

APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS

Gregory Ferraro, Chairman

Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman

Wendy Mitchell, Commissioner

Dennis Alfieri, Commissioner

Damascus Castellanos, Commissioner

Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner

STAFF

Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director

Robert Brodник, General Counsel

Sara Smith, Acting Staff Counsel

Amanda Drummond, Policy, Regulations, and Administrative
Hearings Manager

Rick Arthur, Equine Medical Director

Zachary Voss, Regulation Analyst

Mike Marten, Associate Analyst

ALSO PRESENT

Cathy Monji, Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association

Ed Allred, Los Alamitos Race Course

Mike Kilpack

Frank Sherren, Los Alamitos Race Course

Wayne McIlwraith

APPEARANCES

ALSO PRESENT

Janet Vanbebber, American Quarter Horse Association

Darrell Haire, Jockeys' Guild

Christopher Schick, Watch and Wager Harness

David Neumeister, California Harness Horsemen's Association

Alan Balch, California Thoroughbred Trainers

Dionne Benson, The Stronach Group

Mary Forney, Thoroughbred Owners of California

Denny Kanakaris, Race & Sports Authority, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENT

Howard Siegal

Gary Stevens

Martha Sullivan

Lynn Frudenberg

Heather Wilson

Wayne Johnson

Oscar de la Torre

Holly Wilson

Lorenzo Ruiz, Lorenzo Ruiz Racing Stables

Christine Sanchez

Paul Jones, Paul Jones Racing Stables

David Hoffman

Patty Shenker

APPEARANCES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Croker

Angela Aquino

Monty Arrossa, Monty Arrossa Racing Stables

Art Sherman

Mike Castleman

Karen Norton

Elvia Sedano

Johnny Trotter

Wendy Lemke

Wendy Minovitz

Jessica Ingram, Equine Sports Medicine

Larry Overly

Butch Wise, American Quarter Horse Association

Troy Tibak, Local 280

Silvia Soto

Thomas Copeland

Pavla Nygaard

Timothy Yernian

Jaime Gomez

Dina Cohen

Ashley Gomez

David Nelson

APPEARANCES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Baffert

Nancy Mitchell

Faustino Munoz, KC Horse Transport

Kimberly Marrs, KTM Equine

Christina Gindt, Intervision Equine Physiotherapy

Jerry Wallace, Jerry Wallace Racing Stables

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| | A. Executive Director's Report | |
| | B. Equine Medical Director's Report. | |
| 3. | Discussion and action by the Board on the Renewed Application for License to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of the Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (QH) at Los Alamitos Race Course, commencing December 23, 2020 through December 21, 2021. | ? |
| 4. | Discussion and action by the Board regarding the proposed amendment of CHRB Rule 1843.2, Classification of Drug Substances, to update the Alphabetical Substances List to align with the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances. | ?? |
| 5. | Discussion and action by the Board regarding the delegation of authority to the executive director pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 19428 for one year. | ?? |

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Action Item:

6. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the proposal to partially suspend CHRB Rule 1845(k), Authorized Bleeder Medication, pursuant to CHRB Rule 1406, Suspension of Rule. ???
7. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the proposed amendment of CHRB Rule 1845, Authorized Bleeder Medication, to clarify the usage of furosemide in specific races. ???
8. Discussion and action by the Board regarding approval of the change of ownership for the minisatellite Race & Sports Authority LLC, dba 58 Flat, pursuant to Board Rule 2066(h).
9. Public Comment: Communications, reports, requests for future actions of the Board. Note: During the public comment period, a total of thirty minutes will be allowed for public comments via the teleconference line. After thirty minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to two minutes. ???

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Closed Session:

20. 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 authorized by Government Code section 11126(e).

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Closed Session:

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

Adjournment

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P R O C E E D I N G S

9:32 A.M.

TELECONFERENCE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021

CHAIRMAN FERRARO: Good morning everyone. This is the noticed meeting of the California Horse Racing Board, conducted by teleconference pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20.

Participating in this meeting are: myself, Dr. Gregory Ferraro, Chair; also, Oscar Gonzalez, Vice Chair; Dennis Alfieri, Commissioner; Damascus Castellanos, Commissioner; Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner; Wendy Mitchell, Commissioner, and Alex Solis, Commissioner.

And we are joined by: Scott Chaney, Executive Director of the California Horse Racing Board; Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director; Robert Brodnik, Chief Counsel; Sara Smith, Acting Staff Counsel; Amanda Drummond, Manager of Policy and Regulations; and Dr. Rick Arthur, Equine Medical Director.

The Board invites comments on matters appearing on the meeting agenda. Procedurally, the Board will first hear from those directly involved in the agenda item. I will then invite public comment on the agenda item. Those wishing to speak must follow the directions of the Operator to have their individual phone lines opened for comment.

1 Unsolicited speakers are limited to two minutes. During
2 all public comments, a bell will be rung after the first 90
3 seconds, meaning the speaker will have 30 seconds remaining
4 to conclude his or her remarks. At two minutes a more distinctive
5 sound will be heard to indicate the speaker's time is up. The
6 Board may ask questions of individuals who speak which may extend
7 their two-minute limit.

8 I will insist that all speakers stay strictly on topic
9 for each agenda item. If a speaker strays off topic, I will
10 ask the Operator to move on to the next caller. If a speaker
11 repeats himself or herself, I will ask if the speaker has any
12 new comments to make. If there are none, the speaker will be
13 asked to let others make comments to the Board.

14 If anyone has comments of a more general nature that
15 are not specific to each of the earlier agenda items, those
16 comments must wait until agenda item 9, Public Comment. There
17 will be a 30-minute time limit for item number 9, Public Comment.
18 In order to allow as many individuals to speak as possible within
19 that half hour, I will strictly enforce the two-minute time
20 limit for each unsolicited speaker.

21 That concludes my remarks.

22 In the last few days, we lost a rather notable individual
23 involved in racing for decades, Bruce Headley. And I thought
24 it might be nice to have a few comments in Bruce's honor. And
25 I've asked Commissioner Solis to make those comments.

1 Alex?

2 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Thank you, Chairman Ferraro.

3 Yeah, we have suffered a great loss, not only a great
4 person, a great horseman, a unique character. Bruce Headley
5 was a person I'm proud to call a friend, a father to me, a man
6 who treated his horses with love, respect, took a lot of pride
7 taking care of his horses.

8 I am very lucky to have been part of his life and
9 rode some of his best horses. Not only did he bought them himself,
10 but he broke them himself in his backyard, and galloped them
11 himself. Horses like (indiscernible) and, of course, Kona Gold,
12 in my opinion, with all his accomplishment in horsemanship,
13 he should have been elected into the Hall of Fame already.

14 Not only he was a loyal guy to me but he helped me
15 to be a better horseman. I learned many things in his barn
16 and working horses with him. Whenever a horse had an issue,
17 he will send them to the farm immediately to recuperate. That
18 is why I think his horses run for a long time.

19 I rode for Bruce for a long time and I don't remember
20 having one of his horses getting hurt with me. That is a great
21 horsemanship to me. I am going to miss riding with him, joking
22 around the barn. He was a fun guy to be with. For sure, he
23 made an impact and he left a great legacy for his wife, Aase,
24 but he's (indiscernible) and, of course, his horse racing family.

25 Thank you, Dr. Ferraro.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Alex. That was quite nice.
2 Now we'll move on to open our meeting with the approval
3 of the minutes. Can I have a motion to approve?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'll second. Gonzales.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Commissioner Davis?

8 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Damascus Castellanos?

10 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Alex Solis?

12 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Abstain. I wasn't in the
13 meeting.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Correct.

15 Wendy Mitchell?

16 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Dennis Alfieri?

18 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Oscar Gonzales?

20 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

22 We move on to item number two, Executive Director's
23 Report.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
25 and Commissioners.

1 Since my last -- my report last month, several matters
2 have arisen about which you should be aware. Before that, however,
3 it is hard to ignore the fact that I found last month's Board
4 meeting, even by CHRB standards, to lack civility and feel even
5 vituperative with respect to public comments.

6 In light of the last few months, and specifically
7 the last week or two in our country, I'd like to emphasize the
8 Board's commitment to civil discourse rooted in fact and progress.

9 Personal attacks are not only distasteful but represent poor
10 advocacy. In that vein, I'd like to address the few issues
11 that arose in December.

12 First, a new administrative one regarding navigating
13 the agenda and material. I've learned that if one downloads
14 the digital packet from our website you can actually use the
15 side bar to choose agenda items and immediately locate the
16 materials there in associated.

17 Second, the objection to match racing was universally
18 shared but poorly understood. Let me be clear, we support any
19 legislation that seeks to strengthen the penalties against match
20 racing. But the CHRB cannot simply sponsor and enact legislation.

21 We have and would work with local law enforcement on many issues,
22 including match racing.

23 And to correct the record, it has been my impression
24 that Los Alamitos has been particularly aggressive in its approach
25 to this dreadful practice in their support of local law

1 enforcement, cleverly using Code enforcement as an indirect
2 solution in regulating clenbuterol, a staple of match racing,
3 more strictly than the CHRB or any other racing jurisdiction,
4 through hair follicle testing and the exclusion of individuals
5 who participate in match races.

6 What is clear is that everyone on this call, even
7 our critics, have the power to advocate and lobby for reform
8 in this area. This is not a CHRB problem. It is more widespread
9 than that. And I ask for help from stakeholders, animal rights
10 advocates, as well as state government to help in combating
11 this serious animal welfare issue.

12 Third, from last month's meeting, I'd like to echo
13 the sentiments of a particularly articulate commenter when she
14 relayed relay that racehorses are not missing in California.
15 Rather, their owners know exactly where they are and how they
16 are doing. It is important to point out that their owners --
17 it is important to point out that CHRB lacks both the authority
18 and resources to track the locations and statuses of horses
19 outside of our jurisdiction throughout their lifetime. We do
20 superlative and accurate work in tracking injuries and fatalities.

21 And I reject the implication that all such statuses are not
22 reported.

23 As such, information on individual horses located
24 outside of CHRB control cannot be verified for accuracy, as
25 we do with all CHRB reports. The CHRB does all that the law

1 permits and does so with confidence in the integrity of the
2 information it provides to the public.

3 Turning to a few administrative issues that should
4 be highlighted.

5 One, the racing form recommendations chart on our
6 website is continually being updated and addressed and can be
7 referenced for the work we have done, and to keep on task for
8 future reform.

9 Two, the CHRB will no longer publish hardcopies of
10 our rule book. However, most current -- the most current copy
11 can be accessed on our website or printed if you are so inclined.
12 Frankly, it is expensive, almost immediately inaccurate as we
13 constantly pass regulations, and seems a bit, at least to me,
14 a bit past its prime in 2021.

15 And three, the dates of Board meetings beginning next
16 month will change. Please check the website for accurate
17 information in the next week or so. I believe that we will
18 be changing our regular Board meetings to the third Wednesday
19 of each month.

20 Next, after two -- nearly two months of no racing
21 due to a massive COVID outbreak, Golden Gate Fields began racing
22 last weekend. Management collaborated with Berkeley Department
23 of Public Health in order to address the outbreak, then monitor
24 licensees and testing, and finally develop a plan for reopening.
25 We (indiscernible) many state and local entities and cooperation

1 and dedication of management and stakeholders.

2 As the calendar year ends, it is worth examining metrics
3 to decide whether our avalanche of regulatory and other reform
4 is having an impact. I can report that the total number of
5 fatalities decreased from 128 in Calendar Year 2019 to 96 in
6 Calendar Year 2020, a 25 percent decrease. Even better, training
7 and racing-related fatalities from 93 to 67, a 28 percent decrease.

8 Before our critics begin dialing in, yes, it is true
9 that the number of races decreased, as well, but only by 16
10 percent. And training traffic was largely unchanged. While
11 this is clear, indisputable progress, there is, undoubtedly,
12 more work to do.

13 Financially, as it is January, I thought I would relate
14 comparisons for the entire year. Day racing's total handle
15 was down 11 percent as compared to 2019. Of course, it was
16 on 46 fewer racing days and 102 fewer programs. Night racing
17 total was up 27 percent as compared to last year on the same
18 number of racing days but 14 fewer programs. Overall total
19 handle was down seven percent as compared to 2019.

20 Lastly, as this is the start of a new year, I'd like
21 to express some thanks.

22 Thanks to the stakeholders for your efforts and
23 sacrifices as we continue to reform and adapt and challenge
24 you. I understand that these are difficult changes in difficult
25 times and I appreciate your work.

1 Thank you to the animal rights advocates and concerned
2 citizens who hold our feet to the fire. While I often disagree
3 with your tactics and advocacy, we both value animal welfare
4 and safety.

5 Thank you to the Board for your support and
6 indefatigable work. You contribute your time and resources
7 for no financial gain, often enduring unfair personal attacks
8 from inside the industry and from outside the industry. Know
9 that your work is important and valued.

10 Lastly and most important, I'd like to thank CHRB
11 Staff. It has been an absurdly challenging year from racing
12 issues to COVID issues, fires, civil unrest, the difficulty
13 of teleworking, and a ten percent decrease in your salary.
14 Through it all, you have done superlative work, lifted me up
15 when times were tough, provided service at a high level, and
16 did so with grace and a sense of humor. To CHRB Staff, I sincerely
17 appreciate your work.

18 And that, Mr. Chairman, is my report.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you very much, Mr. Chaney. That
20 was very well said.

21 Can we have the Equine Medical's Report now please?

22 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Yes. Good morning,
23 Commissioners. This is Dr. Rick Arthur, the Equine Medical
24 Director.

25 The new racing year has started out challenging. The

1 agreement with no Lasix in stake races has been an administrative
2 nightmare for both trainers and CHRB official veterinarians.
3 This is an agreement between the TOC and The Stronach Group
4 and it was finalized just prior to the Board meeting in December.
5 There's been considerable confusion among horsemen with this
6 change in the first place and the exception for certain
7 four-year-old-and-up Cal-Bred races simply added to that.

8 The current regulations have clearly defined that
9 CHRB 1845, Authorized Bleeder Medications, have clearly defined
10 processes for putting horses on and off the bleeders list.
11 They are cumbersome and did not anticipate the current no-Lasix
12 in stakes but okay in other races situation we're facing. We
13 will be discussing needed regulatory changes later in the agenda
14 to make this program more manageable.

15 The second challenge has been implementing the
16 examination requirements of the Gray bill that became January
17 first. Again, these law changes have caused confusion among
18 trainers and there's been some logistical challenges. The law
19 is not flexible as to those examination requirements, so neither
20 has the CHRB. Nevertheless, we've only had to deny a small
21 number of entries due to the new provisions. But there was
22 another one just yesterday at Santa Anita for Saturday's races.

23 Alan Balch and Eoin Harty of CTT were proactive in
24 organizing a conference call with trainers in late December
25 so I could explain the changes in processes to their membership.

1 The Zoom with veterinarians a few days earlier brought them
2 up to speed.

3 CHRB 1520 requires licensees to be familiar with the
4 rules, including all amendments thereto. Unfortunately, I've
5 yet to find a way of communicating to all groups that works
6 effectively, so we keep trying different methods to get the
7 word out. But, as usual, those regulated do not necessarily
8 appreciate our new regulation.

9 To be fair, CHRB and racing associations individually
10 have instituted many changes in recent years in what was already
11 a highly regulated activity. I understand the frustration of
12 veterinarians and trainers who may believe they are being overly
13 burdened and overly regulated. The changes have been necessary
14 and, most importantly, appear to be working.

15 Statewide there were six fatalities in December, two
16 were racing, one during training, and three were non-exercise.

17 For the first six months of Fiscal Year 2021, that's starting
18 on July 1st through December 31st of 2020, there was an overall
19 40 percent reduction in total fatalities, even though we've
20 only seen a six percent reduction in thoroughbred and Quarter
21 Horse starts.

22 Importantly, for the first half of the fiscal year
23 the Southern California thoroughbred circuit where the CHRB
24 has focused their efforts started earlier with safety protocols
25 and have allocated most of their resources at Santa Anita, Del

1 Mar, and the Los Alamitos thoroughbred meet. The rate of
2 fatalities per 1,000 starts, which is the epidemiological standard
3 used in scientific publications, there's 0.34 per 1,000 starts,
4 or less than one-fourth of the 2019 national average.

5 There were five medication violations in November,
6 four were post race, one was working for the official veterinarian,
7 and three were Class 4 medications. But to put these numbers
8 in perspective, in December, Maddy analyzed 1,108 post-race
9 samples and additional 75 samples that came from horses working
10 for the official veterinarian under CHRB 1866. The 1,183 samples
11 were from 643 horses, and that does not include TC02
12 out-of-competition blood, urine or hair sampling.

13 Three trainers with the positives elected that their
14 split samples be sent for confirmation at (indiscernible) approved
15 sample lab. There's little doubt the original findings will
16 be confirmed, they rarely don't, but once the CHRB starts posting
17 positive testing samples from January 1st, 2021 on the CHRB's
18 website, as required in the Dodd bill, samples will not be listed
19 on the website until the owner or trainer declines a request
20 to split sample analysis or, if requests the split sample analysis,
21 reports the positive has been confirmed.

