

**NEW JERSEY RACING COMMISSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020
SPECIAL TELEPHONE MEEETING
1:00 P.M. PUBLIC SESSION**

A special public meeting of the New Jersey Racing Commission was held on Monday, August 24, 2020 by telephone.

The following were present:

Pamela J. Clyne, Chairman
Francis X. Keegan, Jr., Commissioner
Michael J. Arnone, Commissioner
Glen Vetrano, Commissioner
Judith A. Nason, Executive Director
SDAG George Cohen
Lauren Nathan-LaRusso, Esq., Governor's Authorities Unit

Executive Director Nason called the meeting to order. She thanked everyone for making themselves available for today's special meeting.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF PURSE MONEY AT MONMOUTH PARK IN ADVANCE OF RECEIVING POST-RACE TEST RESULTS BASED UPON THE GUARANTEE OF REPAYMENT SUBMITTED BY THE NEW JERSEY THOROUGHBRED HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

Executive Director Nason stated Truesdail Laboratories has been experiencing delays in testing post-race samples and reporting the test results. She informed the Commissioners that the proposal before them could significantly expedite the release of the thoroughbred purse money to the horsemen.

Executive Director Nason explained on August 18, 2020, the Board of Directors for the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (THA) adopted a Resolution which requests the release of the thoroughbred purse money and proffers a repayment guarantee should a horse test positive. Specifically, the THA asks the NJRC to allow purse money to be paid 11 days after the race is declared official if the NJRC has not yet received the test results for the samples collected after the race. In the event a test subsequently comes back positive, the THA guarantees that the purse monies paid to the owner and/or trainer will be paid back to the Purse Account within 14 days of the notification of the positive. If the owner or trainer fails to repay the purse monies, the THA will repay the purse monies into the Purse Account.

Executive Director Nason pointed out that the Commission considered and approved a similar guarantee by the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association at the February 10, 2016 meeting. The Commission accepted the SBOA's guarantee to repay overnight purses up to \$25,000.

The Executive Director asked the Commissioners if they had any questions of Dennis Drazin, Chairman and CEO of Darby Development, regarding this matter. The Commissioners did not have any questions about this matter. She then asked Mr. Drazin if he would like to add anything to the THA's request. Mr. Drazin indicated that the THA asked that purse money be released upon the expiration of the 10th day after the race. The Executive Director pointed out that the Commission interpreted the expiration of the 10th day as payout on the 11th day. Mr. Drazin understood and stated the THA request is for all purses both overnights as well as stakes.

Executive Director asked if there were any other questions or discussion on this matter. Hearing none, she asked the Commissioners if there was a motion to approve.

Chairman Clyne made a motion to accept the THA's guarantee and approve the release of thoroughbred purse money at Monmouth Park on the 11th day after the race if the NJRC has not yet received the test results. In addition, the Commission allows the Executive Director to rescind this approval if repayment problems occur and circumstances warrant it. Commissioner Keegan seconded the motion and all the Commissioners voted yes.

CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF THE INCREASE IN THE GUARANTEE OF STANDARDBRED PURSE REPAYMENT BY THE STANDARDBRED BREEDERS' AND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY FROM \$25,000 TO \$30,000.

Executive Director Nason stated at the February 10, 2016 meeting, the Commission accepted the request of the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association to guarantee the repayment of purses in overnight races up to \$25,000 should any horse test positive.

Executive Director Nason indicated the repayment process and guarantee has worked well. She explained on April 21, 2020, SBOA President Mark Ford requested that, due to testing delays, the SBOA be allowed to increase the purse guarantee to cover overnight purses up to \$30,000. The Executive Director informed the Commissioners that she approved the increase subject to the Commissioners' ratification at today's meeting.

Executive Director Nason asked the Commissioners if they had any questions for Al Ochsner, Executive Administrator of the SBOA. Hearing none, she asked Mr. Ochsner if he had anything he wanted to add. Mr. Ochsner stated due to the timeframe situation with Truesdail Laboratories, the SBOA thought they had to increase the amount of the guarantee to \$30,000 as the purses went up substantially.

Commissioner Keegan made a motion to ratify the increase in the SBOA's guarantee to cover overnight purses up to \$30,000 and Commissioner Arnone seconded the motion and all the Commissioner's voted yes.

Executive Director Nason then thanked everyone again for making themselves available for today's special meeting.

Mr. Drazin asked if the Governor's Office waived its right to approve the minutes or expedite them so he can let the horsemen know when to expect their money. The Executive

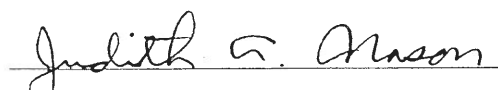
Director responded that the minutes will be filed with the Governor's Office this afternoon. Executive Director Nason stated she will contact Mr. Drazin by phone when the minutes are approved.

Mr. Drazin thanked the Executive Director and the Commissioners for their expedient assistance as the horsemen are experiencing financial hardship.

The Executive Director asked if there were any other public comments. Hearing none, she asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Clyne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Keegan seconded the motion and the Commissioners approved the motion unanimously.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith A. Nason". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Judith A. Nason, Executive Director