

**MINUTES**  
**WV RACING COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, June 6th, 2024**  
**Hollywood Park Conference Room**

The WV Racing Commission met on June 6th, 2024, to conduct business and consider administrative matters. Roll call was taken, and present was Commissioner Ken Lowe Jr. Chairman Tony Figaretti and Chairman Chip Urling.

**Agenda Item #1 – Approval of April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes**

Commission has approved the minutes from last meeting.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling.*

*Motion passed.*

**Agenda Item #2 – Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Moore submitted for review for the Account Status Report for OASIS funds for the third quarter of 2024. Mr. Moore also informed the commission that an outside audit firm will be in the office for the 2024 annual audit starting in July and Ending the final field work in August. Mr. Moore will keep the commission updated on the questions and progress of the audit. Mr. Moore also submitted the injury statistics for the 2024 Calendar year for Charles Town. Mountaineer Park just started the meet in April, and we do not have May data yet for that park. The Charles Town report is from January to April. You will see a downward trend from last year compared to other years. Our rate is slightly higher than last year but lower than every other year at this point in the meet. Mr. Moors states that the mortality list though April is in the report as well. Mr. Moore also updated that he has not given the commission the financial summary report on the wagering due to an IT issue at Wheeling Island with the auditing database. This issue is now being smoothed out and entry of the wagering activity is now being performed by an auditor in the main office. Mr. Moore hopes to catch up on the data entry for the at the beginning of the year and hopes to hire an auditor in July. Chairman Lowe then thanks Charlie and introduced him.

**Agenda Item #3 – Resolution honoring Sylvia Bishop**

Back in the May meeting Chairman Lowe informed the commission of the accomplishments of Ms. Bishop and the event honoring that was held in Charles Town for her. At that point Commissioner Urling request the commission to prepare a resolution honoring Ms. Bishop. This resolution has been drafted and is attached. The commission takes a break to read and sign the resolution and present it to the family of Ms. Bishop. Chairman Lowe hopes to have a yearly celebration for Ms. Bishop.

#### **Agenda Item #4 –Personnel Matter– Hire Charles Town Steward**

Mr. Rara resigned a month ago in that time Chairman Lowe and Mr. Moore have interviewed candidates to recommend for this position. At this time Mr. Moore would like to recommend Mr. Carlos Parteda. Mr. Moore has provided his resume to the commission and he and Chairman Lowe have met extensively with Mr. Partega and notes his experience in the field.

Mr. Parteda was on the call and thanks the commission and West Virginia racing.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling. to offer the position.  
Motion passed.*

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Personnel Matter– Hire Charles Town Steward**

The West Virginia Racing Commission has staffed two full-time stewards and a part time for Charles Town. Chairman Lowe and Mr. Moore have spoken about their desire to full staff with three full-time state employees. Mr. Moore would at this time recommend Mr. Roy Cave to fill that position as the third steward. His resume has been given to the commission and he was previously employed by the commission as the investigator as well as other duties for the Charles Town track. Mr. Cave has extensive knowledge of the area and his duties and is recommended by Mr. Moore.

Mr. Cave thanks the committee for the opportunity. Mr. Moore would like to also take this time to acknowledge Mr. Bobby Lot for his service to the racing commission and looks forward to him remaining to share knowledge of his time and as a fill in position.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling to offer the position.  
Motion passed.*

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Personnel Matter– Hire Wheeling Island License Clerk**

Mr. Moore recommends the hire of Wheeling Island License Clerk. In December the commission took action against the license clerk/auditor and subsequently both of those positions have been vacant since that time. The commission has been completing and fulfilling its duties through the Mountaineer Park license clerk. This will be a part-time position hired by the commission. Mr. Moore has submitted the resume of Ms. Dauge and recommends the hire.

*Motion made by Commissioner Urling.  
Motion passed.*

#### **Agenda Item #7 – Remarks by Commissioners**

Mr. Urling would like to thank Charles Town for the hospitality of the impressive facility and looks forward to learning more about what they do here.

## **Agenda Item #6 – Public Comments**

Ms. Catignani would like to thank the commission for coming and the visit. They are happy to sponsor the event and the day at the farms and learn more about the industry. Mr. Moore would also like to thank Charlie and the staff for hosting the commission and the events. The staff has been helpful and thanks HBPA.

## **Agenda Item #7 – Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Urling*

# Resolution Honoring THE Service OF Sylvia Bishop

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Racing Commission wishes to honor the service and dedication Sylvia Bishop provided the thoroughbred racing industry in West Virginia.

WHEREAS, Sylvia Bishop began working at Charles Town's race track in 1934, at the age of 14.

WHEREAS, in 1940, Sylvia Bishop was officially issued a trainer's permit by the West Virginia Racing Commission, making her the first African American female thoroughbred horse trainer in the United States of America. Ms. Bishop had 349 starters with 44 wins and a WPS result in nearly one-third of her races.

WHEREAS, in 2008 Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races inducted Sylvia Bishop into their Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame.

THEREFOR, be it resolved that the West Virginia Racing Commission would like to issue this resolution in honor of Sylvia Bishop for her contributions to the thoroughbred racing industry, the West Virginia Racing Commission, and the State of West Virginia.