

**Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**June 11, 2022**  
**Prejeans Restaurant**  
**Carencro, Louisiana**  
**1:00 pm**

**Directors Present:**

Jay Adcock  
Brett Brinkman  
Charlotte Clavier  
Jake Delhomme  
Tom Early  
Danny Guidry  
Warren Harang III  
Keith Hernandez  
David Tillson

**Directors Absent:**

Michelle LaVoice  
Jim Montgomery  
Val Murrell  
Michele Rodriguez

**Others Present:**

Therese Arroyo  
Alex Bonin  
Julie Calzone  
Chrissie Early  
Roger Heitzmann  
Linda McLellan  
Mike McHalfey  
Ken Venable  
Mike Whitler  
Greg Romig

Warren Harang called the meeting to order and asked Roger Heitzmann to call the roll. A quorum was present with Michelle LaVoice, Michele Rodriguez, Keith Hernandez, and Jim Montgomery absent. The meeting was ready to proceed with business.

Jake Delhomme led us in prayer.

Warren Harang asked Therese and Greg to present the audit report. Greg explained the annual audit of financial statements to the board and explained the impact of Covid on the race revenue from the 2020 year, as well as our beneficial 2021 year as Covid calmed down. They spoke about the paycheck protection enforced in 2020. Greg asked if anyone had questions. Since there were no questions, he then moved on to explain the statewide agreed-upon procedures report and the new policies we must abide by, like required annual training of employees. Therese announced that we will receive these training materials from the Board of Agriculture and asked the board to

have them done by June 30<sup>th</sup> so we many comply early with the required training. Greg then explained the new policies like the Disaster Recovery on Information Technology System policy as well as the required employee formal time and attendance system. He explained that we are all in compliance with these new policies so far. Charlotte Clavier asked if we need to be implementing a system of clocking in and out for the employees of each organization. Greg pointed out that the reason we have not enforced this in the past is because each organization only has so many employees and therefore it would not be a smart cost-effective move to implement this kind of system if it is not necessary. Greg also stated how this has been reported to the legislative auditor in the past and was deemed not necessary nor an issue for us. Warren asked if there were any questions for Greg regarding all of this, and there were none. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to accept the audit report as it was presented, which was seconded by Tom Early. With no oppositional votes from the board Warren declared the motion carried and to move on with the meeting.

Warren requested the approval of the minutes from the meeting of the Board on April 12, 2022. Roger stated that two corrections had been made to the minutes from said meeting regarding the correction of two members' names. Tom Early made a motion to approve the minutes with these corrections made by Roger. Brett Brinkman seconded this motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda is the updating of conflict of interest forms. Warren asked for any members who needed to make revisions from their old forms to submit them.

Moving forward with the agenda was the Ladies Race on Louisiana Champions Day. Roger announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Scott Jones, the Fair Grounds Racing Secretary, asking to please let him know if it was decided whether the Ladies Race would run on dirt or revert back to turf. Roger stated that the Fairgrounds would prefer the race be moved back onto turf for the sake of entry numbers. After discussion ensued over other races being run on turf or dirt and the pros and cons of such, Warren asked the board to vote on the decision of turf vs. dirt for the Ladies Race on LA Champions Day. Jake Delhomme made a motion to have it run on turf for this year. Tom Early seconded this motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Warren announced the next item on the agenda was a discussion regarding HISA. Warren announced that a HISA representative will be present at a meeting being held at Evangeline Downs to answer any questions and clear up any confusion. Discussion ensued over HISA, how the Board feels regarding it, and how multiple members have called to report how they feel regarding it. Roger announced that many members have told him they are not registering, or some are waiting to register because they do not truly understand what HISA is about as well as its requirements. Charlotte Clavier explained how most people are worried they would be signing over their rights to have their private property searched and possessions seized at any time, which would all be public knowledge and not kept private. Warren reminded that there are different rules regarding homes vs. farms with HISA. Charlotte countered that, like many others, her house is also her farm and therefore are one in the same in the eyes of HISA. Warren stated

that tracks have different rules than farms; for example, if you live hours away from the nearest veterinarian you are allowed to have some medications on your farm. However, on a track, which would have an onsite veterinarian, you may not have these medications as they are not deemed necessary since there is already a licensed vet on the grounds. Further discussion ensued over the changing terms and conditions, which has added to the confusion regarding the requirements of HISA, as well as who will be affected by HISA once in place. Roger stated HISA is federal law that will go into effect as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Warren announced that moving forward he wants every member of the board to reacquaint themselves with the HISA requirements, as they continue to change.

