written testimony to staff to be included in the record. Chairman Moses asked Ms. Randall to remind the commission again what her position is as compared to Mr. Weiss. Stacey Randall responded that she serves as the secretary of the Greenwood County fair board in Eureka, Kansas. Mostly what we want, as we have been talking to Director Lopez a lot and just want to open communication, everything needs fixed back up at the facility so if there's anything, now that we're in the planning stages, that is going to be a requirement that we get that in as we're starting. We have the Greenwood County fair next week and we have the Eureka PRCA pro rodeo in August so as soon as that's over then we hope to start all the work. We've had a lot of contractors come in. The test barn, like any requirements you might want for that while we're getting those blueprints drawn up, so we don't have to go back and fix everything. The number one thing we're working on though is to make sure the track is safe for the horses, and the jockeys, and new railing. That's our number one phase we're hoping to start tackling. If the commission has any updated requirements for the facility if we can receive that information.
- Chairman Moses noted that his questions are probably premature but asked if Ms. Randall has already identified what needs to be done to the infrastructure to be able to get up and running. Ms. Randall responded they have also noted we've had a lot of contractors there. It's just we're doing things in phases. We're going to handle the track and bar first and then when we're done with that, we move onto the concourse building and we've had people in there look to see what needs updated.
- Chairman Moses noted that there was a delay, not due to Greenwood County folks, but there was a delay in getting up, and some of that infrastructure recommendations and things like that. Chairman Moses asked if that has been rectified and is that now moving forward. Ms. Randall responded that the track consultant experts are going to be there on Tuesday and Wednesday and hope to get a solid plan and what we need from them to then go ahead and start with the groundwork.

- Chairman Moses asked what about your timetable and funding. Ms. Randall responded that well that's what we're trying to work backwards because everybody keeps asking what are your racing dates, what are your racing dates. Since the money is going to come from the HHR machines anytime you know we're told there's a delay or they might not open it's kind of hard to work on the timetable until we know exactly when they're opening and when that funding will start. Chairman Moses shared that it was our understanding, and their representatives have been pretty consistent, that the Gilley's is going open in the last quarter of 2025. Chairman Moses asked is that what Ms. Randall was talking about, that they have to open and start generating revenue. Ms. Randall confirmed that was accurate. Chairman Moses said to presume it's the last quarter of 2025, probably December, when Gilley's is open and asked how that affects when you are going to be able to be up and running. Ms. Randall explained that way she understands it, the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission is going to take the first part of funding. Director Lopez said that he would be able to help answer this question. Director Lopez explained there are statutory requirements that the KRGC has to have when the funds start funneling in from the HHR facility. One of those being the funding of our agency for HHR and live racing. Director Lopez invited the Director of Administration, Audit, and Finance Brandi White to correct him if he is wrong, but KRGC must also have some kind of reserve in there as well, but it depends on the performance of the HHR facility on how long those funds take to funnel down. Chairman Moses asked to confirm that it is first dollar in until the agency is funded. Director Lopez confirmed that was accurate and said he believes a reserve need also be met and asked Director White to confirm. Director White responded that she believes it depends because the statute does require that the agency be funded and in her discussions with Budget and everyone there sounds like there's going to be some sort of reserve too, but it's not just KRGC that makes the decision on when that money gets funneled out. Department of Administration and Budget are both involved in that so there's going to be some internal discussions at the state level to determine when that happens but it is correct that it's all predicated on the performance of the HHR facility and then beyond that it's what are the funding requirements for KRGC so Director White thinks it's going to be that KRGC going to have to have our expenses for the year covered and then a reserve as well. Chairman Moses asked if it is that Greenwood would not receive a dollar until KRGC is fully funded or will be for every dollar \$.25 goes here \$.75 goes here so Greenwood could start getting some money. Director White explained that it's not going to be divvied out on the dollar, I think KRGC is going to have to have some kind of a balance first, and

