

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HORSE RACING BOARD

In the Matter of:)

)

Regular Meeting)

)

CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION AND STATE FAIR GRANDSTAND

1600 EXPOSITION BOULEVARD

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

9:30 A.M.

Reported by:

Elise Hicks

APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS

Gregory Ferraro, Chair

Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair

Dennis Alfieri, Commissioner

Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner

STAFF

Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Amanda Brown, Chief Counsel

Rita Baker, Executive Assistant

Jeff Blea, Equine Medical Director

ALSO PRESENT

Eric Sindler, Monarch Content Management, LLC

Nate Newby, Stronach Group, LLC

Doug Burge, California Thoroughbred Breeders Association

John Latimer, Capitol Advocacy

Bill Nader, Thoroughbred Owners of California

Rick Baedeker

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Gomes, Humboldt County Fair

Ellen Jackson, Owner/Breeder

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| 3. | Discussion and action by the Board on the application for license to conduct a horse racing meeting of Golden State Racing at Pleasanton from December 25, 2024, through June 10, 2025. | -- |
| 4. | Discussion and action by the Board regarding the allocation and/or reallocation of racing dates for Northern California from December 2024 to December 2025. | 4 |
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and vanning proposed financial and operational plans for the upcoming calendar year, as required pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19607.3.

10. Discussion by the Board regarding the submission to the Board of the Southern California stabling and vanning proposed financial and operational plans for the upcoming calendar year, as required pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19607.1. 15
11. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the request to modify the distribution of market access fees from Advanced Deposit Wagering for wagering conducted by Thoroughbred Associations and Racing Fairs in the Central and Southern zones to include a distribution to the Southern California Stabling and Vanning Fund, and to adjust the amount distributed to that Fund from brick and mortar wagering to the same percentage as for ADW for 2025. 17

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| 16. | Discussion and action by the Board regarding the request to modify the distribution of market access fees from Advanced Deposit Wagering, which otherwise would have funded purses and commissions, to cover the assessments as allocated to each Signatory Racing Association pursuant to the Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020 ("HISA") for calendar year 2025. | 28 |
| 17. | <p>Reports</p> <p>A. Executive Director's Report</p> <p>B. Equine Medical Director's Report</p> | 29 |
| 18. | <p>Public Comment: Communications, reports, requests for future actions of the Board.</p> <p>Note: During the public comment period, a total of 30 minutes will be allowed for public comments via the teleconference line. After 30 minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to two minutes.</p> | 34 |

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19. Closed Session: For the purpose of receiving --
advice from counsel, considering pending
litigation, reaching decisions on administrative
licensing and disciplinary hearings, and personnel
matters, as authorized by section 11126 of the
Government Code.
- A. The Board may convene a Closed Session to
confer with and receive advice from its
legal counsel regarding the pending
litigation described in the attachment
to this agenda captioned "Pending
Litigation," and as authorized by
Government Code section 11126(e).
- B. The Board may convene a Closed Session
to confer with and receive advice from
its legal counsel regarding the pending
administrative licensing or disciplinary
matters described in the attachment to
this agenda captioned "Pending
Administrative Adjudications," as

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Closed Session:

authorized by Government Code section
11126(e).

- C. The Board may convene a Closed Session
for the purposes of considering personnel
matters as authorized by Government Code
section 11126(a).

20. Adjournment

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1
2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 9:31 A.M.

4 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Ladies and gentlemen, this meeting
6 of the California Horse Racing Board will please come to
7 order. Please take your seats. This is the regular noticed
8 meeting of the California Horse Racing Board on Thursday,
9 December 19th, 2024 at the California Exposition and State
10 Fair Grandstand, 1600 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento,
11 California.

12 Present at today's meeting are: myself, Dr.
13 Gregory Ferraro; Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair; Dennis Alfieri,
14 Commissioner; Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner.
15 Damascus Castellano will be here shortly. Unfortunately,
16 Commissioner Hudnut's flight was canceled, and Commissioner
17 Carvelli is not here due to health concerns, so we'll have
18 to proceed without him.

19 Before we go to the business of the meeting, I
20 need to make a few comments, as you all know.

21 The Board invites public comment on the matters
22 appearing on the meeting agenda. Procedurally, the Board
23 will first hear from those directly involved in the agenda
24 item. I will then invite public comment on the agenda item.

25 The Board will not answer questions. This is for comment,

1 not questions.

2 Unsolicited speakers are limited to two minutes.
3 During all public comments, a tone will sound to indicate
4 the speaker's time is up. The Board may ask questions of
5 individuals who speak, which may extend their two-minute
6 time limit.

7 There are public comment sign-in sheets located at
8 the designated table to my right for each agenda item on
9 which the Board invites comments. There is also a sign-in
10 sheet for those wishing to speak during the public comment
11 period for matters not on the Board's agenda if it concerns
12 horse racing in California. Please print your name legibly
13 on all sign-in sheets so we can get your name correctly.