22 I want to add my comments to Commissioner Solis to
23 recognize Trainer Bruce Headley who passed away last week.

24 As Alex pointed out, Bruce was a unique individual
25 in many, many ways, as those who knew Bruce are well aware.

1 He was the epitome of a true, old-fashioned horseman trainer.
2 He always was patient with his horses and managed them as
3 individuals, as they should be managed.

4 Happy to answer questions.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have questions or comments from
6 the Board for either Executive Director Chaney or Dr. Arthur?
7 No questions or comments?

8 Operator, can we -- do we have a queue on this?

9 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

10 If you would like to make a comment on item two, please
11 press star one to enter the comment queue. If you are already
12 in queue for item three, please remove yourself by pressing
13 star two. You may requeue when item three is called upon. Again,
14 to comment on item two, please press star one.

15 We will take our first comment from Howard Siegal,
16 an owner and breeder.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

18 MR. SIEGEL: My question is regarding the extension
19 of the license for Los Alamitos for 2021. And I'm looking at
20 the wrong --

21 CHAIR FERRARO: That's a later comment. Yeah. And
22 you'll have to come up on the next item please.

23 MR. SIEGEL: Okay. (Indiscernible.)

24 CHAIR FERRARO: That's number three. Yeah. Yeah.
25 Yeah.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next question or comment from Gary
3 Stevens, a television commentator.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MR. STEVENS: Yes. I think I need to requeue too.
6 I'm speaking about the dates on the agenda.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. All right. Just requeue.
8 Go ahead, Operator.

9 OPERATOR: Thank you.

10 Again, if you are not making a comment on item two,
11 please press star two to remove yourself from the queue and
12 you may requeue when item three is called upon.

13 We will go to our next question from Martha Sullivan,
14 a concerned citizen.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Good morning, Martha.

16 MS. SULLIVAN: Good morning. This is Martha Sullivan
17 from Imperial Beach. I would like to, once more, as I did last
18 month suggest that the -- your minutes reflect when public comment
19 is received on an agenda item. Given the magnitude of
20 Bagley-Keene, you know, on state government public meetings,
21 this needs to be reflected. Secondarily, I'd like to
22 follow up on Executive Director Chaney's remarks at your last
23 meeting regarding match racing and saying that law enforcement
24 won't go after misdemeanors, which is illegal gambling. Well,
25 we had a news item shortly thereafter that once more invalidates

1 that comment, which was also made by his predecessor, Baedeker,
2 two years before.

3 In the San Diego Union Tribune it was reported that
4 there was a raid made in October of illegal gambling parlors
5 in San Diego. And it specifically says, "While illegal gambling
6 is a misdemeanor under state law, authorities say these
7 underground parlors operating in the region are closely tied
8 to a more serious criminal element, gangs, drugs and violence.
9 Methamphetamine often goes hand in hand with play at covert
10 gambling -- gaming halls."

11 So it's, you know, a complete, complete dodge to say
12 that law enforcement won't go after misdemeanors. The FBI goes
13 after it, as they did here, and there's many other examples
14 of it in San Bernardino where one of the biggest match races'
15 venues is.

16 So, you know, as a daughter of career FBI who retired
17 at the level of Assistant Director of the Los Angeles Division,
18 I'm really proud to see the FBI going after illegal horse racing
19 activities at the national level with the, you know, major
20 indictments last year. They can do that here too. You just
21 need to work with them to do it.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

23 Next please, Operator.

24 OPERATOR: Thank you.

25 We will take our next question or comment from Lynn

1 Frudenberg, a concerned citizen.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

3 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hey, Good morning, and thank you
4 for taking my comment. My comment is directly related to the
5 match racing, Mr. Chaney's executive report.

6 So the issue of illegal match racing definitely needs
7 to be on your agenda. By ignoring it, it doesn't make it go
8 away. You're all very well aware of this problem.

9 You said that the CHRB does not govern match racing
10 but it's a Board that cares for horses. When you are aware
11 of these activities and do nothing to stop it, you are just
12 as guilty as the people participating in this sport of killing
13 or maiming of horses you claim to protect.

14 Last meeting, as Martha was going on about saying
15 this should be a felony conviction, this does need to be further
16 addressed. What steps do you plan on taking to increase the
17 charge from misdemeanor to felony? And is the CHRB going to
18 present this for legislative action?

19 This definitely can't be going away. Ignoring it
20 is not going to stop this problem. I hope you guys will really
21 initiate a plan to end match racing.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

24 Next please.

25 OPERATOR: Thank you.

1 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
2 Heather Wilson.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

4 MS. WILSON: Yes. Goodmorning. I would like to thank
5 Mr. Chaney for mentioning us, even though, obviously, we don't
6 agree on pretty much anything. Thank you. And we will continue
7 to hold your feet to the fire.

8 Another way to reduce these drug issues and fatalities
9 is something that we've been suggesting for quite some time,
10 and that is another item that people have been critical of us.
11 They say that we're not offering solutions and that's not true.
12 We have been suggesting virtual racing for months. And the
13 Paulick Report, just yesterday, published a report that Parks
14 (phonetic) will start virtual live racing, making it the fifth
15 major U.S. track to do so. The chairman of Virtual Live Racing
16 states, "We are offering tracks all over the world a no-cost,
17 risk-free revenue stream."

18 I mean, this sounds like a no-brainer to me. You
19 don't have to worry about spreading COVID. You don't have to
20 worry about drugging and injuring and killing horses or sending
21 them out of state when they're injured. I mean, this is something
22 that really, really needs to be looked at. And Florida is doing
23 it, I mean, Florida of all places. I mean, this is something.
24 California really can do better.

25 And as far as, you know, these missing horses, they're

1 put on public display, their troubling findings are in public
2 documents and, yes, the public is going to inquire about the
3 outcomes. And if we are asking about a very specific horse,
4 it's really not unreasonable for the Board to ask owner or trainer,
5 where is this horse? We have a right to know. And, you know,
6 we're not asking you track every single horse. We are already
7 doing that. And if we're asking you a very specific question
8 about a very specific horse, it's very simple, are they dead
9 or alive? That's all we need to know. And I already understand,
10 a lot of these horses will not be in your database because they
11 are sent to a non-CHRB facility, but we still have a right to
12 know what's happening to these horses when they are put on public
13 display.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

16 Next please.

17 OPERATOR: Thank you.

18 We will move to our next comment from Dr. Wayne Johnson,
19 a concerned citizen.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

21 DR. JOHNSON: Yes. Thank you. I would like to thank
22 Mr. Solis for his tribute to Mr. Headley. God bless his soul.
23 I did not know the man but I appreciate the fact that some people
24 knew and loved the man.

25 The Executive Director calls for civil discourse.

1 What is not civil is the death of 96 horses in 2020. Those
2 horses wanted to live as much as you and I. And they do not
3 want to be described the cold epidemiological standard that
4 Dr. Arthur cites. They want to be described as living beings.

5 Love Wins, Debacle, Cali Caliente, Florentine Diamond,
6 Don't Stop Looking, Noor Khan, and, yes, Bowies Hero all wanted
7 to live as much as you and I. There were all sentient. They
8 all wanted to live. And because of horse racing, they are dead.

9 The Executive Director calls for civil discourse.
10 I'm all for civil discourse. I'm all for no personal attacks.
11 But the important thing here is that horses are dying because
12 of hr.

13 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

15 Next please.

16 OPERATOR: Thank you.

17 We will move to our next comment from worker advocate,
18 Oscar de la Torre.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

20 MR. DE LA TORRE: Yes. This is Oscar de la Torre.

21 And thank you for all the work that you all are doing. This
22 is in response to the Executive Director's Report.

23 And I just want to acknowledge the improvements that
24 have been made. It must be acknowledged, you know, that accidental
25 horse racing fatalities have decreased. It shows that the reform

1 effort is working, so I want to applaud the good work of the
2 CHRB and all stakeholders in the horse racing industry, and
3 the activists that are continuing to push forward, you know,
4 for -- to prioritize the safety for horses, and also for workers.

5 And so we want to acknowledge the good work that's
6 being done and the good people that are implementing all the
7 reforms and working hard, from trainers and assistant trainers,
8 and backstretch workers. You know, people right now are going
9 through very hard times. And live racing is allowing families
10 to sustain themselves, for workers to feed their families.

11 And so we want to acknowledge the positive work that's being
12 done and the good that's happening at the racetracks every day.

13 And on behalf of the workers that I talk to, that
14 I've been in touch with, just want to appreciate all the good
15 work that's being done to keep this industry alive and to keep
16 these families working.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

19 Next please.

20 OPERATOR: As a reminder, if you would like to make
21 a comment on the item two, you may press star one now.

22 We will move to our next comment from Dr. Holly Wilson,
23 a concerned citizen.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

25 DR. WILSON: Activists are often criticized by

1 industry folks for asking for the whereabouts of horses that
2 have concerning findings in their race charts. We know that
3 unsound horses are often shipped out of state or are euthanized
4 on non-CHRB sites. We are also told that the horses are property
5 and that there is no control as to who buys them or where they
6 end up. Then these same individuals will go on to give emotional
7 testimony as to how well the horses are treated and how they
8 are considered family. So are they family or are they objects
9 for sale?

10 And I wanted to know, is there an ongoing dialogue
11 with law enforcement regarding Rancho Los Alamos and all of
12 these illegal tracks? It is really easy to say we're against
13 it but what are you doing to work with law enforcement to actually
14 put your action -- your words into action. That's what we're
15 all waiting for.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 We will take our next comment from Lorenzo Ruiz of
20 Lorenzo Ruiz Racing Stables.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

22 MR. RUIZ: Good morning to everyone that is listening
23 to me. My name is Lorenzo Ruiz. I've got a small 20 head of
24 horses barn at Los Alamitos.

25 And as I was first introduced to the sport by my dad,

1 which he, himself, has spent about a good 40 years or his life
2 taking care of racehorses, got to put my sisters and my brother
3 and I through school, some of us through college, thanks to
4 beautiful racehorses, which he used to call not a job but being
5 able to play with beautiful animals and being able to sustain
6 his family because of it.

7 Anyway, it's not just a sport. I, myself, have been
8 very lucky that I was introduced to the business, the sport,
9 however we want to call it. These beautiful, magnificent animals
10 have been able to get me to give my family a good way of leaving.
11 And it's not by destroying anything. It's by taking really
12 good care of our animals.

13 All of the people that are against us, if they would
14 take the time to spend some time with us and to see the way
15 we treat our animals, they might be able to think a little different.

16 Anyway, I --

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, sir. Thank you. You know,
18 your comments are not really specific to agenda item number
19 two, so I would invite you to re-up in the queue for item number
20 nine and you can be welcome to speak on this again.

21 Otherwise, Operator, we need to move on.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. RUIZ: Thank you.

24 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

25 Again, if you would like to comment on item number

1 two, please press star one now.

2 We will take our next comment from Christine Sanchez,
3 owner.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MS. SANCHEZ: Hi. Hi. Goodmorning. You know, first
6 off, I'd like to, you know, thank the Board for all of your
7 hard work and today, you know, the agenda, what we accomplished
8 last year. And I'm really, you know, excited that we were able
9 to -- you know, our numbers are declining but we need to reflect,
10 you know, on ownership of horses. And I just want to, you know,
11 put some numbers out there. And this, actually, is like the
12 positive things that we've been doing and what we continue to
13 do in 2021.

14 So the APHIS puts out a report of the equine mortality
15 rate in the United States. And I just want to share some of
16 the numbers with you. So horses from age 1 to 20, 31 percent
17 of equine deaths were related to colic; 16.3 percent deaths
18 were attributed to injury, wounds and trauma. Horses that are
19 less than a year old, unfortunately, 27 percent of deaths are
20 due to injury, wounds and trauma, and 17 percent from digestive
21 problems. I know that we'll hear today about colic. I think
22 we did have one colic death so far this year; 31.2 percent of
23 deaths with equine is due to colic.

24 So here we are. We debate. We move forward. We create
25 rules to lower the death rate. But as you can see, horses,

1 unfortunately, suffer injuries, disease that cause death. We
2 are -- our death rate is much, much lower than the average equine.
3 You know, definitely, it's tragedy. We mourn the deaths of
4 our racehorses. We morning the deaths of the horses that die
5 on farms and, you know, with (indiscernible).

6 So it's very important that as we move forward we
7 continue to work to lower the death rate. But I just wanted
8 to put this all into perspective.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

11 Next please.

12 OPERATOR: Thank you. And we do not have any more
13 questions or comments for item number two.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Do I have any further comments
15 or questions from the Board? Can I have a motion to accept
16 the Executive Director and Equine Medical Director's Reports
17 please?

18 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Damascus moves.

19 I move. Alex Solis.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

21 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I'll second. Alfieri.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Commissioner Davis?

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

25 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

2 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

4 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

6 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

10 Moving on agenda item number three, discussion and
11 action by the Board on the Renewed Application for a License
12 to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting at the Los Alamitos Quarter
13 Horse Racing Association at Los Alamitos Race Course, commencing
14 December 23, 2020 through December 21, 2021.

15 This item is back on the agenda. It was felt, following
16 last month's meeting, that given the way things transpired at
17 the Los Alamitos Race Track and the Quarter Horse Association
18 did not really get adequate time to explain their position and
19 answer the question that was put forth at the time, so we are
20 revisiting this item. And we'd like to proceed with it now.

21 I think the best way to start is to ask Los Alamitos
22 and their cohorts to, maybe, present their argument as to why
23 they feel that it is necessary to have a one-year license.

24 So can we open that up with -- Operator, is there
25 anyone on line for Los Alamitos?

1 OPERATOR: Yes.

2 We'll take our first comment or question from Los
3 Alamitos Race Course employee Cathy Monji.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Good morning, Cathy.

5 MS. MONJI: Good morning.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

7 MS. MONJI: Good morning. Good morning, Chairman
8 Ferraro, Commissioners, Director Chaney, and Dr. Arthur. I'm
9 Cathy Monji, President of Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing
10 Association.

11 Today, we are respectfully requesting the approval
12 of our application for the year, December 23rd, 2020 to December
13 21, 2021. We are joined today by our leader, Dr. Edward Allred.
14 He's the CEO and Owner of Los Alamitos Race Course. And, today,
15 our hardworking management team, Plant Manager Frank Sherren,
16 Scott Craigmyle, Director of Racing, Marketing and Publicity
17 Director, Orlando, our veterinarian team headed by Dr. Becky
18 Fitzgerald, who includes -- that includes Doctors Specht
19 (phonetic), Sapp (phonetic), and Harrington, and our experienced
20 Equine Integrity Team with Mike Kilpack, Tom Blake, and Bill
21 Westerman.

22 Later, you will be hearing from our family of horsemen,
23 owners and trainers, jockeys, backstretch workers, and other
24 leaders in our industry who absolutely love our sport, horses,
25 and fellow horsemen. We are historically together all year

1 long and consider ourselves the park's family. Our deep devotion
2 to our horses and each other have brought us together to ensure
3 the safety of the equine and rider and strictly follow all of
4 our safety enhancement plans. We have received great, great,
5 great cooperation and unity from our Quarter Horse trainers
6 and our veterinarians during the implementation of this plan.

7 We're so proud of what Dr. Allred has done here to
8 bring integrity to our sport, and to make Los Alamitos a great
9 place to race. Our multi-million-dollar Quarter Horse stakes'
10 races are carded for later this year. These are futurities
11 and derbies for owners that nominated their weanlings and
12 yearlings and continued to make payments regularly throughout
13 the year. Owners and breeders across the country look forward
14 to these races at the track that takes great pride in the integrity
15 of the sport.

16 Today, we have a few presenters, and the first presenter
17 is Dr. Edward Allred.

18 DR. ALLRED: Thank you, Cathy.

19 Good morning. This is Ed, Chairman of Los Alamitos.
20 We thank Chairman, Dr. Ferraro, and Oscar Gonzales, Chairman
21 of the Dates Subcommittee, for the opportunity to revisit racing
22 dates allocated to Los Alamitos in 2021.

23 Cathy Monji, by the way, is present at Los Alamitos
24 and has handled day-to-day operations here, administrative
25 functions, for 28 years and has been an employee of mine for

1 about 40 years. I have great confidence in her. She is a horse
2 runner and breeder herself, takes great interest in our Quarter
3 Horse family.

4 Our central goal in 2021 is to reduce the incidents
5 of serious injuries to horses and riders. Careful attention
6 is being paid to see that training procedures and veterinary
7 practice is at a high and appropriate level. We have already
8 instituted a strict regulation of intra-articular injection
9 and steroid usage exactly as proposed by Doctors Ferrero and
10 Arthur.