then after that, there will be discussions on how the funds get divvied out. Also, I think that part of it depends on Commission approval of how those funds get spent at the fair level as well cause the Commission will have to approve the fair association first and then divvying out of those money. Some of those are in statute with set limits. Chairman Moses asked then at some point staff will tell the Commission what its flexibility is to be able to flow funds to the association so they can get their horses running sooner. Director Lopez confirmed that was accurate and shared he is meeting with Mr. Weiss and together they are going to try build a tentative timeline to the commission and then also we are going to put together a presentation on responsibilities of the commission and where we need to go from here to start live horse racing, and that would include funds and the trickle down of the funds, and what the commission must approve for that. Chairman Moses asked Ms. Randall if there are any funds available, separate from these HHR funds, that can be used to start the infrastructure improvements, which would then get you up and running sooner. Ms. Randall confirmed there was and went on to explain that Greenwood County was blessed to receive a grant of \$1 million to start with and once we spend that million then we can get the second million. Ms. Randall shared that they estimated \$1,200,000 to the backside, meaning the racetrack and the barn area, and then anything else putting into the concourse building too. Chairman Moses asked presuming the projections that we have when does Ms. Randall anticipate being able to be up and running. Ms. Randall shared that it is her opinion with how things are working right now she sees Eureka Downs having a smaller, maybe Fall meet the first time and getting everything ironed out and then maybe going back to a Summer meet the next year. Chairman Moses asked Ms. Randall to confirm the Fall of which year. Ms. Randall responded Fall of 2026 and further explained that she would love to do a meet in Summer of 2026 but with the funding and trickledown schedule they do not want to set dates and then it not work. Ms. Randall noted that their application needs to be submitted 120 days before they would like to run. Chairman Moses asked Ms. Randall if they were not anywhere close to a price point on what it's going to take to be able to actually run because of the infrastructure improvement. Ms. Randall confirmed they have not and are currently collecting bids.

Chairman Moses called Shelby Hayden to the podium for comment. I wanted to thank the Commission for allowing me to speak today. I'm Dr. Shelby Hayden. I'm a veterinarian, specifically I'm a board to certified veterinary reproductive specialist so this is right into my area of expertise as far as breeding that type of thing. I graduated from K-State in 2002, I left Kansas and went to multiple

other states and was told never to come back to Kansas. The main reason being that what I did, and what my specialty was, could not survive in the state. Despite that, in spite of my dad telling me not to come back, we started our own business in 2016. We have the Kansas Center for Equine Reproduction. We're located in Lawrence, Kansas. To say it's been an easy process to build this facility would not be accurate. I average 120 hours a week, I work from January 1st to right now, I haven't had a day off since that timeframe. Hence the hat, hence the lack of haircut because those are things I don't have time for so I apologize for that. In general, when Dr. McGuire talked about starting stuff to get us back to Kansas, I would've been one of those people 20 years ago. I'm here now, do I think the opportunities can be there, I do but I do think we need to be careful on what we said as our guidelines for breeding programs, etc. I also know that the turnover rate in my industry is very high. People leave the industry very quickly in general. I have not just been a veterinarian, but we also breeders we became breeders in 2018 and we have four broodmares, eight yearlings, eight foals on the side, and we have 10 anticipated foals. We participate in embryo transfer, we also have breed to carry so we encompass many of the things that the industry is looking to do. Besides our own horses, we breed several hundred for a lot of clients. Here's the thing a lot of my clients were from Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and we have some from the Kansas City area and outward, but we have a large portion from other states. What this means is a very small portion of our clientele are actually race-bred clients. The interesting thing was this year is that we had a rise in clients coming to us asking "hey you have racehorses, we want to breed some, what do you think is going to happen?" A lot of them within probably on the Missouri side of Kansas City. They're very interested in what's going on, the excitement is real but there is definite hesitation on what they want to do. They want to see their horses, to be at their property, but they want to be part of a program that would be friendly enough for them to get their opportunity to come in. They're not big breeders. They breed one to two horses, most of them are breed to carry, but they're excited. They're excited about Eureka. They're excited to have this come to the state of Kansas. I'm excited because I have someone to talk to who understands who Dulce Sin Tacha is and it's very exciting to have that. So, as we go through this process of trying to decide what changes to make to Article 12, I want the commission to keep many things in mind. I think the ultimate goal was to improve the Kansas economy, whether that's the horse economy across the board. Right now, I'm the number one customer for Baldwin Feed. That's a lot and we buy a lot of feed and stuff like that. Do I think other places like me are possible? I do, but I think we just need to choose selectively on how we want to approach the breeding program and make it so that it ultimately will succeed. I'm not getting into specifics because you asked us not to but I want that to all be considered as we go through this process. There's people out there like me, like the boards that you've heard talk, and I'm a member of the KQHA board, KTA, and a member of the horse council, so I've heard a lot of them

talk. A lot of those are my customers so it's interesting hearing from them and hearing their point of view. I want to make sure that what's done collectively is good for the Kansas economy and the Kansas horse people