14 When a matter is open for public comment and you
15 come to the podium, introduce yourself by stating your name
16 and organization. This is necessary for the court reporter
17 to have a clear record of all who speak. When your two
18 minutes are up, I'll ask you to return to your seat so that
19 others can be heard.

20 I will insist that all speakers stay strictly on
21 topic for each agenda item. If a speaker strays off topic,
22 I will ask to move to the next speaker. If a speaker
23 repeats themselves, I will ask the speaker if the speaker
24 has any new comments to make. If there are none, the
25 speaker will be asked to let others make comments to the

1 Board.

2 If anyone has comments of a more general nature
3 that are not specific to earlier agenda items, those
4 comments must wait until agenda number nine. There will be
5 a 30-minute time limit for public comment. In order to
6 allow as many individuals to speak as possible within a half
7 hour, we will strictly enforce the two-minute time limit for
8 each unsolicited speaker.

9 With that, we can begin by approval of the
10 minutes. Do I have a motion to approve?

11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

12 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Second.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

18 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

20 Items two and three will not be heard today.

21 They're moved at this point.

22 Item number four, discussion and action by the
23 Board regarding the allocation and/or reallocation of racing
24 dates for Northern California from December 24th to December
25 25th.

1 Mr. Chaney?

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Sure. Thank you, Mr.
3 Chairman. Good morning, Commissioners.

4 With the withdrawal of the Golden State Racing
5 license app, this agenda item becomes important. As the
6 Board may or may not remember, the Northern California dates
7 so far have been allocated to the Standardbred, Cal Expom
8 Watch and Wager. Those remain the same. The ones in
9 question for this morning will be the six months from
10 December 26th to June that were allocated to Golden State
11 Racing. Given the fact that they've withdrawn their
12 application, in order for AB 1074, the simulcast redirect,
13 if you will, to take place, those dates would need to be
14 unallocated for that to happen.

15 So the ask of the Board is to un-allocate December
16 through June in Northern California.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
18 Board? Do we have any? No? Do we have a motion?

19 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: So move.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman seconds.

21 Commissioner Davis?

22 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

24 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

1 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

3 Number 4A, the late arrival of the Government
4 section [sic] Code 11125.3, discussion and action by the
5 Board regarding the proposed amendment of License 24-14
6 granted to Los Angeles Turf Club, LATC, to conduct a horse
7 race meeting at Santa Anita from December 18th to June 17th.

8 Mr. Chaney?

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Sure. So 4A was
10 amended. The agenda was amended on Tuesday pursuant to this
11 Government Code section 11125.3. And since it was amended
12 after the ten-day notice period, in order for the Board to
13 hear it, it requires a vote of either two-thirds of the
14 Board, but in the event that less than two-thirds of the
15 Board are here, it would require a unanimous vote of the
16 Board this morning. So all four of you in order to vote to
17 hear 4A.

18 And the underlying substance of 4A is amendments
19 to the Santa Anita license app that you granted last month.
20 These amendments were necessitated when Golden State Racing
21 withdrew its application on Monday.

22 So to hear 4A, the Board would first need to vote
23 unanimously to hear 4A.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Comments or questions from the
25 Board?

1 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll make a motion.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

3 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I make a motion to approve.

4 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll second that.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

6 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

10 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Thank you, Mr.

13 Chairman.

14 For benefit of the Board and the folks in the room
15 and listening at home, letter 4A, agenda item 4A was amended
16 into the agenda on Tuesday morning. Yesterday evening we
17 uploaded two documents to the Board packet. There are also
18 hard copies at Ms. Baker's table with respect to this agenda
19 item.

20 And then we added one more this morning, and that
21 is also at the table and uploaded when we got it this
22 morning. The three documents are Santa Anita's race meet app
23 from last month that was approved. And the second and third
24 one, if you will, are a letter from Council Eric Sindler for
25 Santa Anita requesting certain amendments to the Santa Anita

1 race meet app. And the third one this morning was an
2 addendum to the TOC agreement. And in substance, for those
3 who haven't seen it yet, dropping the lowest claiming level
4 to \$5,000, assigning a purse schedule to that, and making
5 the lowest maiden claiming \$8,000, also a per schedule for
6 that.

7 So I believe, if the Board have questions, Eric
8 Sindler and Nate Newby are probably here from Santa Anita.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: These changes are really to
10 accommodate the Northern California horses; is that correct?

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: They're entirely for
12 that.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: And that's why the
15 Board can hear this amended item, because the circumstances
16 that necessitated this additional agenda item occurred after
17 we noticed the meeting ten days ago.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead, gentlemen.