11 We retained experienced veterinarians to observe
12 horses before, during and after all morning workouts. Horses
13 observed by them with potential soundness problems are tagged,
14 thus requiring evaluation and veterinary examinations to get
15 off the tagged list.

16 We know that it is not possible, or even probably,
17 to reduce horse fatalities to zero. Even under idyllic
18 circumstances, in green pastures at ranches, horses find ways
19 to get hurt. As the late former General Manager, Brad McKenzie,
20 often told me, "It is dangerous to be a horse."

21 In that context, I will announce that we had two
22 fatalities, both thoroughbred horses, Sunday. Neither one were
23 racing fatalities. One was a workout, pulled up badly and suffered
24 a fractured leg Sunday morning.

25 The other was a thoroughbred horse trained by the

1 well-known and respected Phil D'Amato. And she had -- she came
2 off the track after a routine work and was going to be scoped,
3 I presume, to make sure she had not bled. Just before the scoping
4 procedure started, in the presence of a veterinarian and the
5 assistant trainer, the horse dropped dead.

6 So we had those two fatalities. They're the first
7 of the year for us. No Quarter Horse fatalities have occurred
8 during this time.

9 We have also retained the three retired CHRB
10 investigators, as Cathy mentioned, Bill Westerman, Mike Kilpack,
11 and Tom Blake. They have many years of experience in they maintain
12 a daily presence in the stable area, checking horses, backside
13 personnel, vet practices, and to investigate the facts about
14 injuries and fatalities of horses.

15 We were always concerned about these problems but
16 we are confident that we will markedly improve our performance
17 in 2021. We get it.

18 It is important for us to --

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Dr. Allred?

20 DR. ALLRED: It is important for us to stress --

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

22 DR. ALLRED: I'm sorry?

23 CHAIR FERRARO: No. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

24 DR. ALLRED: It's important for us to stress the
25 significant of year-round racing at Los Alamitos. The Quarters

1 is a featured program with in-house TVG personnel emanating
2 from in-house studio at the track. Los Alamitos is the first
3 California track to become a part of the TVG programming. Our
4 continued existence is dependent on this precise relationship.

5 During the COVID-19 epidemic, Los Alamitos was, for
6 several months, the only track in California open for racing.
7 All-time records and parimutuel handles at LARC were established
8 during that time because of TVG. Consistency of product is
9 essential in maintaining this relationship with TVG. This cannot
10 be over-stressed. We have developed a nationwide following
11 on TVG's The Quarters. Prime time, 51 weekends per year, we're
12 on the air.

13 Quarter Horse racing, to an unusual extent, relies
14 on a series of two- and three-year-old races with large purses,
15 mostly provided by owners and breeders, with four of those races
16 reaching the \$1 million level, one over \$2 million. There is
17 widespread competition from New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and
18 Louisiana for these written nominations. Because of longtime
19 stability of racing and a hard-earned reputation for the integrity
20 of racing at Los Alamitos, our races are at all-time highs.
21 Again, consistency of the product and a year-round racing season
22 has given us an advantage over other competitive Quarter
23 Horse -- excuse me -- races.

24 Employment stability and wage levels will be impacted
25 by any decline in racing opportunities, or even the perception

1 that racing could be curtailed. Veterinary services,
2 horseshoers, jockeys, grooms, and many union workers will be
3 under the strain of economic uncertainty. Backstretch workers
4 are in short supply. And Los Alamitos could be a less desirable
5 place for full employment.

6 I am deeply appreciate of your consideration of our
7 request and of the direction and advice that has been provided
8 by Chairman Ferraro and Dr. Arthur.

9 Thank you very much.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Dr. Allred, could I ask you a question?
11 In regard to the horse that broke down last Sunday, was there
12 any disciplinary reaction to that?

13 DR. ALLRED: Chair Ferraro, we're working on that.
14 We have, actually, for 60 days disciplined -- perhaps that's
15 the wrong word, we have suspended the privileges of the grounds
16 to the trainer and to the veterinarian involved in the care
17 of the horse. It's quite a complicated story. Our investigators
18 are working on that. These people involved have been interviewed
19 completely, and along with the okay of the Board, we're going
20 to be pursuing that and making a definitive finding on what
21 happened.

22 By the way, and, again, I mentioned, they're both
23 thoroughbred horses, just happened to be both thoroughbred horses.
24 And, you know, again, we don't think that it's a case, certainly,
25 of Trainer Phil D'Amato, if there was any problem, as far as

1 the handling of the horse.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 MS. MONJI: And next we're going to hear from mike
4 Kilpack from our Equine Integrity Team.

5 MR. KILPACK: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
6 Commissioners. My name is Michael Kilpack. I was hired by Los
7 Alamitos Race Course back in August of 2020. I am an Equine
8 Integrity Consultant assisting Los Al on a full-time basis now
9 on the implementation and enforcement of their Equine Rider
10 Safety Enhancement Plan. In addition, I am currently a Security
11 Consultant for the National Thoroughbred Racing Association,
12 NTRA, their Safety and Integrity Alliance. I'm also the
13 Supervising Investigator. And I oversee the security for the
14 Breeders' Cup International. And I consult for the New York
15 Racing Association, NYRA, Sam Houston Racetrack, New Mexico
16 Racing Commission, and the Quarter Horse racing association
17 AQHA.

18 In my prior law enforcement experience, I was the
19 Supervising Investigator for the California Horse Racing Board
20 for 25 years, assigned to Santa Anita, the late Hollywood Park,
21 and Fairplex, and Del Mar racetracks.

22 Los Alamitos track management has taken a very
23 aggressive stand on the implementation of all of the protocols
24 involved with their Equine Rider Safety Enhancement Plan. I
25 am personally involved in the day-to-day backside operation,

1 monitoring all barn area activity, and oversee the intra-articular
2 corticosteroid injections and medications and practices by the
3 licensed vets at Los Alamitos.

4 In addition, I work and communicate on a daily basis
5 with both the assigned CHRB safety stewards, the CHRB state
6 veterinarian, and the CHRB investigators. The Los Alamitos
7 Stable Security Department is playing a very active role in
8 monitoring racetrack practices, including the enforcement of
9 COVID-19 protocols, mask wearing and social distancing.

10 Since I was hired, Los Alamitos management has added
11 two additional investigative positions, as mentioned. Recently
12 retired CHRB Supervising Investigator Tom Blake and retired
13 CHRB Investigator -- Chief Investigator Bill Westerman are
14 assisting me with the above mentioned efforts at Los Alamitos
15 Race Course.

16 Aggressive enforcement, total transparency, and
17 effective communication with all trainers, veterinarians and
18 employees is being conducted with the assistance (indiscernible)
19 California Horse Racing Board assigned to Los Alamitos and the
20 Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association.

21 Since I have been here at Los Alamitos, some of the
22 enforcement programs that we have implemented at Los Alamitos,
23 as mentioned, we monitor daily medication practices of the
24 private-practicing veterinarians. We also conduct physical
25 surveillance of all the in-today racehorses.

1 So, for example, we have horses entered for that night,
2 we've basically got four sets of eyes looking at those horses
3 on a daily basis, starting with the morning soundness exams
4 by our Track Veterinarian, Dr. Fitzgerald. And then in the
5 afternoon we have our third-party Lasix Team that is going around
6 and administering Lasix to all the runners. And then we have,
7 in the meantime, security patrolling the area, walking down
8 shed rows, monitoring. And then fourth, in the early afternoons
9 and evenings, myself and my team are in the barn areas looking
10 and inspecting those horses to make sure that they're in the
11 stall, the Lasix sign is erect, and there's no frivolous activity
12 of concern.

13 Also, we've implemented physical surveillance on
14 selected rated races, 24 and 72 hours out, where there's a security
15 guard station in front of that stall during that time with a
16 log sheet monitoring all the activity in that barn.

17 And the most recent that were implemented is our Video
18 Surveillance Program where we've started the placements of video
19 surveillance cameras in selected barns.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. MONJI: Next, we're going to be hearing from our
22 Plant Manager, Frank Sherren.

23 MR. SHERREN: Good morning, Chairman Ferraro and
24 Members of the Board. My name is Frank Sherren. I'm the
25 Facilities Manager here at Los Alamitos Race Course. I've been

1 employed here since 1989. And I've held this position as
2 Facilities Manager since 1997. I come from a horse racing
3 background. And I'm proud to say that I work for Los Alamitos
4 Race Course, one of the best racetracks in America.

5 We have a longstanding relationship with the City
6 of Cypress. Actually, Los Alamitos Race Course is in the City
7 of Cypress, and that might be another story for a better time.

8 But the City of Cypress and the Mayor and the City Council
9 want to show their support for Los Alamitos Race Course and,
10 in doing so, they wrote a short letter in support. And I'd
11 like to read that to you now from the City of Cypress. It's
12 dated January 19th, 2020. And it's addressed to the California
13 Horse Racing Board

14 "Dear Chairman Ferraro and Members of the Board, as a member
15 of Cypress City Council for the past six years, and now
16 service at the Mayor, I have come to learn what an important
17 asset and resource the Los Alamitos Race Course is to our
18 city and to our community.

19 "The Los Alamitos Race Course has been a consistent source
20 of revenue and employment, as well as a generous supporter
21 of the city and its nonprofit organizations. Dr. Allred
22 has continually invested in organizations, like the Boys
23 and Girls Club, to help meet the needs of the community.

24 He has also been a generous supporter to our city, including
25 the recent contribution of nine acres of land which will

1 allow us to develop a much needed beautiful new park and
2 athletic facility.

3 "I greatly appreciate Dr. Allred's commitment to our city
4 and look forward to continuing our long successful
5 partnership.

6 "Best regards, Jon Peat, Mayor, City of Cypress."

7 Thank you.

8 MS. MONJI: Thank you, Frank.

9 Los Alamitos management and our entire family of
10 dedicated horsemen and employees remain committed to the continued
11 safety of our horses and our riders. Our deep love and passion
12 for our sport is always at the forefront of our actions and
13 our decisions.

14 Dr. McIlwraith, who is our veterinary consultant,
15 is on the line. If he can be queued in, he'd like to say a
16 few words.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead, Operator. Queue Dr.
18 McIlwraith in.

19 OPERATOR: Yes, sir. Give me one moment.

20 Doctor, if you could please press star one?

21 (Background colloquy)

22 OPERATOR: And this is Dr. Wayne McIlwraith.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please, Wayne.

24 DR. MCILWRAITH: Good morning, Chairman Ferraro and
25 Commissioners. My name is Dr. Wayne McIlwraith. And I speak

1 to you as an equine orthopedic surgeon, operating primarily
2 at Equine Medical Center in Cypress, adjacent -- which is adjacent
3 to Los Alamitos. And as a university distinguished professor
4 and Founding Director of the Orthopedic Research Center at
5 Colorado State University, both of which are relevant to what
6 I'd like to say. And as Cathy has noted, I've been involved
7 in consulting with Dr. Allred and his team.

8 As an equine orthopedic surgeon who has done surgery
9 on many of the racing Quarter Horse icons from Los Alamitos
10 for 37 years, nearly 38 years since I was asked to come down
11 and do arthroscopic surgery in May 1993 -- 1983 by Doctors Nancy
12 Goodman and Bart Baker and have continued to have a referral
13 surgery practice primarily for racing Quarter Horses and
14 thoroughbreds, as well as young horses before athletic activity,
15 and some sport horses.

16 During these 37 years, I've come to know the
17 veterinarians, trainers and owners and which, together with
18 the grooms, exercise riders and Los Alamitos management, make
19 up the Los Alamitos family, and it is a family.

20 In full transparency, I've not only consulted for
21 many years and done much surgery for Dr. Allred, and we have
22 become good friends, as well as President Cathy Monji and, also,
23 the late Brad McKenzie. My wife, Dr. Nancy Goodman, was the
24 first female equine veterinarian to practice at Los Alamitos
25 and practiced there for 20 years from 1981 to 2001 and continues

1 to be my surgery assistant in Southern California.

2 When I first amendment to Los Alamitos, I was
3 immediately impressed by the standard of horsemanship and care
4 of the trainers and veterinarians towards their charges. Equine
5 welfare was clearly a prominent activity then and has continued
6 to do so. I actually --

7 (Background noise)

8 DR. MCILWRAITH: Oh, sorry. I actually received --
9 my apologies for this. I have since -- excuse me.

10 I was actually very naive to the practices of the
11 racetrack, having developed arthroscopic surgery techniques
12 and having skills there or some skills there. But what I learned
13 from the horsemen and the veterinarians at Los Alamitos has
14 stuck with me for a long time.

15 Doing a surgery and seeing what was in the joints
16 relative to what treatments had been given led me to start the
17 Equine Orthopedic Research Center at Colorado State University
18 in '94. And based on what we saw in the athletes, and the
19 cooperation of horsemen and veterinarians, we then addressed
20 the important questions that they had and I had developed from
21 surgery.

22 One of my first observations looking into joints and
23 seeing disparity of current dogma, the current dogma of the
24 time on corticosteroids, led me to go back to CSU and start
25 controlled research into the different corticosteroids, what

1 was good, what was harmful, what side effects? And we found
2 that one in particular was harmful to the articular cartilage.

3 We told this to the veterinary world, translated it
4 back into the racetrack. And, together with colleagues at the
5 American Association of Equine Practitioners, racing chemists,
6 and tightening of regulations, the bad one has disappeared from
7 routine use.

8 I'd really summarize my career of 50 years since
9 graduation and 45 years of it in speciality practice fixing
10 horses, either directly in the O.R. or indirectly by leading
11 research to answer the relevant questions of cause,
12 prevention -- cause and prevention of musculoskeletal injury
13 and disease, as well as new treatments that can replace some
14 of the old medications that -- such as corticosteroids that
15 have received criticism.

16 My clinical laboratory has been at Los Alamitos and
17 it has been ideal, in combination with our research at CSU,
18 as developing advances for the horse that have been considerable.

19 We're not the only ones doing this. Sue Stover's lab, the J.D.
20 Wheat Lab at University of California Davis, is another example.

21 When the question of racing dates at Los Alamitos
22 came up, Dr. Allred sought my advice. And I, in turn, consulted
23 Dr. Ferraro to see what needed to be done. Greg spoke of the
24 perception of a need for culture change and then asked if extending
25 the rule currently in place with thoroughbreds of no

1 intra-articular injections for 30 days in the fetlock could
2 be extended to all joints? My response was, "Let's get Dr.
3 Allred on the phone."

4 So we had a three-way conversation. After
5 introduction of Dr. Allred and Dr. Ferraro to each other, Dr.
6 Allred asked, "Tell us what we need to do, Dr. Ferraro."

7 The reply was, "No intra-articular injections in any
8 joint for 30 days."

9 And Dr. Allred immediately replied, "You've got it."

10 In doing this, this was very typical of what I'd found
11 with my friend Ed Allred. He doesn't issue platitudes. He
12 doesn't speak platitudes. He speaks what needs to be done in
13 response to a problem. He's been known to stop access to the
14 racetrack of people who break the rules.

15 We've always had challenges, of course, with what
16 medication laws allow us to inhibit and what is actually happening
17 on the outside. I consider Dr. Allred to have been a leader
18 in this area in applying the house rules when the laws are clearly
19 being broken.

20 Dr. Allred has proposed and put in place the most
21 stringent rule regarding intra-articular corticosteroid
22 steroids in the U.S. And it's more stringent than any of the
23 top racing countries, thoroughbred racing countries in the world.

24 The second thing that's equally important for the
25 CHRB Commissioners to know is that when Dr. Allred advised the

1 horsemen, including vets and trainers, of his new rule that
2 he had agreed to, he was totally supported. In the past, I've
3 sometimes had calls from trainers asking about new limits on
4 corticosteroid use, et cetera. This was instantly accepted
5 as important for the equine welfare standard that we now have.
6 Instantaneously, everybody has obliged to changing the culture
7 towards what was initially told to me by Dr. Ferraro, and also
8 told to me by Dr. Arthur.

9 Los Alamitos has, indeed, changed the culture. It's
10 (indiscernible) the challenge in spite and has earned the right
11 to a 12-month calendar in my opinion.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Are there any other presenters, Cathy?

15 MS. MONJI: Hello?

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Ms. Monji?

17 MS. MONJI: Cathy.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Yeah.

19 MS. MONJI: Oh.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

21 MS. MONJI: I'm sorry. No, we don't have any other
22 presenters.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have any questions from the
24 Board for any of these speakers?

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Commissioner Davis. I have a

1 question, just about an update on the fire safety inspection.

2 MR. SHERREN: I can answer that question. This is
3 Frank Sherren.

4 As we stated at our last -- at the last meeting, the
5 Orange County Fire Authority has conducted their inspections
6 for 2020 and we are pending our inspection for 2021. And as
7 soon as we have that inspection, we will forward on that fire
8 clearance letter onto the Racing Board.

9 Due to COVID restrictions, they have declined to come
10 out for a physical inspection. And they did update our letter
11 to November 1, 2020. And until such time as they can come back
12 out onto the grounds, we will be pending the new letter and
13 we'll get it to you as soon as we get it, okay?