- Chairman Moses asked if Dr. Hayden was related to the former Kansas Governor. Dr. Hayden responded that she was not related to the former governor and explained that her family owns a farm, so she is very familiar with Topeka. Dr. Hayden noted that she was a page here, but she thinks that it was after Governor Hayden.

Chairman Moses called Urban Eck to the podium for comment. Urban Eck introduced himself as a proud member of the Kansas Quarter Horse Racing Association. Mr. Eck thanked the commission for allowing the horse people of Kansas to speak in front of the commission today. Mr. Eck said he would like to talk about the Article 12, Horse Breeding Development Fund. The changes that our organization have approved and are presenting for consideration to the horse breeding development fund were not taken lightly. Over the past year, we've spent many hours carefully discussing what the best support horse owners and breeders across the entire state of Kansas and not just a select few. As you will see from our proposed changes, it's important that we add the necessary language to protect and promote the interest of both the owners and breeders. If we build a program from the inside out, we can ensure lasting economic benefits for Kansas as a whole. The saying goes "if you build it, they will come" and we believe that will never be truer. The horse breeding development fund must evolve with the industry. Many of the rules currently in place were written years ago and the field has changed significantly since then. We must regulate new technologies, such as embryo transferring, and other reproductive techniques of today. We would like to purpose one requirement, that for a racehorse to earn Kansas spread awards it must be fold in Kansas. This single requirement keeps the best interest of the program at large and encourages people to invest in Kansas-bred. Whether by reading or purchasing, this will also boost the economy along the way. Anything other than this single requirement may help in the short term, but will ultimately hurt the program in the long run. To strengthen the program, we must establish domicile requirements for horses wishing to participate in the breeding program and be eligible for monetary awards. If this requirement is not in place, people will be able to leave the horses in other states they will invest very little into our economy yet reap the same benefits. This will discourage the horsemen and women Kansas. Today's rules don't even require a mare to be in Kansas except for the day she has a foal. This does nothing for our economy. Additionally, we recommend establishing a reliable inspection program to verify that all requirements of the racing and breeding programs are being met. This step will ensure integrity inconsistency across-the-board the KQHRA has submitted a recommendation regarding how breeder awards should be distributed. Previously, awards were only paid for the foals of Kansas certified stallion or

mare if they finish in the top three of the race. We propose expanding this to include the top five finishers which we believe will encourage broader participation and increase engagement in the program. To ensure various across all associations, all words shall be paid equally to thoroughbred, quarter horse, and paints through the year 2028. In 2029, and each year thereafter, each breed shall receive a share of the award based on the percentage of that breed's participation in the Kansas-bred races. This will be using three years of data collected through 2028. By waiting until then, we will have a strong foundation to guide fair distribution moving forward. We also implemented this same structure for the Kansas-bred races. We are requesting the award to be paid to the top five finishers in each race rather than just the top three. This change is aimed at increasing participation and strengthening the program overall. In addition, we are proposing a requirement that at least two races per day be reserved for Kansas-bred horses, ensuring consistent opportunity and visibility for local breeders. We also bring a recommendation for a proposed fee scheduled, which you will find similar to the current structure and what other states are doing. The changes we are proposing may look like a tall task, but a necessary task at that. Making the required changes now will set the foundation for the horse breeding development fund. Our goal is to encourage greater participation in the program whether you're new to the industry, already deeply involved, or are looking to return. We welcome breeders from both in-state and out of state, but our first responsibility is to support the horsemen and women of Kansas, who are investing in and committed to the state. As John F. Kennedy said, changes the law of life, and those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future.

