

**Virginia Racing Commission**

**MINUTES**

**OF THE**

**COMMISSION MEETING**

**August 17, 2023**

**Colonial Downs  
Ballroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
10515 Colonial Downs Parkway  
New Kent, VA 23124**

In Attendance

Commission Members:

Stephanie B. Nixon, Chair  
Marsha K. Hudgins, Vice Chair  
Stuart C. Siegel  
John F. Tanner Jr.

Commission Staff:

David S. Lermond, Jr., Executive Secretary  
Ada K. Caruthers, DVM, Equine Medical Director  
Israel Saavedra, Commission Investigator

Attorney General's Office:

Elizabeth Myers, Esquire

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At 11:02 a.m., Chair Nixon called the regular monthly meeting of the Virginia Racing Commission (VRC) to order. Commissioner Brand was absent.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 6, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Tanner and the vote was as follows: Commissioner Siegel, aye; Vice Chair Hudgins, aye; Chair Nixon, aye; Commissioner Tanner, aye.

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve an additional \$11,000 to the VHHA Benevolence Budget for 2023. Seconded by Vice Chair Hudgins and the vote was as follows: Commissioner Siegel, aye; Vice Chair Hudgins, aye; Chair Nixon, aye; Commissioner Tanner, aye.

Commissioner Siegel moved to approve expenditures from the Standardbred portion of the Virginia Breeders fund for 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Tanner and the vote was as follows: Commissioner Siegel, aye; Vice Chair Hudgins, aye; Chair Nixon, aye; Commissioner Tanner, aye.

Jeb Hannum and Jill Byrne gave an update on the Virginia Horse Industry Strategic Planning Committee and showed a sixty second advertisement about the Virginia Horse Industry developed by VEA.

Frank Hopf, Senior Director of Racing Operations for Colonial Downs Group, reported on the 2023 thoroughbred racing season at Colonial Downs to include comparative live racing statistics and marketing efforts.

David Lermond, Executive Secretary for the Virginia Racing Commission, introduced the new Commission Investigator.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

With no further business set forth on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.