14 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you.

15 MR. SHERREN: Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Any other questions from the Board?

17 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Commissioner --

18 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: I have a question.

19 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- Chair Ferraro --

20 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: I have a question.

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- I have a question.

22 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Oh.

23 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Okay. I'll go after you.

24 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Go ahead.

25 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'm sorry. Okay.

1 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Oh, yeah.

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I have like just --

3 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: My question is --

4 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- a quick question for --

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: -- my --

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Oh, goodness. Okay.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell, go ahead.

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Please go ahead. I'll go after
9 you. Yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: My question was simple. It's
11 what -- so what's changed since our last meeting in December?
12 Nothing, as far as I can tell. You're just presenting the same
13 information in a different format, is that --

14 MS. MONJI: I'm sorry.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: It's changed?

16 MS. MONJI: She wanted to know what's changed --

17 DR. ALLRED: I'm trying to present the facts.

18 MS. MONJI: -- from our presentation from December?

19 Well, we have -- our integrity -- our Safety Enhancement
20 Plan has been enforced since our last meeting. And we have full
21 cooperation from our Quarter Horse veterinarians and trainers.
22 And it's been -- it's proven to be very successful.

23 I think that before our last meeting, our Enhancement
24 Plan hadn't been approved. But it has been approved in their
25 December meeting. And it is in effect right now and it's going

1 really well.

2 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We have an additional 30
3 days --

4 MS. MONJI: Right.

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: -- for corticosteroids.

6 MS. MONJI: And, yes, with all our new rules, house
7 rules.

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you, Cathy.

9 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Okay. So you just have --

10 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: My question is --

11 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: -- more time?

12 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- for Mike.

13 MR. KILPACK: Yes, sir.

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: My question is for Michael.

15 I just am wondering if the stewards and the state
16 veterinarians who are at Los Al are keeping up the pace with
17 what sounds like very forward thinking, thoughtful,
18 boots-on-the-ground approach to monitoring and checking in on
19 things? I want to make sure that as your team starts to pick
20 up the pace and really assert yourselves that -- on the State
21 of California, and that we are doing our part.

22 So just quickly, your thoughts on interaction with
23 stewards, state vets, and what more could be done on that front.

24 MR. KILPACK: Yes. Absolutely, Commissioner.

25 I'm also involved with both the -- our Los Al pre-entry

1 panel, you know, which consists of a steward, track management,
2 which is myself and Dino Perez from PCQ, and our track veterinarian,
3 and we meet every Wednesday and Thursday mornings and Friday
4 afternoons, so those are three days.

5 But I'm pretty much in the stewards office every day.
6 The mornings, we have an entry steward and we sit and discuss,
7 in detail, matters of concern, unless it's involving an
8 investigation. Then, obviously, we don't because that
9 investigation could, eventually, move over to the jurisdiction
10 of the Board.

11 To answer your question, I keep the stewards and,
12 also, the safety stewards, who I work daily with, abreast of
13 pretty much everything that's going on in the barn area of mutual
14 concern. And that also includes the Racing Office's Director
15 of Security, Scott Craigmyle, is extremely hands on and supports
16 me 100 percent in our activity.

17 So the answer is, yes, I do keep the stewards abreast.
18 And I do communicate with them on a daily basis.

19 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Any other questions from the
21 Commissioners? I have one for either Dr. Allred or Cathy Monji.

22 Could you -- your Quarter Horse program, racing program,
23 in terms of purse money is dependent upon submission of payments
24 by trainers on a monthly basis. Can you explain how that works
25 and what -- why the second half of the year is so dependent

1 on the purse and vice versa?

2 DR. ALLRED: Well, the payments are ongoing from the
3 time -- this is Ed Allred -- from the time they're weanlings
4 or yearlings, depending on the race. And payment are every
5 90 days or 60 days, depending on the schedule. And, of course,
6 preparation for the trials, we have a system of trials in Quarter
7 Horse racing which is not common in thoroughbred racing, and
8 you have to qualify. There might as many as 120, 130 horses
9 in the trials vying for ten spots in the finals. And there
10 might be only 40 or 50 but, still, a lot of horses. And all
11 ten finalists get some purse money.

12 So it takes careful scheduling, you know, years' period
13 of time, to get all this done. Any disruption at all would
14 throw the whole schedule off. And most of the racing, actual
15 racing, starts, for two-year-olds, starts in May. And from
16 May to the end of the year, it's a tight schedule.

17 I don't know if I addressed that or not but I
18 don't --

19 CHAIR FERRARO: No, that helps me understand it better.

20 Any questions from the Board?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Dr. Ferraro? Oscar. Yeah, I
22 just have one. It's a follow-up to your question that you just
23 asked.

24 I've spent quite a bit of time looking at the nomination
25 forms, the races that Dr. Allred is speaking of. And I asked

1 CHRB Staff to work with Los Alamitos to make sure that the fine
2 print on those nomination forms is updated. At some point a
3 disruption is likely to happen, whether it's due to
4 natural -- a natural disaster, a power outage, or whether it's
5 through the ability of CHRB to halt racing. And I just feel
6 that the nomination form language needs to be updated.

7 For example, I feel full refunds should be issued
8 to any horse racing connections who are inconvenienced. If
9 a race is moved, I did notice in the nomination language --
10 nomination form language that to, perhaps, to allay any concerns
11 that a racing will not happen is that one of the big races would
12 be moved to a local racetrack. So I would like to make sure
13 that that kind of a move is with the explicit approval of the
14 CHRB. And that any of the local racetracks, whether that's
15 Del Mar or Santa Anita, knows that they, in a sense, are written
16 into the Quarter Horse nomination form.

17 So I believe that there is room for updating that
18 language. And I do encourage, for the next license application,
19 that that be updated in a way that is good for the horsemen
20 and good for Southern California racing.

21 That's the only observation that I made.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Mr. Chaney, do you have a comment
23 about that?

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Not specifically. I
25 think what the Vice Chairman is saying is true. Obviously,

1 any move of a race could not happen without CHRB approval in
2 the sense that we approve license applications that includes
3 the racing schedule, and so on and so forth. So it seems like
4 a change that's probably appropriate given the law and license
5 application process.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Dr. Allred, do you have a comment?

7 DR. ALLRED: I am not quite sure. There's no other
8 Quarter Horse track in California, so I don't know where we
9 would move them. But that situation has never happened in 70
10 years of running futurities but we'll look at it and get our
11 counsel to -- we revised those blanks to enable us to do a little
12 more policing of people that were undesirable, in our opinion.
13 But I'll look at it again and we'll have counsel look at it
14 again.

15 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Any --

17 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you, Dr. Allred.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: -- any other questions from the
19 Commissioners?

20 Now I'll open it up to public comment.

21 Go ahead, Operator.

22 OPERATOR: Thank you.

23 If you would like to make a comment on item three,
24 please press star one to enter the comment queue. If you are
25 already in queue for item four, please remove yourself from

1 the queue by pressing star two. You may requeue for item four
2 when item four is called upon. Again, to comment on item three,
3 please press star one.

4 We will take our first comment or question from Janet
5 Vanbebber from the American Quarter Horse Association.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

7 MS. VANBEBBER: Thank you. First, I, too, wish to
8 express my condolences regarding Mr. Bruce Headley's recent
9 passing. Back in my youth, when I would present consigned horses
10 on behalf of Roland Bah (phonetic) at the California thoroughbred
11 sale, I was always pleased when Mr. Headley was complimentary
12 of the horse I led to him. He was, indeed, an outstanding horseman.

13 Thank you for hearing my comments today on behalf
14 of AQHA. The American Quarter Horse Association asks that you
15 approve the racing opportunities requested by the Los Alamitos
16 Quarter Horse Racing Association at Los Alamitos Race Course.
17 Your doing so will support opportunities for Quarter Horse racing
18 that are a prerequisite to strengthen the racing industry and,
19 also, positively impacts the breeding of racing Quarter Horses.

20 Los Alamitos is the cornerstone of the Quarter Horse
21 industry and attracts horses from across the nation. The tenure
22 of the race meet they are asking is not only good for the horsemen
23 who reside in California but also has a strong economic impact
24 that spans beyond its Southern California oval. More
25 importantly, it is evident that Dr. Ed Allred, Cathy Monji,

1 and the entire management team at Los Alamitos are committed
2 to protecting the horses that compete there.

3 We appreciate that the California Horse Racing Board
4 is entrusted with the ability to shut down and meet at any time
5 should unforeseen circumstances deem it necessary. Know that
6 we at AQHA want you to protect both the horse and the industry.

7 You can engage this authority while still affording Los Alamitos
8 the opportunity to schedule their racing dates and afford horsemen
9 the opportunity to plan for the fall.

10 As a horsemen, I might also mention an integrity aspect
11 of calendaring a race schedule spread throughout the year so
12 that too many races aren't planned during an abbreviated time
13 frame. It's advantageous for the welfare of the horse to spread
14 races over a longer time frame. And when I trained I preferred
15 focusing on the end of the year for the two-year-olds when they
16 have a longer opportunity to mature.

17 Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

19 Next please.

20 OPERATOR: Thank you.

21 We will take our next comment from Gary Stevens,
22 television commentator.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

24 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. Thank you for being invited to
25 this meeting. Gary Stevens, for those of you that don't know

1 me, also now an owner in Southern California.

2 And I would like to thank and commend Dr. Allred and
3 his staff for what they have done in the past. They've always
4 been there for us as horsemen.

5 For those of that don't know me, Hall of Famer in
6 the thoroughbred industry but I started out in the Quarter Horse
7 industry. And a lot of people don't know that the first major
8 Southern California track that I visited at the age of seven
9 in 1970 was Los Alamitos. And I wanted to be there. My career
10 took me in a different direction.

11 But Dr. Allred has always been there. And I want
12 to commend the CHRB and Dr. Allred and his staff on the new
13 implementations of equine and jockey welfare. It's very
14 important. I think they're doing a great job.

15 I am -- associates -- there have been associates with
16 Dr. Allred and Dr. McIlwraith in the past, Mike Kilroy [sic].
17 And I just, I want to encourage the Board to approve the 12-month
18 calendar year. This whole sport is about planning. Without
19 planning, Dr. Ferraro, Dr. Arthur, Alex Solis, you know that
20 when things are thrown off kilter and we can't point for a certain
21 direction, it becomes very difficult.

22 I thank you for your time. And I'm begging you to
23 please approve the 12-month calendar.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

1 Next please.

2 OPERATOR: Thank you.

3 We will take our next comment from Paul Jones of Paul
4 Jones Racing Stables.

5 MR. JONES: Hello. My name is Paul --

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

7 MR. JONES: Hello. My name is Paul Jones. I'm a
8 Quarter Horse trainer, I'm a breeder, and I'm an owner. I've
9 been training Quarter Horses for 31 years in California. I've
10 been fortunate enough to be the all-time leading trainer in
11 the sport. Also, I've received AQHA Champion Trainer Award
12 14 times. I'd like to thank the Board for the opportunity to
13 speak on this behalf.

14 What I feel has changed in this meeting over the last
15 meeting is we're having the opportunity to discuss the difference
16 between six months and a year. And the difference is in Quarter
17 Horse racing, like many of us have heard today, it's based on
18 futurities and derbies. Our clients are paying these horses
19 up, up to a year in advance.

20 And the problem is, without the certainty of a year
21 racing, these clients are in an uproar. I've had many a calls.
22 What do we do? Do we take our horses somewhere else? Do we
23 pay them somewhere else? They're very uncertain. And they need
24 that -- they need the certainty to keep paying these horses
25 in these races and to keep involved in California horse racing.

1 It's not an issue of refunding the money. It's an issue of
2 having a place that they can count on where they can run their
3 horses.

4 I'd like to also say that Dr. Allred has been 100
5 percent committed to the safety and the medication practices
6 here at Los Alamitos. There is nothing that he wouldn't do
7 to keep this track going and keep it safe for the horsemen,
8 the horses, the jockeys, and everyone. The trainers here are
9 all following the procedures, including myself. We are very
10 committed to keeping a tight ship here at Los Angeles.

11 And I'm asking the Board to, please, give us the
12 opportunity to keep the sport going that we love.

13 Thank you very much.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

15 Next please.

16 OPERATOR: Thank you.

17 We will take our next comment from Martha Sullivan,
18 a concerned citizen.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

20 MS. SULLIVAN: Hello. This is Martha Sullivan again
21 from San Diego County.

22 I am having a really difficult time understanding
23 how, as Los Alamitos management and its supporters have argued,
24 that having a six-month license is worse than having the Board's
25 emergency suspension power hanging over their heads all the

1 time. I don't really get that logic. Wouldn't it be more
2 destructive, you know, for the Board to shut it down at any
3 time?

4 I also -- I mean, there was ample discussion of this
5 at the last meeting, which is the Board has allocated dates
6 for Los Alamitos to race, you know, throughout 2021. The license
7 is a different matter. It's a specific license to conduct races
8 within those dates that are authorized. Every other track and
9 state has coped with this for years.

10 So, you know, this seems like, to me, it's just another
11 matter of the horse racing industry having a really difficult
12 time adapting to change. And I suggest everybody just take
13 a deep breath and recognize that this is part of the change
14 that's involved with changing the culture, which Dr. Allred
15 has stated today he's committed to.

16 I'd also like to remind everybody that the Los Angeles
17 Times Editorial Board, on January 4th, had an editorial headlined,
18 "Fewer racehorses are dying, but still too many." It called
19 for greater transparency on the part of the industry and on
20 the part of the Board. It calls for additional measures to
21 ensure the safety of racehorses.

22 So, yes, a downward trajectory is good, you know,
23 even if it's -- there's also a downward trajectory of starts,
24 which you have to bear in mind. But, clearly, with two horse
25 deaths this last Sunday there's still a lot of work to be done.

1 And, again, it's not unreasonable --

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Time's up, Martha. Thank you.

3 MS. SULLIVAN: -- to adapt.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please, Operator.

5 OPERATOR: Thank you.

6 We will take our next comment from Darrell Haire of
7 the Jockeys' Guild Incorporation.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

9 MR. HAIRE: Good morning. Yes. Good morning, Mr.
10 Chairman and Members of the California Horse Racing Board.
11 My name is Darrell Haire. I'm the Western Regional Manager
12 of the Jockeys' Guild.

13 Commissioners, the Jockeys' Guild is in support of
14 this annual approval for the License to Conduct a Horse Racing
15 Meet at the Los Alamitos Race Course. The Jockeys' Guild is
16 in favor of the annual license as that Quarter Horse industry
17 is in need of stability. And that is why Los Al needs to be
18 granted an annual license. Unlike thoroughbreds, major stake
19 races are funded by year-round nomination fees.

20 Also, qualifying for major stake races run in the
21 last half of the year take place in the first half of the year.
22 Obviously, there needs to be certainty on a year-round basis.
23 In the absence of stability, there is a risk of losing horses
24 and riders to other jurisdictions.

25 Mike Smith, who is the Co-Chairman of the Jockeys'

1 Guild, would have liked to call in but he's on a plane to Florida
2 to ride the Pegasus. But Mike wanted me or asked me to express
3 his gratitude on behalf of the jockeys in California to Dr.
4 Allred and his management team for putting in protocols to ensure
5 the safety and well-being of the jockeys. Los Alamitos management
6 has been working with the jockeys during this COVID time and
7 uncertain times, and working close with us, put protocols in
8 place to make things safer for horsemen, for the riders, and
9 we appreciate that.

10 Also, with the --

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Time's up, Darrell.

12 MR. HAIRE: -- (indiscernible).

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 MR. HAIRE: Yes, sir.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Stop, Darrell. Your time's up.

16 MR. HAIRE: Thank you.

17 OPERATOR: Thank you.

18 MR. HAIRE: Thank you, Chairman.

19 OPERATOR: We will take our next question or comment
20 from David Hoffman, a trainer.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

22 MR. HOFFMAN: Yes. Hello. Thank you for allowing
23 me --

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

25 MR. HOFFMAN: -- to speak here today. I'm not as

1 eloquent a speaker as the other people have been but this is
2 all coming from my heart.

3 Los Alamitos is not only vital to the future of Quarter
4 Horse racing but it is also -- it has a tremendous impact on
5 the thoroughbred industry. Horse racing in California is over
6 a billion-dollar industry. And without Los Alamitos, I'm afraid
7 the thoroughbred industry could not survive.

8 I have never met Dr. Allred but I have -- but he has
9 been a vital part of racing for both thoroughbreds and Quarter
10 Horses. He put up a bond to save our Workman's' Comp. He's
11 been there to assist any horse person, as well as the industry.

12 Los Alamitos has implemented all of the safety protocols
13 to help Los Alamitos become a safer racing place for our horses.
14 Please hear from the experts in the horse racing and not these
15 special interest groups.