- Chairman Moses asked Mr. Eck to share his recommendations with KRGC staff. Mr. Eck confirmed that Director Lopez had previously received his recommendations.
- Commissioner Fleming asked Mr. Eck to re-state what he believes the KRGC's single requirement is. Mr. Eck said that it is for a racehorse to earn Kansas-bred money they must be born in Kansas. Chairman Moses asked if a horse born in Kansas would be able to be moved out of the state. Mr. Eck responded yes for racing. Chairman Moses asked what about for breeding. Mr. Eck explained that breeding was different and that KQHA asks that the mares be domiciled in Kansas. Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Eck's position is that the horses should be born, bred, fed, and taken care of, domiciled in Kansas and the only time the horse be permitted to leave the state is for racing. Mr. Eck confirmed that was accurate. Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Eck knew if that was consistent with other jurisdictions. Mr. Eck said that it was consistent with a lot of the big jurisdictions, Oklahoma and Texas both have the requirement. Chairman Moses asked if that requirement would be held across each breed. Mr. Eck responded that he could not speak for the thoroughbreds or the paints, but that is what the quarter horses want.

Chairman Moses called Jeff Wyrick to the podium for comment. Jeff Wyrick introduced himself to the commission as a retired schoolteacher and President of the Kansas Thoroughbred Association. Mr. Wyrick said that he retired from teaching school at Caney Valley High School and still coaches football there, offensive/defensive line coach. Mr. Wyrick said that he wants to make Kansas thoroughbred racing great again. We never really had the numbers to run Kansas thoroughbreds. In 2002, for instance, Mr. Wyrick had a horse named Dancing Bride that had run at Canterbury that he had brought home for a week because she had not done well. Mr. Wyrick was told that the Kansas-bred derby only had three horses in it for \$20,000. She had just got out of training, Mr. Wyrick brought her back up and she came in second. We have never had enough Kansas-bred thoroughbreds, and we still don't. Right now, its too late to breed this year. The difference between quarter horses and thoroughbreds is the quarter horses are able to use AI and embryo transplant, where each thoroughbred is live covered. It is a lot easier to get quarter horse foals than it is to get thoroughbred foals. Right now, from January 1st through June, there have been two Kansas-bred thoroughbreds run. If we start breeding right now, the soonest we could get any Kansas-bred money is 2030. And if that's everyone got on board in February and started breeding. That has never happened before. We have a great opportunity. We have great history. We have in Kansas, born in 1921 a thoroughbred mare named Margaret Lawrence who was the only mare to produce a Kentucky Derby winner and a Kentucky Oaks winner. We have the opportunity to affect all 105 counties in the state. We can affect them positively economically. Mr. Wyrick suggests that a thoroughbred from conception through life will take care of thirty jobs. There is a lot of economic impact we can have. What do we need to do to do that? We need to bring the best bloodlines in state of Kansas. There is going to be some economics to take care of this. Looking at the purse structures they have already been talking about, if we can even get close to that, if we can get people to have good bloodlines here, we can thoroughbreds back in Kansas like they have never had before. The important thing is that we have got to be able to onboard some thoroughbred racehorses. Mr. Wyrick claimed a horse last year in Iowa by a stud named Practical Joke for her bloodline. Practical Joke stands for a \$100,000 in Kentucky. So, Mr. Wyrick is going to breed his horse to a old stallion he owns. There are opportunities. If we can get people interested, if we tell some young kids that they have to buy a horse and wait four-years to run it, its going to really hard to get a lot of families involved, but if we can get people involved and they can claim a horse and get some horses onboarded we can fill races. There will be no Kansas-bred thoroughbred races until after 2030 if we do not do something. From January to June, two horses were ran that were Kansas-bred thoroughbred in the United States. One little part in Article 12, it goes to breeding/racing and we can do it.

- Commissioner Fleming asked Mr. Wyrick to speak more on breeding horses in February to run in 2030. Mr. Wyrick explained that if breeding starts in February, thoroughbreds are typically run at three years of age, so the soonest we will have thoroughbreds to run is 2030. It is an eleven-month gestation. Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Wyrick was suggesting that thoroughbreds should be allowed from out of state so that thoroughbreds can run before 2030. Mr. Wyrick said that was his suggestion because they still have the domiciled requirements. Chairman Moses asked to confirm that Mr. Wyrick's suggestions is so that the timeline of when thoroughbreds could be run is sped up. Mr. Wyrick confirmed that was accurate.