19 MR. SINDLER: Good morning. Eric Sindler on
20 behalf of Santa Anita. I'm here with Nate Newby.

21 As the Executive Director just said, all of these
22 changes are to accommodate horses from Northern California
23 to be able to participate in our race meet. And we're happy
24 to answer any questions you may have.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Nate, do you have anything to add?

1 MR. NEWBY: I'll just add, we've had, in the last
2 three days, we've had a lot of productive meetings with
3 pretty much all stakeholders, racing offices from every
4 group in the state, CTT, and come up with this, lowering the
5 minimums. That was at their recommendation and we were, of
6 course, onboard and we're ready to provide racing
7 opportunities and do everything we can.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Do you have your condition book
9 figured out for those horses?

10 MR. NEWBY: Yeah, so the racing office put out --
11 book one had been out. The racing office put out extras
12 yesterday for the first week of, and they'll continue to put
13 them out in advance, and then those races will be included
14 starting in book two. But they'll be offered on race day
15 starting the day after opening, so 12/27.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions from the Board?
17 Comments, questions?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I should point out,
19 just for the Board's edification, that some of the other
20 amendments involved naming Golden State Racing, Pleasanton,
21 an auxiliary training facility, giving Santa Anita
22 flexibility in terms of number of days racing. They're
23 planning on adding a fourth day and sometimes a fifth if
24 there's a holiday weekend, as well as additional races. So
25 most of the amendments had to do with those types of things.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Any comments from the public,
2 Rita? No?

3 A motion from the Board?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

5 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll make a second.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

9 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

11 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. Very
13 well.

14 MR. NEWBY: Thank you.

15 MR. SINDLER: Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Dr. Ferraro, I just wanted to
18 thank Oscar and Dennis for the time and effort they put in
19 to make sure that this got resolved in a timely and
20 favorable manner, as favorable as could be expected given
21 the circumstances.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes, it was a combination effort
23 from the industry, and we appreciate it, too. But I
24 recognize the hard work of our Commissioners to get that
25 done.

1 We're on five, I guess; right?

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Discussion and action by the Board
4 regarding the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association
5 request for authorization of its upcoming horse sale at
6 Fairplex in Pomona, California, pursuant to CHRB Rule 1807,
7 Authorized Horse Sales.

8 Mr. Chaney, this is courtesy from them; right?
9 They're not required, actually?

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah, I mean, Fairplex
11 is no longer an auxiliary training facility for any of our
12 regulated facility, but I believe CTBA seeks our approval,
13 because they'd like to go by all of our safety and
14 medication rules, and we appreciate that they do.

15 MR. BURGE: Yeah, good morning. Doug Burge with
16 the California Thoroughbred Breeders.

17 Yeah, this is our annual winter mix sale that we
18 have in Pomona at Fairplex. We cataloged 143 horses. We'll
19 probably have a few more supplements between now and the
20 sale on the 21st of January. We have horses of racing age,
21 yearlings, broodmares. We're also including the dispersal
22 of the Don Valpredo horses. There's about two dozen of
23 those in the sale.

24 And anyway, the sale is in -- like I said, it's at
25 Fairplex. It's the best facility in the state to sell

1 horses. You know, we use the old Barrett's barns, plenty of
2 room to show, always operate under all the CHRB
3 requirements, and we're getting a lot of interest in this
4 sale.

5 So any questions?

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Any questions from the Board? Do
7 we have anybody? No. Shall we have a motion to approve
8 these guys?

9 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah, I'll move. Gonzales.

10 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Second.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

12 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

16 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

18 MR. BURGE: Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Good luck for a good sale.

20 MR. BURGE: All right. Thank you.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Number six, discussion and action
22 by the Board regarding the distribution of race day charity
23 proceeds of the Los Alamitos Racing Association from its
24 2023 race meetings. Do we have someone from Los Al who
25 wants to speak?

1 MR. LATIMER: Mr. Chairman and members, John
2 Latimer on behalf of Los Alamitos Racing Association, just
3 here in support of the measure and urging the Board's
4 approval.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: It's pretty much the same as last
6 year; right? Yeah.

7 Any questions from the Board? Anything? No?

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll move. Gonzales moves.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman seconds.
10 Ms. Davis?

11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Mr. Alfieri?

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Mr. Gonzales?

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

17 We got one more here. Discussion and action by
18 the Board regarding distribution of race day charity
19 proceeds of the Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing
20 Association from 2022 to 2023 race meeting.

21 MR. LATIMER: Mr. Chairman and members, again,
22 John Latimer on behalf of Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing
23 Association, appreciate the time and attention and urge your
24 support of the item. Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: And, again, it's pretty much the

1 same as last year; right? Yeah.

2 Any questions from the Board?

3 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll make a motion to
4 approve.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Second.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

11 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes. Good
13 luck.

14 MR. LATIMER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Item number eight, discussion and
16 action by the Board regarding the proposed amendment of
17 Board Rule 1481, Occupational Licenses and Fees, Rule 1483,
18 Application for a License, Rule 1486, Terms of a License,
19 Rule 1487, Address of Licensees.