16 During the San Luis Rey fire, Los Alamitos was one
17 of the first to open its barn area for misplaced horses. Almost
18 all the horse people I know rushed to help at San Luis Rey during
19 the fire with our vans and our personnel to help save horses.
20 Not one of these interest groups offered any help at all.

21 If Los Alamitos is not permitted to race they will
22 have to close this facility, which will cause the Latino and
23 Black communities additional hardships and put another thousand
24 people on the unemployment rolls. California racing needs Los
25 Alamitos to survive.

1 I want to thank you very much for your time and goodbye.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 Next please.

4 OPERATOR: Thank you.

5 We will take our next question or comment from Patty
6 Shenker of -- and she is a concerned citizen.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

8 MS. SHENKER: Good morning. Can you hear me? Good
9 morning, Chair Ferraro --

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

11 MS. SHENKER: -- and Board Members. Patty Shenker
12 here.

13 I was unable to attend the last meeting where Los
14 Alamitos was given only a six-month operating license, instead
15 of the usual 12-month, due to concerns over the new reports
16 of fatalities. I have to admit, I was shocked, relieved, and
17 grateful that this Board was finally having concerns over the
18 numerous horse fatalities and actually doing something about
19 it.

20 I thank Vice Chair Gonzales for insisting on the
21 six-month license. Today, you reconsider this decision.

22 It was already mentioned last weekend, two more young
23 horses were killed during training at Los Alamitos, Don't Stop
24 Looking and Noor Khan. The times of their untimely deaths cannot
25 and should not be ignored, happening just days before this meeting

1 in which you will determine whether Los Alamitos should have
2 their license extended through December.

3 While their deaths are the first fatalities at the
4 track since the six-month operating license was issued, we all
5 know, they will not be the last. There will be many more
6 business-as-usual deaths at Los Alamitos and the other racetracks.
7 They will continue to kill their stars.

8 If their license is suspended for the rest of the
9 year the tragic deaths of these two horses will not have been
10 in vain and more horses lives will be saved. Los Alamitos
11 continues to be the most dangerous CHRB racetrack in California,
12 no matter what changes they have made.

13 So I am urging you, please, do not extend their operating
14 license.

15 Thank you very much.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 We will take our next question or comment from Howard
20 Siegel, an owner and breeder.

21 MR. SIEGEL: Thank you very much.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

23 MR. SIEGEL: Thank you. Thank you. I appreciate the
24 opportunity. My wife, Janet, and myself, excuse me, have been
25 owners and breeders for -- this coming March it will be 40 years

1 in California. When we were allowed, we would go as often as
2 we could in the morning to see how our horses were doing. We
3 go to virtually every race possible that we can. And we've
4 been campaigning at Los Alamitos since 1981.

5 We've been at tracks from New York to California and
6 can honestly say we have not seen a consistently better track
7 surface than they have at Los Alamitos. We've participated
8 in 2,238 races. And the personnel we've met, the ownership
9 over there at Los Alamitos, the trainers, the jockeys, the grooms,
10 the vets, everyone that we've come in touch with all have one
11 thing in common and that's to be great -- care very greatly
12 about the horses.

13 We were all talking about Bruce Headley and I knew
14 him somewhat. Alex Solis mentioned about never having a breakdown
15 that he knew of. Unfortunately, I was sitting up in the grandstand
16 with him one time and his horse did break down at Santa Anita.
17 All of us were there consoling him. I remember him saying,
18 "That horse never had a pimple on him."

19 The point is, unfortunately, these things happen sadly
20 and tragically. I know every time I answer the phone from my
21 trainer, I get a lump in my throat, please don't let it be something
22 bad or serious. But, unfortunately, that is life. And none
23 of us are not going to get in the car and drive to a Dodger
24 game because we're afraid we're going to get into an accident.
25 We're not going to not go out and live our life because something

1 tragic could happen. As I say, it is tragic and it pains all
2 of us.

3 But year-round racing is vital for Los Alamitos and
4 all of us, especially for us that own horses, horses that cannot
5 compete at Santa Anita and Del Mar. They would have to leave
6 and go somewhere else.

7 And I just ask that you please consider giving them
8 a full year lease. It's vital to Los Alamitos and it's vital
9 to all of us in owning and breeding. And it's really important
10 to race horses, to do what they love to do.

11 Thank you very much for listening to me.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

13 Next please.

14 OPERATOR: Thank you.

15 We will take our next comment from Bonnie Croker,
16 a concerned citizen.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

18 MS. CROKER: Yes. Good morning. I'm asking the Board
19 to deny the requested one-year license for Los Alamitos Racetrack.
20 Last month the CHRB made a monumental and well-respected decision
21 to grant only a six-month license to this track based on their
22 unacceptable horse safety record. That record exhibits the
23 fatalities of more than 40 horses in 2020. This gruesome reality
24 exists, despite the safety, intervention, and probationary
25 tactics employed in 2020 by the CHRB.

1 Decision-related letters of opposition from industry
2 stakeholders are contained in today's meeting package. The
3 letters show absolutely no true concern for the safety of horses.
4 The catastrophic life-ending injuries that the horses suffer
5 were lightly referred to in one letter as "safety issues that
6 can be worked out between Los Al and the CHRB."

7 The letters complain of the possible loss of money,
8 human stress, confusion, and the inability to plan. No concern
9 for the horses. The letters warn of the already decreasing
10 Quarter Horse foal crop, as if these magnificent beings were
11 ears of corn or sacks of barley.

12 The writing is on the wall for Los Alamitos track
13 enthusiasts. The track owner's letter states that he plans
14 to keep Los Al viable as long as he lives. The gentleman is
15 86 or 87 years old.

16 The City of Cypress has already drawn plans for the
17 reuse of the Los Al property. Of course the city wants to remain
18 a close partner with Los Al for now. But if racing enthusiasts
19 plan for anything, it should involve the approaching
20 pre-determined closure of Los Alamitos Racetrack.

21 Just a few days ago, on January 17th, as you heard,
22 Los Alamitos killed two more horses, Don't Stop Looking, a
23 three-year-old filly, and Noor Khan, a four-year-old mare.
24 On December 16th, they killed Thru Lady but her death wasn't
25 revealed on the fatalities list until December 18th, the day

1 after the last CHRB teleconference.

2 I believe Los Al, unfortunately, has created ways
3 to hide horse fatalities from the public. They have vanned
4 off many injured horses who seem to disappear from public record.
5 If the CHRB can't tell us of their whereabouts, perhaps listeners
6 on this call can.

7 Where is Kasper (phonetic), injured and vanned off
8 during a race cooldown on 08/16/20?

9 Where is Verifiable? Did not finish race, vanned
10 off on 09/05/20.

11 Where is Rule He Will, a nine-year-old gelding pulled
12 up at the eighth, vanned off on 09/19/20.

13 Where is El Arcotta (phonetic), who was whipped 19
14 times by his jockey during race six on 11/13/20? He finished
15 fourth but was vanned off following the race.

16 Horse racing participants and betters need to find
17 other jobs and hobbies that don't torture and kill animals.
18 Virtual live horse racing and betting is making big money these
19 days.

20 One year, six months, a decade, a license to race
21 horses is a license to kill horses. CHRB, please don't be bullied
22 of fooled into changing last month's wise decision to hold Los
23 Alamitos accountable for the killing.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

1 Next please.

2 OPERATOR: Thank you.

3 We will take our next comment from Christopher Schick
4 of Watch and Wager.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

6 MR. SCHICK: Good morning, Chair Ferraro, Members
7 of the Committee. Christopher Schick, Watch and Wager Harness
8 Racing. I'd like to briefly comment on the importance of the
9 Los Alamitos night meet to the Standardbred industry up here
10 at Cal Expo.

11 During normal times, Los Alamitos is, by far, our
12 highest handling California location. We also, as operators
13 of the night California network, we share salaries and benefits
14 throughout that network. Los Alamitos provides us very important
15 money room service and program service and they do that throughout
16 California.

17 A lot of our people up here, our horsemen, are, you
18 know, wishing, maybe dreaming of returning to Los Alamitos for
19 a live Standardbred meet at some point in the future. But in
20 the interim, we are just very hopeful for the long continuation
21 of the Los Alamitos night meeting as it is very important to
22 us up here at Cal Expo.

23 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from David Neumeister
3 of the California Harness Horsemen's Association.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MR. NEUMEISTER: Good morning. Hi. Good morning,
6 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I'm calling, as Chris Schick,
7 standing with the horsemen and management, not only here in
8 Sacramento, the harness horsemen, but the Quarter Horsemen and
9 thoroughbred horsemen at Los Alamitos.

10 In addition to my personal affection and admiration
11 for Dr. Allred, as Chris Schick mentioned, harness racing in
12 California has a mutually beneficial and symbiotic relationship
13 with the Quarter Horses at Los Alamitos. For example, we wouldn't
14 have anybody printing our programs if Los Alamitos weren't racing
15 the other six months of the year. We'd have to find somebody
16 else to print them. We share the expenses of the satellite
17 facilities once they open up again.

18 So I'm not going to repeat everything Chris said.
19 I just want you to know that the harness horsemen are standing
20 with the Quarter Horsemen in support of the Los Alamitos request
21 for a year-long license at Los Alamitos.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you very much.

23 Next please.

24 OPERATOR: Thank you.

25 We will take our next comment from Angela Aquino of

1 Los Alamitos.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

3 MS. AQUINO: Hi. My name is Angela Aquino. I'm a
4 racehorse trainer here at Los Alamitos Race Course. I was raised
5 on the backside of the racetrack, with my mother being a horse
6 trainer and my dad a jockey. My sister and I were instantly
7 drawn to the love of horses. As small children, we would help
8 around the barn giving baths, feeding carrots, and just enjoying
9 horses as part of our family because that is what they are to
10 us, part of our family.

11 Straight out of high school we found ourselves right
12 here at Los Alamitos, over 20 years ago. This quickly became
13 our home and our family grew in friends and community at the
14 racetrack. The racetrack is not just a work of employment but,
15 rather, a big a community of people who gather and help each
16 other and share in victories and our losses.

17 My love for the horse only grew stronger as I grew
18 myself. I have always done right by them and help in any way
19 I can, even if that means sleeping in a stall next to a sick
20 horse or skipping a meal so I can give my horse what they need.
21 Their needs are always placed above mine.

22 In 2005, I met a girl named Sarah Parlier who started
23 galloping here at Los Alamitos. She started rehoming these
24 racehorses who needed to retire from the track into new careers
25 where they could be successful and move on to their new chapter

1 in life. Our friendship started to grow over the years, as
2 well as her organization that's called Equine Racers, which
3 was officially established as a nonprofit in 2014.

4 As word got out, relationships were made, people were
5 flocking to us for racehorses to be made into show jumpers and
6 riding horses. We quickly teamed up and we have been working
7 strong together for the last six years and placed roughly 600
8 races into second-career homes. That's huge. And that's just
9 two people working together. There are many more.

10 We all love horses here. They are our lives, our
11 passion. They make us get up in the morning. They make us
12 emotional. They have such a giant impact in our lives. We would
13 be lost as horsemen without them. We want to see them doing
14 well once they leave us. We want to know they are healthy and
15 happy. Without these horses, we wouldn't be who we are today.
16 And I thank God every day to be able to work with these beautiful,
17 magnificent animals.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

20 Next please.

21 OPERATOR: Thank you.

22 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
23 Dr. Holly Wilson.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

25 DR. WILSON: Once again there is a proposal for Los

1 Alamitos to have a year-long racing meet commencing retroactively
2 on December 23rd, 2020 and going through December 21st, 2021.

3 How is this even an agenda item when last month it was already
4 ruled that they will be granted a six-month license? In effect,
5 they were denied the year-long license in accordance with Article
6 3, Section 1434.

7 A decision has been made. Yet Ed Allred repeatedly
8 demonstrates his vice grip of influence on this Board. He has
9 also shown his utter disrespect for you, while making a mockery
10 of established rules and practices. Just who is in charge of
11 license distribution and meeting agendas, the CHRB or Ed Allred?

12 Vice Chair Gonzales took a stand and demonstrated,
13 in no uncertain terms, that he was only going to approve a six-month
14 meet. Article 3, Section 1433 describes the application process.
15 At least 90 days before the time allocated by the Board for
16 a racing meet the application is to be filed. There is no mention
17 of revisiting the approval of a meet retroactively once a denial
18 has been issued.

19 Ed Allred owns and operates the deadliest racetrack
20 in California. And this Board has the right to deny his licensure.
21 Just last weekend, as everyone has been stating, Los Alamitos
22 killed two more horses.

23 This Board has already voted on the current Los Alamitos
24 meet, which has been granted for six months. I urge you to
25 maintain the courage demonstrated by Vice Chair Gonzales. Please

1 adhere to the oath you took and do not grant Los Alamitos a
2 year-long race meet.

3 And when you get into your car and go to a Dodger's
4 game, that is a decision that you have made for yourself. You
5 are aware of the risks that you are taking. The horses have
6 no say in the matter. They are not consenting to be drugged,
7 to be confined, to be whipped, and to be trafficked all over
8 the states. You don't love these animals.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

10 Next please.

11 OPERATOR: Thank you.

12 We will take our next comment from Monty Arrossa of
13 Monty Arrossa Racing Stables.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

15 MR. ARROSSA: Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members
16 of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to speak today as
17 I speak in favor of Los Alamitos Race Course. I am joined today
18 by my fellow colleague, professional racehorse trainer, James
19 Glenn, Jr.

20 Currently, I operate divisions in Idaho, Oklahoma,
21 New Mexico, and California. Last year my horses led the nation
22 in total earnings, making just over \$3.8 million. Quarter Horse
23 racing is not only my profession, it's my passion.

24 When I decided to leave my full-time job as a human
25 resources director for the College of Southern Idaho and expand

1 my horse racing business outside of Idaho, I chose Los Alamitos.
2 I can explain my rationale in one word: Integrity. For as long
3 as I can remember, Los Alamitos has set the standard for integrity
4 in the Quarter Horse racing world. I have never been to a track
5 where they are so willing to accommodate change and do whatever
6 is necessary to make conditions the best for horses, jockeys,
7 owners, trainers, industry employees, and the betting public.
8 Los Alamitos's year-round existence is critical to our industry.

9 In my previous work life I worked with the Board.
10 And I understand your role and the tremendous responsibility
11 you carry. I can assure you, Los Alamitos has taken your recent
12 concerns and have addressed them like the industry leader they
13 are. I see it every day. This plan is a living-working plan
14 totally geared to improving our industry.

15 Times have changed and my fellow colleagues and I
16 realize this and are committed to support Los Alamitos and improve
17 our industry. It is not only a privilege but an honor to run
18 horses at Los Alamitos.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

20 Next please.

21 MR. ARROSSA: I'm not quite finished.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Oh. Go ahead. You -- that's all
23 right.

24 MR. ARROSSA: My many owners and I love Los Alamitos
25 and we plan for year-round racing. Los Alamitos is our first

1 place to start. I'm proud that Los Alamitos continues to exceed
2 and set industry standards. I will guarantee you, Los Alamitos
3 will continue to raise the bar for the entire industry.

4 I have worked with racetracks in Idaho, Utah, Nevada,
5 Washington, Oklahoma, and New Mexico and can assure you, Los
6 Alamitos and its management and employees are second to none.

7 On behalf of my owners, all of my employees, my
8 colleagues and myself, I strongly encourage you to support
9 year-round licensing of Los Alamitos and be proud of this iconic
10 California racetrack.

11 Thank you for your time.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

13 Next please.

14 OPERATOR: Thank you.

15 We will take a comment from concerned citizen, Heather
16 Wilson.

17 MS. WILSON: Yes. Thank you. Good morning. I
18 applaud Vice Chairman Gonzales for standing up to Ed Allred
19 at last month's meeting.

20 As we've heard many times, just on January 17th, two
21 more young horses have lost their lives at this track. And this
22 kind of puts a damper on the argument to grant the full 12 months.

23 The Los Alamitos Safety Enhancement Plan mentions
24 fatality reviews that are separate and apart from the CHRB's
25 investigations. So where exactly are these fatality reviews

1 posted?

2 Then in the meeting packet, Ed Allred's letter begging
3 for 12 months, he has the gall to state that his track is,
4 essentially, the only site of Quarter Horse in California, and
5 we all know that this is not true whatsoever. There are numerous
6 non-sanctioned Quarter Horse tracks peppered throughout the
7 state. Mr. Allred, as well as the CHRB, as fully aware of their
8 presence.

9 Lastly, Los Alamitos is having a fundraiser to benefit
10 the racetrack chaplaincy. Of all things, they are donating
11 studs for breeding. Just the sheer irony, promoting the selling
12 of semen to benefit the church. One of the studs listed for
13 this holy fundraiser is He Knows Her Secret. This horse is
14 also advertised on the Rancho Los Alamos page, marketed as a
15 Los Alamitos champion horse. The ties between the illegal track
16 and Los Alamitos are undeniable. He Knows Her Secret's trainer
17 is Paul Jones, and he enters horses regularly at Los Alamitos,
18 and he has had three racing deaths in 2020.