Chairman Moses called Paul Treadwell to the podium for comment. Paul Treadwell introduced himself as a horseman who has been involved with all the legislation and things that have brought this to task. We have great opportunity and we have some great challenges and a lot of different opinions on how to do it. Mr. Treadwell asked the commission to understand that the money that is going to come to Eureka to build it, the \$2M to work with now, will not be enough to complete where there can be racing in 2026. So, any reserve funds, are a deficit to having racing in 2026 because those funds have to come from the HHR machines. Any way that the commission can expediate the money coming to Eureka to build the racetrack, barn, and all the facilities. Mr. Treadwell said he did agree with Ms. Randall that for the first year because it being a new program it will probably be a 16-day meet in the fall. But even at that, it will be critical for the commission to get the funds to Eureka to get the capital to improve the racetrack and stands. The other things is the breeding program. In Kansas, we have less than 250 racehorses. Back in the heydays, there were 5,000. We have a bill that is going to bring into horse racing over \$100M in the next five years. We have an opportunity to build a great industry, but we cannot limit it by trying to breed ourselves into the program. We have got to let Kansas people go to the sells and buy yearlings, buy the mares, and buy the stallions and bring them to Kansas. Start building an economic program throughout the state to have an economic impact throughout the state. Mr. Treadwell explained that it takes three years from the day of deciding to race a horse to breed, train, and then run the horse. Mr. Treadwell emphasized that it is important for the commission to come up with the right breed program to take the money that is available to us and have that economic impact, it cannot be designed for a few people. It has to be designed so that young Kansans can go buy a yearling in Oklahoma City this Fall bring it into Kansas and race it next year. If you try to limit the program any more than that, all that money that should be going to live racing and breed programs is going to be going to university because there is no money carried over. Mr. Treadwell summarized two points, he hopes the commission will expediate the money that comes to

Eureka, and for the breeding program we need young people to go buy horses and bring them here.

- Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Treadwell agrees that it is too early to know how much money past the already awarded \$2M Eureka will need to get race ready. Mr. Treadwell said that the \$2M will do a great deal of work towards the track itself and further explained that the grandstand would be able to be open air for the first year. Chairman Moses rephrased saying that once Ms. Randall or Mr. Weiss has a better target number, they will communicate that to Director Lopez. Mr. Treadwell agreed.
- Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Treadwell was saying that in order for Kansas to get started, we need to allow horses that were born or bred out of state to register in order to kickstart the program. Mr. Treadwell agreed that it was accurate.
- Chairman Moses noted that Mr. Treadwell had referenced legislation that would bring in \$100M to the horse racing industry and asked if that was the existing legislation or if this was new. Mr. Treadwell confirmed he referenced the existing legislation.
- Chairman Moses asked if there are other attempts to raise money for Eureka outside of the grant funds and the HHR funds. Mr. Treadwell responded that they have discussed construction loans with the local bank. The banker is open to that, but he needs projections of what the costs will be. Chairman Moses asked if there was any other source of funding that would not expect to be reimbursed. Mr. Treadwell said there was not.

Chairman Moses called Justine Staten to the podium for comment. Justine Staten introduced herself as the Executive Director of the Kansas Horse Council, who serves as the voice of the equine industry here in Kansas representing all breeds and all disciplines, provides leadership and direction through education, promotion, and public policy advocacy. So, the Kansas Horse Council is poised to bring everyone together and that is why Ms. Staten has come. Ms. Staten said she is very enthusiastic and shares the enthusiasm about the revival of live horse in Kansas made possible through Gilley's and the historical horse racing machines. Ms. Staten said that she understands this opportunity brings increased responsibilities for KRGC and wants to thank staff for the time provided today. The Kansas Horse Council represents all breeds and disciplines, and does not pick sides, rather it works to unify stakeholders around rules, regulations, and opportunities that reference the future of the horse racing industry. This can be challenging. The horse industry is often polarized with horsemen passionately focused on their individual areas of interest. To support the synergy of this revived horse racing opportunity, we have hosted several town hall meetings and working groups bringing these group representatives together along with agency and facility partners. These