20 Amanda, can you explain this to us?

21 MS. BROWN: Sure. Good morning, Commissioners.
22 Amanda Brown, Chief Counsel.

23 So the Board actually approved this regulatory
24 package September of 2023. However, it was a little bit
25 premature because we needed a couple statutory fixes before

1 we could proceed with the regulatory changes, so those are
2 in place. They'll be in effect January 1st. And that was
3 related to license terms and also just defining our license
4 categories, which was required by the FBI.

5 So that's all taken place, and now we can proceed
6 with this reg package. But given the time, we're bringing
7 it back for your approval again.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: This doesn't have any major
9 implications for our actions, does it? I mean, it's just --

10 MS. BROWN: No. It will streamline things --

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

12 MS. BROWN: -- so there's just one application for
13 licensees. We had like, you know, ten or more --

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

15 MS. BROWN: -- floating around, so this will make
16 everything simpler.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Yeah, great. That's what I
18 thought.

19 Any questions from the Board?

20 Rita? No?

21 A motion?

22 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll make a motion.

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes. Item
6 number -- thank you, Amanda.

7 Discussion and action by the Board regarding the
8 submission to the Board of the Northern California stabling
9 and vanning proposed financial and operational plans for the
10 upcoming calendar year, as required for assurance to
11 Business and Profession Code 19607.3.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Mr. Chairman, I'm not
13 sure, I think Bill Nader is handling this one. Is that
14 right? I know it says Larry Swartzlander on your --

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- script.

17 Are you doing Northern California stabling and
18 vanning or just --

19 MR. NADER: Bill Nader from the TOC. Good
20 morning, Commissioners.

21 A/V REPRESENTATIVE: Could you please turn your
22 microphone on?

23 MR. NADER: I'm sorry. Bill Nader from the TOC.
24 Good morning, Commissioners.

25 I think for nine and ten, if I can, the stabling

1 and vanning plan needs to be revised to reflect the new
2 requirements. So that work is in progress and our plan
3 would be to provide an updated plan at the January meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: For what it's worth,
5 for the purposes of the Board, the stabling and vanning plan
6 budget, if you will, is a statutory requirement that must be
7 turned into the Board before November 1st each year.
8 Obviously, both entities did that. But, of course, the plan
9 and budget probably will need to be altered at some point.
10 I'm not sure even the law requires approval. It's just
11 acknowledgement that they've actually given it to us.

12 Is there a plan to -- will it be in place before
13 January 1st, do you think, or --

14 MR. NADER: Yeah. We've submitted to CARF, to
15 Larry, the Stabling Agreement for Pleasanton. We sent that
16 earlier this week, so -- and then on item 11, it gets into
17 the Market Access Fund deduction, which we can later
18 address.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: In terms of how you
20 actually pay for the stabling and Vanning?

21 MR. NADER: Pay for it, yeah. Correct.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Well, we should just table this
23 item now until we have the plan?

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I don't think -- I
25 don't even think it requires a vote, I'm kind of looking at

1 my Chief Counsel here, because the law just requires that
2 they submit it and the Board acknowledge that. And I think,
3 I know, by setting it as an agenda item for both nine and
4 ten, the Board has fulfilled the statutory requirement. I
5 think the real action will be in number 11. And, hopefully,
6 Bill has a solution to how they pay for the Stabling and
7 Vanning going forward.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Are we going to hear 11 or
9 table it, as well?

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah. Are there any
11 public comments for nine and ten?

12 CHAIR FERRARO: No? Okay. Well, we'll table
13 those until next time.

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I don't even think you
15 need to table them. I think they're --

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay.

17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- the statutory
18 requirements satisfied, so you can move on to 11.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Eric Sindler mentioned
21 something in his letter.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Eleven is discussion and action by
23 the Board regarding the request to modify the distribution
24 of market access fees from advanced deposit wagering for
25 wagering conducted by thoroughbred associations and Racing

1 fairs in the central and southern zones to include a
2 distribution to the Southern California Stabling and Vanning
3 Fund, and to adjust the amount distributed to that Fund
4 from brick and mortar wagering to the same percentage as for
5 ADW for 2025.

6 MR. NADER: Thank you, Chairman. The request for
7 an ADW Market Access Fund deduction to fund Southern
8 California stabling and vanning, we did submit an agreement
9 with a 1.15 percent deduction, and seek your approval with
10 the caveat that we will further note that the recent change
11 in requirements to support stabling and vanning at
12 Pleasanton will require further Board approval. And we
13 request that the Board grant authority to its Executive
14 Director, Chaney, to approve the revised rate prior to
15 January 1.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: This is similar to what you did
17 last year; right?