19 Los Al should be grateful that they even got a six-month
20 license. They kill the most horses. And they are actively
21 conducting business with an illegal enterprise.

22 And since I have a couple seconds, let us not forget
23 about Vinnie Bednar. What are the results of that investigation?
24 That was last August and I don't recall hearing anything about
25 his tragic outcome.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

2 Next please.

3 OPERATOR: Thank you.

4 We will take our next question from Art Sherman.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

6 MR. SHERMAN: Hello everybody. This is Art Sherman.

7 I just wanted to let you know that racing owes Doc Allred a
8 big, big hurrray.

9 I had California Chrome here, won the Derby. Bob
10 Baffert had his horses here, two of them which won the Derby.
11 And I want to tell you, the track was well manicured. And the
12 facility was great to train on. We're not going to keep
13 multi-million-dollar horses if the track was not in good shape.

14 I really beg you all to give him his license.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 We will take our next comment from Mike Castleman
20 of Los Alamitos.

21 MR. CASTLEMAN: Hello?

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

23 MR. CASTLEMAN: Okay. This is Mike Castleman. I
24 became involved in horse racing with family members in 1978.
25 And I started training for the public in 1990 in Colorado.

1 I've raced in New Mexico, Arizona, and Wyoming. I started my
2 first horse at Los Alamitos in November of 1990 and it's still
3 a family affair with us. We have family active in racing in
4 Colorado, New Mexico, California. As a trainer, I represent
5 owners from across the country, Arizona, Colorado, California,
6 New Mexico, and Georgia.

7 I have a modest stable at Los Alamitos with 20 to
8 30 head, mostly Quarter Horses. I employ six to eight full-time
9 employees. And the grooms I had employed in 2020 had an average
10 of 18 years' experience at Los Alamitos. They have been members
11 and residents of this community around Los Alamitos for years.
12 And I'm proud of my employees and their families. Many of their
13 children are willfully employed, and students in area schools,
14 as well as colleges and universities in the state.

15 My employees and I realize how important it is to
16 follow the leadership of Dr. Allred and his staff to make Los
17 Alamitos the gold standard. My employees are dedicated and
18 deserve to continue.

19 Dr. Allred deserves to be commended for implementing
20 guidelines that we have followed and adopted as horsemen to
21 ensure a safe and fair environment for racing. I support these
22 measures.

23 I would like to stress the fact that the format for
24 racing Quarter Horses is such that I would support the request
25 for consideration for a full year of racing dates.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 Operator, I understand we have 25 people in the queue
4 yet to speak, so I'm going to ask for a five-minute break, and
5 then we'll come back and hear the rest of the public comments.
6 We will break for five minutes.

7 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

8 (Off the record at 11:25 a.m.)

9 (On the record at 11:29 a.m.)

10 OPERATOR: Will now take our next comment from Karen
11 Norton, owner and breeder.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

13 MS. NORTON: Good morning. Thank you to the Chair
14 and to the Board. And I appreciate this time to ask to please
15 extend Los Alamitos meet until 12 months.

16 I'm a thoroughbred owner. I do have a horse in training
17 there. But I can't race my horse there unless there's Quarter
18 Horse racing because they're certainly not going to have just
19 night racing for thoroughbreds.

20 I know that they've gone over and above the call of
21 duty to protect our horses. And, you know, sometimes, as Christine
22 mentioned earlier, horses in nature, I think she said maybe
23 30 percent die from colic. You know, if you're at a racetrack,
24 you're going to have every eye and every groom looking at you.
25 You're going to get the best treatment. And most of those horses

1 are saved.

2 Unfortunately, occasionally there's one that dies.

3 It doesn't mean they're -- you know, horses are going to die
4 of colic in the wild. They're going to die of colic in the
5 pasture. That's just something that happens to horses. And
6 at the racetrack, they do everything possible to prevent it.

7 And most of the time they actually are saved from being at
8 racetrack. So your odds are better being a racetrack than being
9 a horse in a pasture.

10 So please extend the 12-month license. And I
11 appreciate you taking my call.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

13 Next please.

14 OPERATOR: Thank you.

15 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
16 Elvia Sedano.

17 MS. SEDANO: Good morning.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

19 MS. SEDANO: This is -- good morning. This is Elvia
20 Sedano.

21 And last month, Vice Chairman Gonzales offered to
22 grant Los Alamitos, the deadliest racetrack in California, a
23 six-month license instead of the customary 12 months. Of course,
24 Mr. Allred had to rudely interrupt proceedings and exclaim that
25 it had to be 12 months or nothing.

1 What is the process here? Who is in charge of who?
2 This is an indication as to how Mr. Allred conducts his business,
3 no regard for the rules, no respect for authority.

4 As I talked about, at a previous meeting, the highest
5 earning horses of Mr. Allred's were most likely raced to death.

6 Greenie, on June 10th, 2006, broke down and vanned
7 off.

8 Maxian, on May 27th, 2004, pulled up and vanned off.
9 Is this how you treat your best earners? What happens to the
10 others?

11 Where is Color Of Money? On December 11th, she placed
12 last and was then vanned off. Is she dead or alive?

13 Where is Crying Chuck? On January 8th, he was pulled
14 and listed as DNF. On the video it looks like he seriously
15 injured a hind leg. He was then vanned off. Is he dead or alive?

16 The very least this Board can do is to enforce its
17 approval for a six-month license and not to be strongarmed into
18 a full year just because Mr. Allred and the industry bootlickers
19 pitch a fit. Your arguments hardly hold water when you have
20 just killed two more horses, Don't Stop Looking and Noor Khan.

21 I am respectfully asking that the CHRB deny this request
22 for a full year.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from Johnny Trotter
3 of Ruidoso Race Track.

4 MR. TROTTER: Good morning Commissioners and, I might
5 say, afternoon from Herbert, Texas. I am Johnny Trotter. I'm
6 a past president of AQHA and one of the owners of All American
7 Ruidoso Downs. I'm a breeder, I'm an owner, and a racehorse
8 owner.

9 I appreciate Dr. Allred's commitment to furnishing
10 a safe and very much controlled environment for us to run Grade
11 1 Quarter Horses in some of the finest races in the nation.
12 And I support the new safety initiatives for which he -- to
13 continue racing at Los Alamitos. And I know that with Dr. Allred's
14 standards, he and his staff will be certain it's conducted with
15 utmost respect to property.

16 In answer to the people asking about these horses
17 that have run at Los Al, I'm not going to be boastful in stating
18 this, this is fact, so I'm stating facts here, I have a stallion
19 named One Famous Eagle who was a champion three-year-old. He
20 campaigned two years in a row. His two-year-old year, his
21 three-year-old year at Los Alamitos, he ran five, he won five
22 races. He run the Los Alamitos \$2 million, the Golden State
23 Derby, and was continuing to Champion of Champions. He now
24 stands as a stallion.

25 I have another champion named He's Our Secret. It's

1 total campaign was a Ruidoso and Los Al. He won the Z. Wayne.
2 He's standing as a stallion now.

3 I have two mares that were both champions that
4 campaigned at Los Alamitos, ran several races, Miss Rosy Jess,
5 One Sweet Rosy, they're in a brood mare band of mine.

6 I also have a nine-year-old gelding who won the Champion
7 of Champions at Los Alamitos, ran in the Golden State Derby
8 and the Los Alamitos Million Futurity, and he is a pasture ornament
9 now at the side of my house in Herbert. He's also a champion
10 and was a world champion.

11 I commend Dr. Allred on the way he handles his business,
12 handles the track, and all he does for the Quarter Horse industry.
13 And the reason that he needs the annual license, the year license,
14 is we've already made payments on the horses that we're raising
15 for the 2022 futurities. How can we plan? How can we make those
16 plans with the scheduling process?

17 Thank you so much for your time. Please consider
18 an annual license for the sake of not only Los Alamitos and
19 Dr. Allred but the Quarter Horse industry in general.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Next please.

23 OPERATOR: Thank you.

24 We will take our next comment from Wendy Lemke, horse
25 owner.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

2 MS. LEMKE: Hello. Good morning and thank you for
3 giving me this opportunity.

4 I would like you to please Los Alamitos the year-long
5 license to race. The community, the local community, the horse
6 racing community (indiscernible) misleading, unfair, redundant
7 (indiscernible) all humans involved in horse racing. Please
8 listen to all the (indiscernible) concerned citizen.
9 (Indiscernible) can never be 100 percent safe. Keep racing
10 live at Los Alamitos for the people and for the horses that
11 they love.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Next please.

15 OPERATOR: Thank you.

16 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
17 Wendy Minovitz.

18 MS. MENOVIK: Hi. I did have a prepared statement
19 but I really feel my time would be better served if I respond
20 to a couple of comments that were already made. One comment
21 referred to unfortunate events that happen in life and we need
22 to accept it and move on and get back in our cars and drive
23 and do our activities, and I 100 percent agree with that. But
24 the thing is, as humans, we get to make those choices. These
25 horses don't. They didn't ask for this life. This was put upon

1 them against, maybe, their will. This isn't the life, I'm sure,
2 they want.

3 And then the next comment was about the odds being
4 better being a racehorse than just a horse out, you know, generally.
5 And that, with all the horse deaths that are happening all over
6 California, but especially at Los Alamitos, that doesn't seem
7 to be very accurate. And, again, these horses don't have the
8 choice to do that.

9 I do want to also thank Commissioner Gonzales for
10 not giving into pressure and proposing the six-month license.
11 I hope that Los Alamitos will stick to that and be glad that
12 they did get the six-month license.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

15 Next please.

16 OPERATOR: Thank you.

17 We will take our next comment from Jessica Ingram
18 of Equine Sports Medicine.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

20 (Background conversation)

21 OPERATOR: Ms. Ingram, your line is live.

22 MS. INGRAM: Oh, it's me.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

24

25 DR. OVERLY: Hello. Yes. I'm Dr. Larry Overly. I've

1 worked at Los Alamitos for my entire 24-year career.

2 In horseracing, Los Alamitos is considered the premiere
3 horse track in the country. More world champion Quarter Horses
4 run at Los Alamitos than any other track in the country. The
5 main reason for Los Al's success is Dr. Ed Allred and his management
6 team. He has always been quick to take action whenever a problem
7 has arisen in California racing.

8 When expanding the track (indiscernible) when
9 Hollywood Park closed to accommodating -- or to accommodate
10 misplaced thoroughbreds, form an insurance company for affordable
11 Workman's' Comp Insurance for trainers, and then the last meeting
12 with CHRB, he enacted the most stringent medication rules in
13 the country that he proposed to the goal.

14 The Futurity and Derby schedule requires racing dates
15 for the entire year to give confidence to the owners that are
16 making payments for futurities and derbies. These race payments
17 are the lifeblood of Los Alamitos. Only giving race dates for
18 six months would erode confidence and diminish the number of
19 horses from coming to Los Alamitos for years to come.

20 You, the Board, already have the ability to enact
21 emergency meetings if there's a spike in injuries. But we are
22 confident, under the new medication rules and the increased
23 security, that there will be fewer injuries in the upcoming
24 year.

25 I request to you, the Board, to please grant the

1 operating license for Los Alamitos for the entire 2020
2 meet -- '21 meet.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

5 Next please.

6 OPERATOR: Thank you.

7 We will take our next comment from Butch Wise of the
8 American Quarter Horse Association.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

10 MR. WISE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr.
11 Chairman and Members of the Commission. As she said, I'm Butch
12 Wise. I'm the current President of the 250,000-member American
13 Quarter Horse Association. And we, as an association, fully
14 support the application of the historic Los Alamitos Race Course.
15 We recognize that thousands of jobs are dependent on Los Alamitos,
16 not only in California but nationally. I call you today from
17 Oklahoma. These jobs depend on the ability to have a full year
18 to make plans for horses scheduled to race there.

19 It is important to remember the tremendous contribution
20 Los Alamitos provides to the State of California in terms of
21 annual tax revenues. And that revenue is closely tied to the
22 quality of year-round racing at Los Alamitos.

23 Additionally, the horse breeding industry in
24 California has long been held in very high esteem nationally.
25 And it's success is directly tied to the success of Los Alamitos

1 and the quality and number of racing opportunities it provides.

2 Ed Allred has long been an advocate for the horse
3 in California, as well as fairness for owners and all aspects
4 of racing. And your support of him today is greatly appreciated
5 by AHQA and its members. And we respectfully ask for approval
6 of this full-year license.

7 Thank you very much for your time today.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

9 Next please.

10 OPERATOR: Thank you.

11 We will take our next comment from Local 280 President,
12 Troy Tiback.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

14 MR. TIBACK: Yes. Thank you. My name is Troy Tiback,
15 President of Local 280. Good morning, Chairman Ferraro and
16 all Commissioners.

17 I'd like to state that Los Alamitos Racetrack is very
18 important to the California racing industry. Thus, Local 280
19 is looking for stability in the labor industry. During a time
20 when there is little stability due to the COVID, we are now
21 on shaky grounds.

22 Our position is to grant Los Alamitos Quarter Horse
23 Racing Association a full-year license. This would help start
24 the stability for California horse racing regarding all labor,
25 especially Local 280.

1 Also, it is believed that the second half of the Year
2 2021, there will be a chance for live racing to have customers.
3 At that time, we will need labor to be in place. The stability
4 of that revolves around Los Alamitos having their race days
5 approved.

6 I believe at this time that the approval for the whole
7 year would be beneficial to the horse racing industry.

8 And thank you very much.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

10 Next please.

11 OPERATOR: Thank you.

12 We will take our next comment from horse owner, Silvia
13 Soto.

14 MS. SOTO: Hello?

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

16 MS. SOTO: Oh, thank you. Yes. I'm calling just to
17 thank you, first of all, for seeing the need for pulling this
18 item and putting it on again on this agenda because, you know,
19 I know that you were interested in listening to, perhaps, more
20 public comments and information that was possibly missed, maybe,
21 the first time around.

22 I have been a horse owner and racing at Los Al for
23 almost more than a decade. And I have seen, you know, that
24 it has always been a safe place for the horses, for staff, for
25 employees, and seeing a community of people that have, you know,

1 come together to enjoy this sport.

2 And, you know, I'm in support, obviously, to approve
3 this license for the year, knowing that with every business,
4 you know, we have an opportunity to make changes. The Safety
5 Plan protocols that they have put in place have always been
6 their priority.

7 We've all been affected this year. It's been a harder
8 year than any other. But in the past there has always been
9 changes that have needed to be made to continue racing there.
10 But also, in a pandemic year, you know, everybody's had to shift
11 and make additional changes. And I believe that, you know,
12 they have met all those needs. They've had professionals, you
13 know, that have come on and stated why they feel that, you know,
14 racing should continue.

15 But I believe that we -- you know, unless there was
16 some kind of violation or just continue to ignore, you know,
17 to continue this license would be, you know, a reason not to
18 renew. But I think at this time it would be something that
19 would give, you know, hope going forward that the racetrack
20 has an opportunity to implement everything that they have stated
21 today.

22 Thank you so much.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

24 Next please.

25 OPERATOR: Thank you.

1 We will take our next comment from Thomas Copeland.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

3 MR. COPELAND: Yes. I'd like to, first, thank you
4 for taking my call.

5 The arguments in support of horse racing are based
6 on nostalgia and revenue.

7 Since the last CHRB meeting, six more horses have
8 died, two of them were the horses at Los Alamitos, even after
9 a Safety Intervention Plan was implemented to oversee the welfare
10 of the horses. The plan even had owner buy-in.

11 This is indicative of the scope of the problem. As
12 pointed out by a previous speaker in support of horse racing,
13 it can never be 100 percent safe. The only way these horses
14 will stop being killed is to stop racing them.

15 Having different gimmicks and charities going on,
16 Veteran Night, and as a veteran, I found nothing entertaining
17 about watching the horses race on Veteran Night.

18 Members of the Commission, you voted correctly last
19 month. Therefore, do not approve a 12-month calendar, especially
20 after you account for the recent deaths of the horses there
21 at Los Alamitos and at the other parks.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

24 OPERATOR: Thank you.

25 We will take our next question from Owner/Breeder

1 Pavla Nygaard.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

3 MS. NYGAARD: Yes. Hello. This is Pavla Nygaard.
4 I'm an owner and breeder. I'm calling in support of granting
5 the Los Alamitos its 12-month license as the stability of a
6 predictable calendar benefits the racetrack, the Southern
7 California racing as well.

8 Without predictable racing schedule, funding suffers.
9 And the victims of such uncertainty are, ultimately, the horses
10 and the people who take care of them. In a perverse way, the
11 welfare issues brought up by the activists become more serious
12 with this type of uncertainty.