forums help to foster constructive dialogue and dispel assumptions of intent paving the way for shared progress. Across the industry we are seeing momentum build, as stakeholders such as the breeding barns, academia, and veterinary practices are preparing for increased activity. Kansas State University, for example, their veterinary medical team has an Equine Performance Testing Center, and they are moving into phase two to standup opportunities to support these sport horses that will be coming online in Kansas. Through dialog with the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce they are eagerly encouraging Eureka and Greenwood County to seize the opportunities with the rural economic development that is poised here, much like what Park City is doing. Most recently, the working group has focused on updating Article 12 regarding the breeder's development funds. This was an issue prioritized by all participating breed groups. The Kansas Horse Council has evaluated similar programs from other states and considered how rule changes could impact breeders from both a short and long-term and while the Kansas Horse Council recognize that no single group may be completely satisfied, the Kansas Horse Council remains committed to continued collaboration and open amicable dialog. The Kansas Horse Council intends to stay actively engaged in racing revival in this great state and its mission is to provide tools and resources that welcome newcomers, educate the public, support industry growth, and advocate for all parties involved. The Kansas Horse Council has promoted renewed hope through networking events, outreaching efforts, and education materials. Ms. Staten referenced a handout that was disseminated to the commissioners and explained that the Kansas Horse Council could provide these kinds of infographics upon request. The Kansas Horse Council has pledged to create a dedicated page on their website to serve as a central hub that will link to the KRGC website and breed group websites.

- Chairman Moses asked if Ms. Staten felt that the commission had heard all of the differing opinions, viewpoints, comments on this topic from today's group. Ms. Staten noted that Jeff Rutland was absent and that he has more things to bring up and those will be worked in time but yes the commission has heard the proposed changes to Article 12 from the quarter horse perspective, the thoroughbred perspective, and the paints have indicated that they fall in line with the thoroughbred's perspective; that less is more and to please provide an opportunity for an on-ramp. Ms. Staten further explained that they have not had time as a group to come together, and hash threw agreements and disagreements. Chairman Moses asked if Ms. Staten anticipates a meeting of the minds on the issue of registering out of state horses. Ms. Staten responded that she has reviewed rules for other jurisdictions, and it could be that there is a carve-out for particular breeds. Chairman Moses asked if Dr. Hayden as working with the group or if someone with a similar background to Dr. Hayden was working with the group. Ms. Staten confirmed that Dr. Hayden has participated and in the

working group there are three representatives from each breed group. Chairman Moses asked if Mr. Rutland is associated with a particular breed group. Ms. Staten responded that he is with the Kansas Quarter Horse Association.

- Commissioner Fleming asked if the issue of out-of-state registration eligibility was unique amongst other racing states. Ms. Staten responded that no, every state operates with some kind of a domiciled rule, some being 30- 60- 90- 120- or even 365-days.

Chairman Moses called Bryce Peckham to the podium for comment. Dr. Peckham explained that when he left Kansas in 2008 he was invited to be the Chief Track Veterinarian for the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission and was there for four years. We did a lot of work in Kentucky. Dr. Peckham said Kentucky was a mess and that is why they reached out to him. Dr. Peckham said that the Kentucky commission was able to bring racing into the 20th century. Dr. Peckham noted that from a regulatory standpoint there was better racing in Kansas. Dr. Peckham explained that the reason he has appeared before the commission is because he has applied for the vacant seat because he believes he can offer the commission a great deal particularly in reestablishing the breeding programs as well as his expertise in horse racing in general.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (H.)

There were no public comments.

STAFF REPORTS (I.1. and I.2.)

Garrett Rogers, Paralegal, reported on both the Voluntary Exclusion Program and Sports Wagering Exclusion Program statistics for the month of June 2025, and also presented the Quarterly Illegal Gambling report for the second quarter of 2025.