18 MR. NADER: Yeah. The new wrinkle here is that we
19 know the deduction that's required for the south, but we're
20 still working through what it would be to incorporate
21 Pleasanton, so we need some flexibility there. But we will
22 have it to the Board and to the Executive Director before
23 January 1. And so what we're -- so that 1.15 percent would
24 need to be adjusted upward. We don't have the actual
25 percentage at this point in time, but we will before January

1 1. And we simply seek that the Board grant the Executive
2 Director to approve that once we can deliver that number.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: For the edification of
4 the Board, market access fees is just a fancy way of saying
5 purses and commissions.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: It's a statutory way
8 of saying that. And so, as I always like to say, maybe I
9 even borrowed it from my predecessor, it's -- who's here in
10 the audience, it's their money, we just need to approve how
11 they spend it. So typically, it's 1.25 in normal years, I
12 think. So obviously, the percentage that you take out of
13 purses and commissions is going to have to be higher in
14 order to pay for this new Stabling and Vanning Program --

15 MR. NADER: Correct.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- in conjunction with
17 Pleasanton, I guess.

18 MR. NADER: Yeah, it's actually 1.15 for Southern
19 Cal, but when we incorporate Pleasanton, it will be
20 something higher than that.

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Any predictions about
22 how much? I mean, is it going to be 2, 2.5?

23 MR. NADER: Less than two, I would say, yeah.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Okay.

25 MR. NADER: No more than two.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Less than two; is that what you
2 said?

3 MR. NADER: Yes.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Any questions from the Board?

5 Rita, you got anything?

6 Do we have a motion?

7 This is a motion to approve, Mr. Chaney, to
8 approve the changes.

9 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll so move.

10 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

12 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

18 Okay, Bill, thank you very much.

19 Where are we?

20 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Eleven.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: No, we just did 11.

22 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: No, that was item 12.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Discussion and action by the Board
24 regarding the request to modify the distribution of market
25 access fees from advanced deposit wagering for wagering

1 conducted by the signatory racing Associations, Santa Anita
2 Park and Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, for 2025 to include a
3 distribution to be utilized to fund the California Co-op
4 Marketing Program.

5 Again, this is similar to last year?

6 MR. NADER: Same as last year, no change.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Any questions from the
8 Board? No? The Chairman makes a motion to approve.

9 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Second.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

13 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

15 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

17 Item number 13 -- thank you, Bill --

18 MR. NADER: Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: -- discussion and action by the
20 Board regarding the request to continue the distribution of
21 market access fees from advanced deposit wagering and
22 wagering conducted by thoroughbred associations in the
23 central and southern Zones for 2025, to include
24 distributions to Southern California Off-Track Wagering,
25 Incorporated.

1 Mr. Baedeker, are you going to comment on this?

2 No?

3 Mr. Chaney?

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I think, Josh, are
5 you? What?

6 MR. BAEDEKER: Yeah, I guess it is me.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: We just wanted to get a better
8 look at you. That's why we called you.

9 MR. BAEDEKER: Well, who could blame you for that?

10 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: He has a tan.

11 MR. BAEDEKER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
12 Commissioners. Thank you.

13 This is a redirection from advanced deposit
14 wagering signed off on as by the associations to include the
15 distribution utilized to fund the California Co-op Marketing
16 Program. This has been done historically for many years,
17 and the statute that is referenced here allows the industry
18 partners to come back and redirect those funds, as they are
19 requesting today.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Any questions from the
21 Board? Anything? Do we have a motion?

22 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman seconds.

24 Commissioner Alfieri?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

6 Thanks, Rick. I brought you up here for a short
7 speech.

8 MR. BAEDEKER: Well, I'm here for the next one,
9 too.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Discussion and action by
11 the Board on whether to elect to collect remit fee -- no.
12 What did I do? Did I jump ahead?

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I think you were
14 correct.

15 I think we're done with you, Mr. Baedeker.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah, that's what I thought.

17 MR. BAEDEKER: Okay.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Where are we?

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: You did number 13,
20 which was SCOTWINC infrastructure. I think you're free to
21 go.

22 MR. BAEDEKER: Okay, good. I was actually talking
23 about 12.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah, you are.

25 MR. BAEDEKER: I think it's the same. Yeah, it's

1 the same concept. Thank you for the approval.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Discussion and action by the Board
3 on whether to elect to collect and remit fees on behalf of
4 the Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Authority for
5 California year 2025.

6 This is a method of paying for HISA; right?

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: It is. Every year
8 since the inception of HISA, the Board is in the position of
9 electing to opt in or opt out. Opting in means that the
10 state racing commission, in this case us, will report or
11 remit fees on behalf of our associations. Some other states
12 it works where the HISA enters into an agreement with each
13 individual track at a state. And here in California, we
14 prefer to do that, and I think our associations do too.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: And I think we profit by it too.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: So my recommendation
17 is to opt in.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Rita, do you have anybody
19 on this?