13 There are two broad categories to injuries and
14 fatalities in horses. And focusing solely on fatality numbers
15 misses the work to be done which is a strong focus on strong
16 horse management processes and protocols. The two categories,
17 broadly, of injuries and fatalities are those that are, one,
18 preventable, and two, unpreventable. The entire industry wants
19 to and needs to focus on the first category of preventable
20 fatalities to its fullest ability, whether the issue is how
21 to sanction and expel certain undesirables in the industry whose
22 management practices are repugnant to the rest of us, utilizing
23 existing diagnostics, protocols and treatments by those who
24 do care, and searching for even better diagnostics, protocols
25 and treatments.

1 The second category, unfortunately, is when even the
2 best care is not enough. I have been involved in the racing
3 industry for about 15 years. I'm fully aware that racehorses
4 are much like our American democracy that we have watched in
5 the recent months. They are big, powerful and strong, but also
6 fragile.

7 The first time I encountered death in our operations
8 was with the first of our two foals we ever bred. At six weeks
9 old this beautiful colt developed pneumonia. Six weeks, and
10 about \$20,000 in hospital bills later, we had -- he had to be
11 euthanized as the infection got into his joints, and he would
12 not have a life even to be sound enough as a pasture horse.
13 I bawled my eyes out, just as a mother would when she loses
14 a child. This is what happens and it's unfortunate.

15 I had a small group of thoroughbreds at Los Alamitos
16 a couple of years ago and they were well taken care of. The
17 racetrack was extremely well taken care of. And it was obvious
18 that Dr. Allred does the best to address issues as he becomes
19 aware of. He has been a leader in many respects and I trust
20 he will so do so again now that the issue is on the table.
21 Horse welfare will only benefit from the increased focus, as
22 well as the needed calendar stability.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from Timothy Yerian,
3 concerned citizen.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MR. YERIAN: Well, hello there -- hi Commissioner
6 and CHRB Board. Can you hear me okay?

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

8 MR. YERIAN: Very good, sir. I'd like to touch on
9 a couple comments about this.

10 Let's remember that horse racing dates back to the
11 12th century, you know? I just think this would be terrible
12 that we're talking about maybe losing a 900-year-old sport,
13 for one thing.

14 The next thing I'd like to comment on is it's a pandemic
15 year. I respectfully disagree with the one person that called
16 in, being in that my father is a 97-year-old veteran, World
17 War II Bronze Star. He raised his hand to me just a minute
18 ago. He loves horse racing and enjoys watching TVG every day
19 of his life that's left. So a lot of veterans like this, it's
20 just a nice way to stay in touch with horse racing during the
21 pandemic.

22 The other thing I'd like to touch on is the majority
23 of workers that work in the backside are all documented people.

24 And California horse racing has produced a direct path to
25 citizenship for these people for the last 20 years.

1 I'd like to thank you for allowing me to make a comment.
2 And please consider the effects on so many lives that are involved
3 in this.

4 Thank you very much, gentlemen.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen
9 Lynn Frudenberg.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

11 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hi. Thank you for taking my call
12 regarding this important agenda item.

13 You know, the CHRB's responsibility is to oversee
14 and regulate horse racing in the state. But every stewards'
15 minutes show how racetracks, and now we're hearing how you are
16 disrespecting and disregard your roles.

17 So, please, I want you -- I hope you stand behind
18 the decision you made last month. In December the Board voted
19 and approved the six-month license. Los Alamitos should be
20 grateful to have a license at all, given their fatalities, missing
21 horses, a paralyzed jockey, and now two more training deaths
22 on January 17th.

23 The Los Alamitos Equine and Rider Safety Enhancement
24 Plan outlines an independent review of incidents and fatalities.
25 This is separate from the CHRB. All injured, DNF, pulled-up

1 horses must be included in this plan and available for
2 public -- for the public to see.

3 Here are a couple horses that I would like to know
4 about.

5 Grey Gloss (phonetic), a three-year-old gelding born
6 in Colorado. He was raced at Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, and ended
7 up at Los Alamitos, only three years old and already trafficked
8 through multiple states. Last workout, September 19th. Last
9 race, October 24th. He freaked out in the starting gate at
10 Los Alamitos on November 21st and was scratched as a gate injury.
11 Where is Grey Gloss now?

12 This safety plan also discusses racing in inclement
13 weather, such as fog. Amazing that not a single person had
14 the gumption to cancel racing on November 22nd, 2020. The fog
15 was so thick you could not even see the horses on the livestream.

16 How dare you place the jockeys and the horses in this danger?

17 So where is Jess Agree? This two-year-old filly had
18 the misfortune of being entered into the race on this foggy
19 night. She threw her rider, she did not finish, then was vanned.
20 Then she was placed on the vet list as unsound.

21 Imagine how terrified these horses must have been,
22 being shoved into the starting gate, then being whipped and
23 forced to run in a whiteout of blinding fog. I bet the jockeys
24 were thrilled because they could whip the horses as much as
25 they wanted to and nobody would see it.

1 Please stand behind your decision. Los Alamitos does
2 not deserve a full year of abuse until they straighten their
3 act up. Please, please, keep them on their high alert, that
4 they are not going to get away with abuse.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next comment from citizen, Dr. Wayne
9 Johnson.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

11 DR. JOHNSON: Yeah. Thank you very much.

12 You know, it's very interesting to see what really
13 happens here at Los Alamitos. In the interest of civil discourse,
14 let's believe for a second that the experts are telling the
15 truth. Well, here's what the security consultant said. The
16 security consultant said they have four sets of eyes, four sets
17 of eyes on the operation. The General Manager, Cathy, says
18 they're operating with complete integrity. The veterinary --
19 and remind -- Dr. Ferraro was the one that had big questions
20 about the veterinary services there -- the veterinary service
21 person, Dr. McIlwraith says they're doing everything possible
22 to have complete safety for the horses.

23 Now here's what I want to ask you. If you believe
24 all this, and let's say it's true, how are horses still dying?
25 Dr. Allred has the answer. Dr. Allred's answer is, quote unquote,

1 "It's dangerous to be a horse." You bet it's dangerous to be
2 a horse. And it's especially dangerous to be a horse at Los
3 Alamitos and the other racetracks in California.

4 You made a stand in December. Don't retreat.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next comment from Jaime Gomez.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

10 MR. GOMEZ: Jaime Gomez. Do you hear me?

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

12 MR. GOMEZ: Hello?

13 OPERATOR: Yes.

14 MR. GOMEZ: Yeah. I'm Jaime Gomez. I've lived here
15 since I was 15 years old. I come be a trainer in 1992. I have
16 a barn, a foaling barn here. Ten families depend on me, the
17 workers. I raised my kids -- they go to college, I have two
18 teachers, one journalist -- from the horses. And I make my
19 life from the horse business. We take care of the horses like
20 our sons. Every day, you know, we try to give our horses the
21 best food for the horses, the best care for the horses. And
22 I will stand for the horses anytime and anywhere, 24/7.

23 And I'd appreciate it if you guys give Dr. Allred
24 the opportunity to have the full year of racing because a lot
25 of people depend on this work, a lot of families, not just the

1 horses, the family, the people, the economy.

2 I race horses. I've got a ranch. I raise babies.
3 I sell horses. I train horses. And I appreciate if you guys
4 give us the opportunity to run the whole year.

5 Thank you very much.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

7 Next please.

8 OPERATOR: Thank you.

9 We will take our next comment from Dina Cohen, concerned
10 citizen.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

12 MS. COHEN: Hi. Last month this Board granted Los
13 Alamitos a license to conduct Quarter Horse racing in the upcoming
14 season for six months instead of for the full year. Vice Chairman
15 Gonzales made a motion to grant the limited license and then
16 revisit due to a concern over numerous fatalities and safety
17 issues, and this way the track safety record could be reviewed
18 prior to granting another six months. I applauded Commissioner
19 Gonzales's motion as one that showed a real interest in seeing
20 that horse injuries and deaths might actually decrease in 2021.

21 Now the issue is back on the agenda. Why? A motion
22 was passed and it was a good one. It purported to ensure the
23 changes discussed and agreed upon might actually be implemented.
24 Now, because industry insiders don't like it, the motion is
25 suddenly back on the table. Who exactly is calling the shots

1 here? Is this regulatory Board a decision-making entity at
2 all or is it just a formal rubber stamping of everything that
3 the industry insiders want? Where is the accountability? Where
4 is the alleged authority and ability to act?

5 We have heard arguments put forth by the industry
6 as to why they don't want limited licensure with subsequent
7 review. I suspect, however, that the real concern is that they
8 anticipate the review will go quite poorly. They expect to
9 fail the test, so to speak. If they really intended to make
10 the changes needed to save their horses lives, then why would
11 they be so nervous about a review in six months?

12 One of the arguments is that the recently instated
13 veterinary protocols regarding intra-articular injections are
14 enough to ensure the elimination of injuries that will surely
15 fix things. Well, we have just barely come into the third week
16 of the new year and two deaths have already been reported at
17 this track. This is surely a sign that things are not fixed,
18 not by a long shot.

19 Another argument put forth by the industry is that
20 limiting licensure creates perception of divisiveness and
21 instability within the industry, detouring patrons and the betting
22 public. Well, the public is, indeed, watching. The public is
23 watching as horses collapse and get vanned off at a rate that
24 seems constant. The public has become aware and has become
25 intolerant of the broken bones, the whipping, the drugging,

1 and the deaths. If public perception is what the industry is
2 worried about, then it should be --

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Time is up. Thank you.

4 MS. COHEN: -- (indiscernible) to stop killing horses.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

6 OPERATOR: Thank you.

7 We will take our --

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Your time is up, ma'am.

9 Go on, Operator. Next please.

10 OPERATOR: Thank you.

11 We will take our next comment from worker advocate
12 Oscar de la Torre.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

14 MR. DE LA TORRE: Yes. Can you hear me?

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

16 MR. DE LA TORRE: Yes. Well, first of all, I want
17 to applaud Vice Chair Oscar Gonzales for really holding the
18 line on accountability, and also the CHRB for, you know, ensuring
19 that you are not just a rubber-stamp Board. It's real important,
20 you know, to ensure that you stay very vigilant and you hold
21 people accountable.

22 And, you know, I think it's also very important to
23 say that the industry, the horse racing industry, the people
24 that depend on the industry, many workers and many vulnerable
25 populations that are supported by employment in this industry

1 depends on stability. And, you know, we had similar situations,
2 similar dynamic going on at Santa Anita not too long ago, and
3 things got better. The reform effort needs time to be implemented
4 to show results.

5 And for that reason, I think it's important to give
6 Los Alamitos a one-year license to operate so that they can
7 have the time to implement the reforms that have been promised.
8 Dr. Allred has showed a good-faith effort. His comments today,
9 to me, you know, shows a confidence that the reforms will be
10 implemented. And I think that, you know, there's much more
11 negative consequences in creating more instability in a time
12 where we were need more stability.

13 So please approve the one-year license to operate
14 at Los Alamitos so that workers, trainers, everyone can plan
15 and be more successful in implementing the reform effort that
16 we know is working, that we know will work, that we know people
17 are putting priority in horse safety. And that's something that
18 we have seen, and those are facts, and that we can believe in
19 that.

20 Thank you very much.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Next please.

23 OPERATOR: Thank you.

24 And we will take our next comment from Ashley Garcia
25 of Los Angeles Racetrack.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

2 MS. GOMEZ: Yes. Hi. My name is Ashley Garcia. I
3 am an owner at Los Alamitos. And I guess I'm not your typical
4 owner. I also have a groom's license. And I'll be hands-on
5 around the horses. And I'm thankful that my trainer lets me
6 do that. I help feed, help clean, help saddle the horses, send
7 them to the racetrack. And I know that myself, my trainer,
8 the vets would never let us send the horses to the racetrack
9 if we thought we were going to endanger that animal or the rider
10 on it or anyone on the racetrack.

11 You know, we love these horses. They're like family
12 to us. And they're not just racehorses to us. There's a group
13 of us that take us trail riding weekly, the horses that are
14 still in training that are running. Not a lot of people know
15 that but these horses are happy. And they're thankful for that,
16 to get off the racetrack and just do something else, and then
17 go back. And they -- I think most of them, actually, have improved
18 on the racetrack. They're just so happy and thankful for that.

19 And, also, I'd like to make a comment to someone who
20 brought up one of my horses, Unobtainable. He is, actually,
21 living at my ranch in Northern California. Yes, he was retired.
22 And he's at the ranch, a saddle horse, happy as can be. And
23 you guys are welcome to come see him anytime. He didn't disappear,
24 just was retired, happy horse.

25 Also, I'd like to give a big thanks to Dr. Allred.

1 I don't personally know him. I've met him a few times. But
2 he's not just a horseman, he cares for the people. He helps
3 all the grooms right now, feeding them during these hard times,
4 and it's a love for the people. And he deserves this license
5 because he's really cleaned up racing, and not just in California
6 but other states.

7 So I really hope you guys think about this and look
8 into this because Los Alamitos is a family and a happy place.

9 Thank you very much.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

11 Next please.

12 OPERATOR: Thank you.

13 And we will take our next question from David Nelson,
14 owner/breeder.

15 MR. NELSON: Okay. My name is David --

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

17 MR. NELSON: -- my name is David Nelson. I live at
18 7479 Nelson Lane in Turner, Oregon. That's a suburb of Salem,
19 the capitol.

20 My wife and I have been raising and racing Quarter
21 Horses since 1969. We're small breeders with, normally, one
22 or two mares. We've been licensed in Oregon, Washington, Idaho,
23 Texas, California -- California since the early 1990s -- all
24 for Quarter Horse racing at Los Alamitos.

25 Los Alamitos has been the Mecca for Quarter Horse

1 racing in the country. Everyone loves to go there to compete,
2 to test their horses, because they have the best horses in the
3 country. It has been a year-round. It's clean. It's very well
4 managed. It has the welfare of the horses as its top priority.

5 Los Alamitos is important to us because it's stable,
6 it has major races, and owners and breeders can plan ahead.
7 It takes us three years to raise a foal to racing age. Right
8 now we have two foals at Los Alamitos and invested about \$50,000
9 to get them to that point. We're paying nomination fees to
10 races in June, October, December of 2021, and in November of
11 2022. And yesterday, I received in the mail nomination forms
12 for two more derbies in 2022. I could have sold them in sales
13 last fall but I wanted to give them their shot at Los Alamitos
14 because it's the cleanest racing in the country.

15 I applaud Dr. Allred's stand on the use of clenbuterol
16 and other partitioning agents of a similar nature. And we
17 encouraged the Oregon Racing Commission to adopt a similar racing
18 rule in Oregon. We supported the new medication rules and believe
19 that they should be given a fair chance to work. I don't think
20 that six months is a fair chance to work.

21 We strongly support the continued licensing of Los
22 Alamitos in 2021 and 2022.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from Bob Baffert.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

4 MR. BAFFERT: Yes, Commission. I'll just keep it
5 short.

6 You know, I've been going to -- coming to Los Alamitos
7 since 1970s and whatever. But, you know, I've been training,
8 developed a lot of nice horses in the last few years. The last
9 seven years, you know, Los Alamitos developed four Kentucky
10 Derby winners, two Triple Crown winners, and it's been a very
11 important part of my success. And it's very, I find it, very
12 essential to keep Los Alamitos open to keep California racing
13 healthy because it's very important for us. And I just hope
14 you just keep it open.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
20 Nancy Mitchell.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

22 MS. MITCHELL: Hi. Good afternoon to the Board. I
23 just have a couple questions here.

24 And one solid point I think I would like to make is,
25 basically, how can the Board trust anything that Dr. Allred

1 says? I mean, he has broken into the vote last month. He
2 threatened to close down is Los Alamitos wasn't given a 12-month
3 racing license. That clearly is a form of bullying and
4 intimidation that obviously didn't happen because Los Alamitos
5 started racing again on 12/2 6 under the six-month license.
6 So that clearly was a bullying tactic, like if I don't get my
7 way I'm taking my marbles and going home.

8 If the racetrack is cleaning up their act, they are
9 following the safety protocols, they are confident that they
10 can put these in place moving forward, then I don't understand
11 why this is such a major problem to not allow themselves to
12 be reviewed in a six-month time period. It's like the old saying,
13 if you aren't hiding anything and you have nothing to hide and
14 you have full transparency and confidence that that's what you're
15 doing, then it doesn't seem to me that this should be an issue.

16 I mean, obviously, the CHRB saw some red flags or
17 they would not have put the six-month condition on in the first
18 place. It was obviously doing their job as a regulatory Board
19 to ensure that these safety protocols and practices were carried
20 out. And I just respectfully hope that the Board continues
21 along those lines. It was a good decision. They are regulating
22 and doing their (indiscernible). And again, Los Alamitos, if
23 they are doing everything correctly and they are maintaining
24 safety as they are maintaining and have nothing to hide, then
25 it really should not be a problem.

1 Thank you very much.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 Next please.

4 OPERATOR: Thank you

5 And we will take our next comment from KC Horse
6 Transport, Mr. Munoz.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

8 MR. MUNOZ: Yeah. I just wanted to speak for most
9 of the employees on the backside and all across California,
10 which includes farms, breeding, and all of the facilities that
11 provide us employment.