Executive Director Brownlee reported:

- Crosswinds Casino is expanding their operation to include a 238-room hotel that will include a ballroom, banquet, and meeting spaces. They will also almost double their gaming area and estimate up to 1,400 slot machines in total. They anticipate completing by the summer of 2027.
- Champtown is an entertainment district proposed by Park City located within two to three miles south of Gilley's. It is estimated that it will be between 53rd and 61st right along the I-135 highway. The project is intended to be a tourist destination with a variety of attractions including a hotel, retail spaces, restaurant spaces, an aquarium, an interactive butterfly environment, and multiple baseball and softball fields. The project did not get off to quite of quick of start as anticipated and that was partly blamed on the weather this past winter. However, they have started dirt work. As they got started in April, one of the financial backers of the project withdrew his support and there

were concerns about whether the project would be able to continue. Those concerns still exist. The remaining project promoters and Park City officials are adamant at this time that the project will be completed. Chairman Moses added that this was the old Echo Hills golf course.

- The parimutuel racing act changed with the addition of historical horse racing. The law changed as well as there have been some budget provisos that made changes. Due to those changes, the procedures for horse racing that the agency used to use are no longer applicable, so commissioners will be tasked with having to adjust within some of those procedures as we go forward. We will educate commissioners on what those differences are. KRGC, mostly through Director Lopez, has been communicating with the horse racing industry and different individuals involved. The event today, hearing from the horse industry in-person was suggested by Chairman Moses and very beneficial for both commissioners and staff. KRGC hopes to take that information that we have heard today as well as a lot of written information received from the industry that Director Lopez is putting together. Staff will come back to commissioners with proposals to address some of the differences heard today.
- KRGC has started the process to staff the KRGC office connected to Gilley's. Aaron Harvey has been selected as the KRGC Supervisor for the location. Aaron has been the KRGC Supervisor in the Boot Hill facility for a number of years and expressed interest in moving to the new facility. KRGC has begun announcing positions for Gilley's. Three existing enforcement agents expressed interest in moving to the new facility. And have also begun the process of filling the rest of the positions.
- Gilley's has provided KRGC with temporary office space located in a portable office outside of the facility while construction continues.
- The Kansas Star Casino added another sports wagering platform to their offerings beginning on July 30th bet365 will begin offering mobile sports wagering through Kansas Star Casino.
 - Chairman Moses asked if that was in addition to FanDuel. Executive Director Brownlee confirmed that was accurate.
 - Chairman Moses asked if the new platform was managed by the same individual. General Manager Kuplen responded that it was a different manager.
- The next meeting is scheduled for August 15th here in Topeka.

MOTION, EXECUTIVE
SESSION;
CONFIDENTIAL

Commissioner Fleming (Jones) moved that the Commission go into executive session for the purpose of reviewing confidential background reports presented today by the commission's security division. In addition to the commissioners, the confidential background reports portion included the executive director,

BACKGROUND
REPORTS
(J.1.)

general counsel, director of security, licensing, and backgrounds. The total time for the executive session was anticipated to be twenty-five (25) minutes until 12:35 p.m. No action is to be taken in executive session, and the subjects discussed are to be limited as previously described. A full record of this motion is to be maintained as part of the permanent record of the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. At the conclusion of the executive session, the meeting is to be continued in open session. The motion carried 3-0, and the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 12:10 p.m.

RECONVENE
(J.2.)

The commission meeting returned to open session at 12:35 p.m. with Chairman Moses, Commissioner Jones, and Commissioner Fleming present.

MOTIONS ON LICENSE
APPLICATIONS
(K.)

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved to *deny three* license applications, *deny one* request for reconsideration, *conditionally approve two* license applications, and *approve the 252* license applications from the July 18, 2025, list of background reports referred to the commission for action. The motion carried 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS
(L.)

There were no other items for discussion or motion.

ADJOURNMENT
(M.)

Chairman Moses stated that the August 15, 2025, commission meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. for an in-person meeting at the Eisenhower State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas.

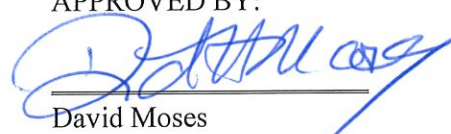
SUBMITTED BY:



Brandon Jones
Vice-Chair

Commissioner Fleming (Jones) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



David Moses
Chairman