20 MS. BAKER: For 14?

21 CHAIR FERRARO: For 14, yeah.

22 Questions from the Board? Can we have a motion?

23 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll move. Oscar does,
24 yeah.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Second, Commissioner?

1 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll second.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: All right. Commissioner Davis?

3 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

5 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

7 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

9 Number 15, discussion and action by the Board
10 regarding entering into a Voluntary Implementation Agreement
11 with Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Authority, HISA, and
12 Horse Racing Integrity and Welfare Unit, HIWU.

13 Mr. Chaney?

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Thank you, Mr.
15 Chairman. This has to do with the Voluntary Agreement. So
16 as the Board might recall, each year the CHRB enters into an
17 agreement with HISA-HIWU, in order to memorialize our
18 relationship and agree to do certain things on their behalf.
19 The materials in the packet are just an example of a
20 previous Voluntary Agreement. These days we amend the one
21 from the previous year.

22 We have received our assessment. This year the
23 total assessment in California is about \$6.9 million, about
24 \$800,000 less than last year, because it's based on number
25 of starts. And I'm currently in negotiation with HIWU/HISA

1 in order to avail ourselves as many credits as we can get,
2 and also to send some much needed dollars to a UC Davis
3 testing lab.

4 I expect a Voluntary Agreement to be completed in
5 the next probably week or so. And it will be -- the
6 industry will certainly have to pay less than they did last
7 year. I think the total bill was \$1.6 million. We're
8 looking probably to end up paying a little bit -- somewhere
9 in the neighborhood of half of that, with additional money
10 going to Davis.

11 So once again, HISA and HIWU have been, I think,
12 very generous in our relationship, and we appreciate the
13 partnership. And I think our stakeholders will benefit on
14 this Voluntary Agreement. So this agenda item is only
15 asking permission, which you did last year, for me to enter
16 into a voluntary agreement on behalf of the Board with HISA-
17 HIWU.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Do you have anything on this,
19 Rita? No?

20 Any questions from the Board?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah, Dr. Ferraro, I've got
22 something.

23 Scott, anything that the Board should know on the
24 lawsuit that was recently filed?

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah. So the most

1 recent lawsuit was both, I think, Churchill Downs and NYRA,
2 who sued based on the formula that HISA-HIWU was using to
3 assign percentage of the total budget. Obviously,
4 everybody's looking to pay as little as possible.

5 I don't think it affects California that much.
6 They're changing their formula going forward next year.
7 From what I understand, it goes from a purse/starts formula
8 to a purely starts-based formula. For California, that's
9 sort of inconsequential. We have less starts than last
10 year, and frankly, as everybody is well aware, our purses
11 aren't keeping up with the rest of the country.

12 So this is a rare instance where smaller purses is
13 actually benefiting California. It's part of the reason our
14 overall assessment is actually less than last year as
15 compared to other states. Obviously, that \$800,000 is being
16 made up by some other states.

17 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you for that. I
18 appreciate the context.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Any other questions? Do we have a
20 motion?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll move. Gonzales moves.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman --

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead. Davis seconds?

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

2 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

4 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

6 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

8 Number 16, discussion and action by the Board
9 regarding a request to modify the distribution of market
10 access fees from advanced deposit wagering, which otherwise
11 would have funded purses and commissions, to cover the
12 assessments as allocated to each signatory racing
13 association pursuant to Horse Racing Integrity and Safety
14 Act, HISA, for calendar year 2025.

15 Do you want to explain that, Mr. Chaney?

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah. If it pleases
17 the Board, I'd like the number 16 to be tabled until
18 January. It's the formula by which the industry would pay
19 for the HISA assessment, which I believe will be somewhere
20 in the neighborhood of \$800,000 to \$900,000. But with the
21 uncertainty surrounding gold state racing, it was impossible
22 to come up with a formula, you know, that will fund that.

23 So as the industry did last year, January is
24 plenty of time in order to develop that formula, so I
25 recommend tabling it to January.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Table it until January? Rita, do
2 you have anything on it? No? Okay, we'll do that.

3 Then we move on to reports. First of all,
4 Executive Director Report.

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: We're moving a little
6 too quickly here, Doc. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good
7 morning, Commissioners.

8 I'll begin with the handle report for the month of
9 November. Day racing was down four percent, night racing
10 was down eight percent, total handle was down 17 percent --
11 I'm sorry, seven percent as compared to November 2023. Year
12 to date, day racing is down six percent, night racing is
13 down five percent, and total handle is down six percent as
14 compared to the first 11 months of 2023.

15 As this is the last Board meeting of the year, I
16 wanted to make everyone aware of the planned Board meeting
17 schedule for next year. In 2025, the schedule, both in
18 terms of days and locations, we believe will be the same as
19 last year. We'll see what Commissioner Alfieri has to say
20 after the meeting. The Board will meet on the third
21 Thursday of each month and not have meetings in February and
22 July. Most importantly, the first meeting will be held
23 Thursday, January 16th, here in Sacramento. And unless all
24 of my Board members object, we'll put a schedule up probably
25 in the next day or two on our website.