Moving on with the agenda, Warren asked Roger to discuss the Memberships and Election. Roger reminded the board that until the board decides on the definition of a member, and said by-laws regarding membership, that the LTBA cannot send out membership forms this month to its members. He also stated that this means there will be no election at this time either until further notice. Roger announced that a draft of new by-laws has been drawn up by attorney John Duvieilh and this has been sent to the By-Law committee for review. Roger stated that each member present has a copy of the draft in their folders and reminded them that this was just a draft; the committee is still open to suggestions, concerns, or changes regarding said draft of the by-laws. Warren stated the By-Law committee has a meeting scheduled that week to further discuss any possible changes or improvements to be made to the by-laws. Warren asked if the board members had anything they needed him to pass onto the By-Law Committee for the meeting later in the week. Therese Arroyo asked if the By-Law Committee could look at the requirements of the Membership Committee so that everything is coordinated and unified in terms of rules and requirements across all committees. Warren agreed and stated this would be a part of the By-Law Committee meeting. With no more concerns or questions Warren declared to move on.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **By-Law: Val Murrell – Chairman**

No report at this time, other than what was just previously discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### **Election Committee: David Tillson – Chairman**

No report at this time, other than what was just previously discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### **Finance & Audit: Tom Early – Chairman**

Tom Early gave the report on the March 31<sup>st</sup> financial statement. Therese reported that it can be seen in the report that there were issues with cashing a check from Evangeline Downs on time as well as a Louisiana Downs issue with slot money. Both issues were resolved within days, but it is still shown on the audit. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to approve the financial statement as presented. Brett Brinkman seconded this motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Grievance Committee: Michelle LaVoice – Chairman**

No report at this time.

**LTBA/HBPA Liaison Committee: Keith Hernandez – Chairman**

No report at this time.

**Government Affairs: Jake Delhomme – Chairman**

Roger announced that neither of our lobbyists could be in attendance for today's Board of Directors meeting. He stated that our bill regarding Champion's Day money has passed. He stated bill 1055 has been passed. Bill 1055 is the bill requiring tracks to take 10% of the slot profits and use them on said racing facility. Roger stated another bill was passed regarding taking 4% from the historic racing machines to give to the racing commission to be used on various factions to improve races. He announced that you may now apply for a 3-year partnership license as opposed to the previous only 1-year license. Roger stated that the sports books may now also take horse bets as well.

**LTBA/LSRC Liaison Commission: Danny Guidry - Chairman**

No report at this time.

**Inspection Committee: Brett Brinkman – Chairman**

Brett handed the floor to Mike Whitler who had no report at this time.

**Membership Committee: Michele Rodriguez – Chairman**

Roger reports that the Membership Committee had a meeting and forwarded the information to the By-Law Committee for review. There was no other report at this time.

**PAC Committee: Keith Hernandez – Chairman**

No report at this time.

**Purse Committee: John Duvieilh – Chairman**

Roger stated that he had just received reports from the Racing Commission for purse redistributions from some 2015 races. Discussion ensued over how to go about handling this in the future with similar scenarios.

**Salary & Benefits: Tom Early – Chairman**

No report at this time.

**Sale Committee: Val Murrell – Chairman**

Discussion ensued over those who have already expressed wanting to participate in the upcoming sale as well as Mike Whitler reaching out to consignors for possible participation.

**New Business:**

Charlotte Clavier reminded the board of the Reap Benefits being held that night and thanked the

board for any donations or participation. She also encouraged participation regarding the Chaplin's fund, as well as any clothing donations for the thrift closet on the track.

Roger announced that the LTBA did update the New Mare Form for members to use from now on. He stated that the rules on the new form are the current rules in place and if these By-Laws did indeed change in the future, they will be adjusted on the new form again to be correct.

Roger also stated that Linda McLellan is working on creating a "classifieds" section for the LTBA website for members to advertise mares, farms, tractors, etc. It will be a free benefit to LTBA members.

**Old Business:**

Discussion ensued over the progress of historical racing machines. No report at this time.

**Date, Time, & Place of next Board of Directors Meeting:**

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. To be held in conjunction with Louisiana Cup Day.

Tom Early motioned to call the meeting into executive session before adjourning. This was seconded by Charlotte Clavier which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Charlotte made a motion to move back to regular session. Tom Early seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Tom Early made a motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Danny Guidry, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger A. Heitzmann III  
Executive Director