1 Lastly, I'd like to acknowledge the retirement and
2 work of Louis Quezada, who is actually here today, whose
3 last day of work is tomorrow. Louis is the supervising
4 investigator for Northern California thoroughbred tracks and
5 has worked for the Board for the last 12 years after a full
6 career with the San Jose Police Department.

7 I've enjoyed working with Louis both when I was a
8 steward and in this role, not so much when I was an
9 assistant trainer. His dedication and professionalism are
10 appreciated and valued.

11 Thank you, Louis. Thank you, Louis.

12 (Applause)

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: And that, Mr.
14 Chairman, is my report.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Dr. Blea?

16 DR. BLEA: Good morning, Chairman Ferraro, Vice
17 Chairman Gonzales, Commissioner, Mr. Alfieri, Ms. Davis, and
18 Executive Director.

19 We'll start with two new CHRB regulations. Two
20 amended CHRB regulations will go into effect on January 1st,
21 2025, CHRB 1840, Veterinary Practices and Treatments
22 Restricted, and CHRB 1890, Possession of Contraband. The
23 amendments to CHRB 1840, Veterinary Practices and Treatments
24 Restricted, state that,

25 "No person other than a Board-licensed veterinarian or

1 registered veterinary technician under the direct
2 supervision of a Board-licensed veterinarian may
3 perform endoscopy within an enclosure. Nothing in this
4 rule shall be constituted to permit an RVT to make a
5 diagnosis."

6 Secondly,

7 "No person other than a Board-licensed veterinarian or
8 an RVT under the supervision of a Board-licensed
9 veterinarian shall administer to any horse within the
10 enclosure any substance with a hypodermic needle."

11 And lastly,

12 "No person other than a Board-licensed veterinarian
13 shall administer to any horse within the enclosure any
14 substance through a nasogastric tube."

15 CHRB 1890 has added language,

16 "To permit a registered veterinary technician or a
17 licensed veterinarian's assistant to have in his or her
18 possession at a facility under the jurisdiction of the
19 Board any drug which is a narcotic, stimulant, or
20 depressant or any other substance or medication that
21 has been prepared or packaged for injection by a
22 hypodermic syringe or hypodermic needle or any similar
23 device which may be used for injection."

24 Additionally, the language has been amended to
25 state that.

1 "No person other than a veterinarian licensed by the
2 Board or a veterinary assistant shall have in his or
3 her possession any veterinary treatment, medication, or
4 substance recognized as a medication which has not been
5 prescribed in accordance with Rule 1840 and labeled in
6 accordance with Rule 1864."

7 Moving on to the CAHFS Fellowship. The CAHFS
8 Fellowship Program is a musculoskeletal pathology of the
9 Racehorse Program at the California Animal Health and Food
10 Safety Laboratory, University of California, Davis, and it
11 is designed to provide an in-depth training in pathology of
12 the musculoskeletal system of racehorses.

13 This two-year program, under the leadership of Dr.
14 Francisco Uzal, has been in existence at CAHFS for seven
15 years and is unique to California and the California Horse
16 Racing Board. The Fellowship Program has greatly assisted
17 in the identification and implementation of new preventative
18 strategies, thus aiding in the reduction, the incidence, and
19 the severity of musculoskeletal injuries in racehorses.
20 Recently, three outstanding candidates from eight qualified
21 applicants were interviewed for the position term that will
22 begin this summer.

23 Earlier this month, I participated at the Global
24 Symposium on Racing in Tucson, Arizona. I was able and
25 fortunate to moderate a session titled: HIWU Testing

1 Strategy: A Peek Behind the Curtain. The panel members
2 included the Chief of Science, Chief of Operations, and the
3 Chief of Investigations for the Horse Racing Integrity and
4 Welfare Unit. And we discussed how HIWU's different
5 departments work together internally, as well as with
6 outside experts and organizations, in order to implement an
7 effective testing and investigation strategy to promote the
8 integrity of thoroughbred racing while enhancing equine
9 safety and welfare.

10 One of the topics of conversation, and probably
11 the main topic, was how to improve communication at the
12 local level and how to involve different stakeholders to
13 improve integrity and equine safety.

14 Secondly, at the Symposium, I served on a second
15 panel discussing biosecurity strategies for disease
16 prevention and control with my topic focused primarily on
17 issues related to the race track.

18 Moving on to fatalities, in the month of November,
19 there were five musculoskeletal fatalities, one in racing,
20 two in training, and two associated with other activities.
21 Additionally, there was one sudden death episode and three
22 other fatalities that were associated with disease or
23 medical conditions.

24 Regarding the Maddy Lab, in CHRB testing in
25 November, the Maddy Lab tested 240 primary blood and urine

1 samples, including three work bloods. Furthermore, 163 out-
2 of-competition samples were tested for CHRB and were tested
3 for EPO and anabolic steroids. Ten evidence submissions
4 were also tested. In all testing in November, there was one
5 finding for a Class 1 drug.

6 This concludes my report. I'm happy to answer any
7 questions.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions from the Board?
9 Anybody?

10 Rita, do you have any?

11 Thank you, Dr. Blea.

12 I think we have to vote on approving these two
13 reports, so can I have a motion?

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah, I'll move. Gonzales.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman seconds.

16 Mr. Alfieri?

17 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Mr. Davis?

19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Mr. Gonzales?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

23 Moving on to the public comment period. Do we
24 have a sheet on that?

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: There's also a written

1 public comment in the Board packet, so it's a statutory
2 responsibility to point that out to the Board. It doesn't
3 necessarily require comment, but it needed to be pointed
4 out, in addition to any people who are on the list.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: You want to read it before we get
6 to the people that are here?

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: We don't have to.
8 It's in the Board packet.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Can we have the sheet so I
10 can call them up? Thank you, Rita.

11 Okay, Greg Gomes, Humboldt County Fair. Good
12 morning.

13 MR. GOMES: Good morning. Thank you. My name is
14 Greg Gomes. I'm from the Humboldt County Fair. I was
15 tasked to come down here today to show the support for the
16 horsemen and women of the north to continue racing.
17 Obviously, nothing was addressed today, but the Humboldt
18 County Fair wanted to come down here and voice their
19 support, and also mention that, if we're allowed, we plan on
20 racing in August.

21 Other than that, thank you.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

23 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: By the way, thanks for being
24 here. I know it's a long way to come from Ferndale, so I
25 appreciate you making the trip.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Next one is Ellen Jackson.

2 Hi, Ellen. Long time, no see.

3 MS. JACKSON: Yes, too long.

4 My observation is, as a Northern California owner
5 and breeder, the flaw of this whole system is that once the
6 first group gets the Northern California simulcast money,
7 what's to keep them from just withdrawing the training at
8 Pleasanton or the subsidizing of the transportation or the
9 purse structure? I don't see any guarantee for us.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: I think your guarantee is the
11 Board.

12 MS. JACKSON: And you're going to just have our
13 back?

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

15 MS. JACKSON: Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Absolutely.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Listen, I know this is going to be
18 a difficult period of time for this transition. We hope it
19 works. If it doesn't work, we'll adjust it to make it work.
20 And hopefully it's a temporary thing and we can, I think as
21 times get better, we can go back to where we were. But at
22 this point in time, we really have no choice.

23 So I appreciate everybody's cooperation and effort
24 to make it work. We'll certainly try and make it work.

25 MS. JACKSON: Thank you.

1 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: And to add to that, Dr.
2 Ferraro, I believe the CHRB statement, of which -- oh,
3 sorry. The CHRB statement that was issued, of which
4 Commissioner Alfieri, you, myself, with input from Scott,
5 you know, we looked at every word that was in that and we
6 stand by what we communicated to all stakeholders.

7 But I just really appreciate all parties,
8 particularly the Northern California horsemen and
9 horsewomen, for being persistent, for doing everything that
10 was asked of you, and for your understanding and flexibility
11 for what is being proposed with regard to opportunities to
12 race in the south. So I look forward to any additional
13 public comments.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Very well. What we need now is a
15 motion to adjourn the meeting.

16 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Can I also make a comment?

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Sure.

18 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: And to add on to that,
19 thank you, Oscar. I also think, because Oscar, our Vice
20 Chairman, and I were a bit of a subcommittee here,
21 unofficial. But I think it's important for us to continue
22 to monitor this situation. You want, and Oscar, I know, is
23 in.

24 And, you know, we're -- to have your back, we mean
25 that. We're going to walk through this whole process with

1 you. So don't think that this is just, you know, moving it
2 on. Not at all. We hear you. We hear all the workers, all
3 the backstretch, everybody involved, all the stakeholders
4 involved in this. We're in there with you, so we want to
5 make this work, so let's try it. You know, you're great to
6 agree to that. And let's see what happens.

7 Santa Anita is going out of their way, and they
8 should, to secure this industry in the state, so -- and as
9 well, Del Mar and Los Alamitos. It will all -- let's just
10 work together.

11 So fantastic and thank you.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Dennis.

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: And we're here for you.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Dennis.

15 Can I have a motion to adjourn?

16 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll move. Gonzales.

17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

19 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes. Thank you
25 all for coming.

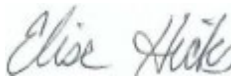
1 (The Board adjourned at 10:15 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of January 2025.



ELISE HICKS, IAPRT CERT**2176

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

January 2, 2025