12 We're certainly universal in that if we stop the racing
13 the alternatives of us getting jobs in the animal industries
14 wouldn't have enough in other animals, other than horses.

15 And first of all, the horses were born to run, and
16 we just lead them into it. And I don't think that the answer
17 is stopping racing. Stopping racing, it would equal to stopping
18 baseball or basketball or other industries that are properly
19 conducted. And I know that we're doing everything that we can
20 technologically and medically and all of that to support the
21 health of the horse. And we wouldn't know what to do, other
22 than be with the animal in that one-on-one relationship with
23 the animal. The whole California wouldn't be able to place
24 us in another type of an industry.

25 And I wanted to say that all of these industries suffer

1 injuries in boxing, in basketball, in others. The only difference
2 between the athlete being an animal is that he cannot speak.
3 And so it's (indiscernible) to be willing and able to support
4 the well-being of the horse and that's all in our interest.

5 So hope you vote 100 percent.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you. Your time is up, sir. Thank
7 you very much.

8 Next please.

9 MR. MUNOZ: Thank you.

10 OPERATOR: Thank you.

11 And we have no further comments or questions in queue.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: You have no more?

13 OPERATOR: Correct. We have no more comments or
14 questions in queue.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Thank you very much.

16 Do we have any comments from the Board?

17 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: I do.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: A comment? Who said that?

19 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: I do, Chairman. Alex Solis.

20 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Go ahead, Alex.

21 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes. I was watching yesterday,
22 the inauguration of President Biden. One of the things that
23 stuck in my mind was that he said that he would work with anyone
24 to make our country better. And I feel that Dr. Allred already
25 put under the restrictions that he has put on the track, the

1 Equine Safety Enhancement Plan, and all the other things that
2 he keeps improving in the safety.

3 And I feel that if we don't approve this one-year
4 license, we are risking the loss of Quarter Horse racing in
5 California, and the USA too. And I'll say this again, my biggest
6 concern is losing Quarter Horse racing in California and the
7 USA. Worst of all, all the jobs that Los Alamitos provides
8 for all these families. I don't think the state of California
9 needs this right now. We need civility. And I'm very grateful
10 for all these things that we keep doing to improve racing.

11 So Thank you.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thanks.

13 Any other Commissioners have comments? I have a few
14 I'd like to make.

15 Go ahead.

16 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: No. No.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Do you want --

18 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Dr. Ferraro, I think it's
19 appropriate that you and Commissioner Castellanos make your
20 comments, and then I'll make mine. This is Oscar Gonzales.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. All right. I have several
22 comments to consider.

23 First of all, considering the CHRB can halt racing
24 at any track at any time, what does a six-month license achieve,
25 except animosity with the industry? So I don't see the need

1 to limit the length of the license.

2 Secondly, given the economic hardships resulting from
3 the COVID pandemic, why should the CHRB put at risk the financial
4 viability of Los Alamitos and the racing Quarter Horse industry?
5 It doesn't make any sense.

6 Third, any success the CHRB has had -- achieved over
7 the past two years has been due, in large part, to the will
8 and cooperation of the major racing entities in enforcing CHRB
9 regulations and implementing requested house rules designed
10 to ensure the health and safety of horses. Why would the CHRB
11 now wish to convert those partnerships into adversarial
12 relationships?

13 Fourth, Los Alamitos has done everything in their
14 power to work with myself, the Chairman, and the Medical Director,
15 Dr. Arthur, to craft and implement medication rules that are
16 even more restrictive than those required at thoroughbred
17 racetracks. I think they should be rewarded in support for
18 their program.

19 Five, while Los Alamitos's record for safety may have
20 somewhat lagged behind, one needs to admit that their problems
21 were largely ignored by the CHRB in its concentrated effort
22 to correct the problems at Santa Anita and Del Mar. Once Los
23 Alamitos and Dr. Allred were called upon for improvement for
24 their safety record, they responded positively on both occasions
25 with enhanced safety measures. Are we not to give them a chance

1 to prove their effectiveness?

2 And finally, you know, this Board has prided itself
3 on being transparent and fair to all. And it has been said
4 in the past, you can't do for one what you can't do for all.
5 Has Los Alamitos been treated fairly in this instance compared
6 to past instances with Santa Anita and Del Mar? I don't think
7 so.

8 That concludes my remarks.

9 Mr. Castellanos, do you have remarks to make?

10 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes. You know, everybody
11 has a point. And I'm sure everybody feels strongly about their
12 points and everything that has been said regarding versus 6
13 months to a 12-month license. I, myself, have reviewed the
14 nomination sheets and looked at -- and did some personal
15 investigating and speaking to horsemen.

16 I think the misunderstanding of Quarter Horse versus
17 thoroughbred is that Quarter Horses always had a 12-month license.
18 And the reason for that is because that business, as some of
19 the speakers have said, that business has a future of a year
20 or two years down the road. And these horsemen put that money
21 in and invest that far out. And that is the business of California.
22 California also benefits from that. If that is not for sure
23 for the 12 months, then some of these horsemen will, maybe,
24 be taking their horses elsewhere and run in New Mexico and other
25 places.

1 The purpose of those monies is to -- you know, it's
2 because they just don't have \$50,000 in their pockets, so these
3 payments are made all the way down the road. And that is, again,
4 what makes this Quarter Horse industry work. The thoroughbred
5 industry is run differently. It's not run in this way. And
6 so that's why you run against this type of, maybe, misunderstanding
7 if some people don't.

8 I, again, have read the nomination sheets. I have
9 investigated this and spoken to the horsemen that are involved,
10 and spoken to a lot of other people from our last meeting, and
11 questions have come up, that why is this back on the agenda?

12 It's back on the agenda because I don't think people have --
13 me, personally, don't think that people understand the full
14 ramifications of what we're doing here, Quarter Horse versus
15 thoroughbred. It's not the same. And the Quarter Horse is done
16 with a 12-month license for that reason of moving into the future
17 and spreading out the money.

18 And because of that, I am prepared to make a motion
19 to give them their 12-month license because we do have, at the
20 CHRB, we do have all the rights to review and deny and remove
21 a license. And I'm sure that, moving forward with the Board
22 that we have, we will be very critical and fair to the tracks
23 that do not follow the policies and guidelines that are put
24 into place.

25 So that is my comment.

1 I know, Oscar, you have some things to day.

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you, Dr. Ferraro.

3 Commissioner Castellanos, I especially appreciate
4 you voting with the majority the last time this issue was up.

5 The idea of a six-month license had everything to
6 do with accountability. It had everything to do with the reforms
7 that we have all committed to doing. And, more importantly,
8 it had a great deal to do with what the backdrop was when we
9 exercised the full authority of Senate Bill 469 which, back
10 last summer, would have given us the ability to put a pause,
11 whether it be for a day, a weekend, a month, and the experience
12 that we went through back then, which I don't believe was the
13 intent of the legislation.

14 I feel that the presentation made today by the Los
15 Alamitos management team was important. It was an important
16 show of leadership and commitment. It's probably one of the
17 better presentations that, I believe, Los Alamitos has made
18 because I was able to hear voices that I had never heard from
19 before in terms of what their roles were, what their commitments
20 to the industry are. That, in turn, gives me, the Commissioner,
21 the ability to offer up any help on our end.

22 I want to just say that we are now in a new era of
23 regulating horse racing. We now have recently passed federal
24 legislation that is going to be an integral part of every facet
25 of horse racing. When I see an industry or a racetrack react

1 in the way they did by just the pushback on a one-year versus
2 a six-month license, it makes me wonder what happens when the
3 newly-established federal regulatory powers take full effect?

4 Us, as the CHRB, and I do commend the Board for being fairminded,
5 for -- extremely accessible and responsive, but we are now entering
6 a new phase.

7 So my word of advice to Los Alamitos is run a safe
8 racetrack, make sure your taking care of the horses, making
9 sure betters, owners, breeders, but especially the workers,
10 that they're taking care of, because we are now in a new phase.

11 The final two points that I want to make involves
12 with what Dr. Allred has done for the industry, which has been
13 tremendous. There's going to be chapters in books that will
14 be written about how thoughtful and giving he was. And I want
15 to be part of that because I grew up as a backstretch worker
16 knowing about his commitment, especially to the workers.

17 But there's also another player that has done just
18 as much, if not more, than horse racing, and that's the State
19 of California. It's the public. It's everyone on this call
20 who pays taxes, who helped build the infrastructure that
21 industries, like horse racing, are able to take full advantage
22 of. It's the roads, the bridges, the water, the open space,
23 the tax incentives, the veterinarian labs, the research
24 facilities, it's public safety. The list goes on and on with
25 what the State of California has also done for horse racing.

1 And all they ask in exchange is for there to be a regulatory
2 arm, and that is us on the CHRB.

3 And so you're going to be seeing more. If there is
4 a racetrack or an individual or a group of individuals that
5 need the proper attention and can feel that the pressure of
6 our regulatory abilities, we will do that.

7 I'm going to stick to what my proposal was. So in
8 terms of the motion, I will be a no on giving the one-year license.
9 But I wanted to entrust Dr. Ferraro and Commissioner Castellanos
10 that you know that this phase of engaging with Los Alamitos
11 is a new one. And I don't want anyone to think for a minute
12 that the powers that have been invested by the State of California
13 in the CHRB, that they're going to be compromised in any way.
14 In fact, I feel that this is just a start if we don't see immediate
15 and quick improvements when it comes to horse safety and the
16 welfare of workers at Los Alamitos.

17 So, Chairman Ferraro, back to you.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Oscar.

19 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: This is -- I have a comment
20 too. This is Commissioner Mitchell.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead.

22 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Okay. I just want to
23 associate myself with comments made by Commissioner Gonzales,
24 just to say that in response to the comments made by the Chairman,
25 I don't think that it is our responsibility as Commissioners

1 to worry about the relationships we have with the industry and
2 to worry about the perception.

3 I don't believe -- and I know that Doc Allred and
4 Los Alamitos feel like they're being unfairly treated. I don't
5 agree. I've been on this Commission now for a year-plus. When
6 Santa Anita had the problems, that's when we came on. We were
7 harsh on them. We have a specific, you know, point person that
8 we, you know, we went after every time that there was
9 something -- you know, every time that there was a horse fatality.
10 That's our responsibility.

11 We're not -- we don't want to hurt anyone's feelings.
12 And, you know, that's not why I'm here. And I'm not here to
13 make friends either. I'm here to regulate an industry that
14 is in sorely need of regulation and responsibility on behalf
15 of the good state of California.

16 And so worrying -- taking this all personally is
17 not -- I want everyone to be divorced from that. This is not
18 a personal attack. This is our job as regulators. This is what
19 we need to do. And, you know, safety is important. That's why
20 we're here.

21 So I'm disappointed, frankly, that this item is back
22 on the agenda, given that we did vote on it. And I'm also
23 disappointed, you know, and there are some serious credibility
24 issues, from my perspective, with the threats that were made
25 at the last meeting in regard to this. I think this is our

1 job and our responsibility.

2 We're trying to do our work. We're working hard with
3 people. I know, you know, Commissioner Gonzales, I mean, more
4 so than me, but I've been accessible, as well, are accessible
5 to the industry folks and, you know, want to have the conversations.

6 But, you know, to be -- if we do something that we
7 don't like, then you threaten to shut down and kind of -- that's
8 not the way to work with a regulatory body, and that's not an
9 appropriate response. I mean, if that's what you want to do,
10 then that's on you, but that's not -- we shouldn't get into
11 threatening back and forth.

12 You know, it is not my intention whatsoever, and I
13 don't believe that it's anyone on this Board's to, you know,
14 close down Los Alamitos. We want to work with them. We want
15 to work on horse racing. And I've said this from the beginning,
16 like the only power that we have is to regulate the license,
17 which is why we put limits on it, and with the purpose of, then,
18 the track being able to go back and regulate the trainers and
19 whatever in order to address the horse stuff.

20 So, you know, this is not personal. This is, you
21 know, this is the tool that we have as regulators. And, you
22 know, I want to make sure that everyone knows, this is not about
23 liking someone or not liking someone or, you know, being friends
24 with this owner or that. It's about doing our job as regulators
25 and making sure that horses don't die.

1 So I will still be -- I will be not supporting the
2 motion because I think we handled it well. I think that this
3 presentation was much better, and there was additional
4 information, although -- and the explanation of why it needs
5 to be a one-year license, I'm still not convinced on that, that
6 there isn't a way around that.

7 But I will hope that we don't have this going forward
8 and that we have more clear and transparent lines of communication,
9 and that we do not take this personally and feel that people
10 are being -- you know, we're picking on anyone. We're trying
11 to do our job. We're trying to make sure that horses stay safe
12 and that the industry is regulated. That's our responsibility
13 as Commissioners and as appointees of this governor.

14 So thank you very much.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

16 Any other Commissioners care to make a comment?

17 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes. Dennis Alfieri. I
18 appreciate all of our Commissioners comments, especially our
19 Chairman. I can hear that side of it and agree with you. I
20 also thank Oscar Gonzales for bringing it all home, kind of
21 explaining what, you know, the most important pieces that, I
22 believe, now have been flushed out. And I understand it further
23 now, why we do need the one-year license.

24 So I will be supporting the Chairman's motion -- or
25 Damascus's motion, and let's move forward. I think we've spent

1 a lot of time on this. We've heard from all sides of the aisle,
2 all sides of the issue, and it's much more clear to me, though,
3 why we do need, in this unusual circumstance, Los Alamitos.
4 And they are -- Dr. Allred and everybody has said it, and I
5 agree, gone above and beyond as he always has done in the 70-year
6 history of racing at Los Alamitos, stepped up to the plate,
7 made the changes, understands the importance. And so I
8 understand, I support him, and I wish I'm the best of luck.

9 But, again, which Commissioner Gonzales said, which
10 is, you know, I hate to say big uncle, but you've got your big
11 uncle here with this regulatory body that is being transparent
12 and is following through on the actions that we have taken and
13 all the reforms that we have made in the last two years, that,
14 you know, we'll be watching and are very much involved on a
15 day-to-day basis, not only at Los Alamitos but all of the other
16 racetracks. And we're in a much better position than we've
17 ever been and we're all very proud of that. Everyone in the
18 industry should be proud of it.

19 And so I yield back to, Mr. Chairman, to you.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis, you're the only
21 one that hasn't made a comment. Would you like to make one?

22 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I am pretty much in agreement
23 with what Commissioners Gonzales and Mitchell have already stated.

24 And I am wondering about the deaths that were reported
25 for January 17th. If anybody, Scott, or somebody can enlighten

1 me on that?

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: This is Scott Chaney,
3 Executive Director. Yeah, I can. Obviously, our investigations
4 haven't been completed yet because they were just this past
5 weekend. From what I understand, two -- there were two
6 training-related fatalities at Los Alamitos on Sunday.

7 One was a catastrophic injury during a work, which
8 Dr. Allred described. And from what I'm understanding, there
9 is some action being taken against the trainer and vet involved
10 in that.

11 The other one was considered a training-related
12 fatality. I'll let you judge the facts. It was a horse that
13 completed a workout and then went back to the barn and suffered
14 a sudden death in its stall, so related in some way. However,
15 we have not received the, you know, the necropsy report at this
16 point to flesh out the sort of ideology behind the injury or
17 death.

18 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And do we have something, as
19 a Board, again, it could be because I'm new, some kind of idea
20 about how many fatalities we would consider before it triggers
21 an emergency action?

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah, Commissioner Davis,
23 that's a good question. The SB 469, which was reduced to
24 regulation by us, which is CHRB Rule 1435, you know, requires
25 petition by the EMD or the ED, you know, calling for an emergency

1 meeting in order to consider, you know, closing a track. And
2 it's sort of broad in terms of what types of statistics and
3 information that, you know, we provide the Board, like there's
4 nothing specific.

5 And, obviously, my kind of personal philosophy has
6 been, I think it's dangerous, you know, to have, you know, your
7 limited to this number of fatalities. I just think it's a bad
8 look. I think our position of, you know, no fatalities are
9 a good thing than just sort of, you know, condition a license
10 on a specific number.

11 At the same time, you know, it is -- the standards
12 are somewhat unfair, I suppose, in the sense that they are
13 ambiguous. My position is if we're not, you know, decreasing
14 in a real way each year from track to track as from an overall
15 picture, we're making a mistake. But beyond that, we don't --
16 it is true that we don't have specific guideposts in terms of,
17 you know, injuries and/or catastrophic injuries that we apply
18 to specific tracks.

19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: All right.

21 Commissioner Castellanos, why don't you make your
22 motion and we'll vote on it and get this over with?

23 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: For the reasons I spoke
24 about earlier and business needs of California, and the fact
25 that we have the ruling and policies in place for the Board

1 to make their decisions of removing a license or suspending
2 a license, I make the motion that we give Los Alamitos the 12-month
3 racing license for Quarter Horse.

4 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: I, Alex Solis, second.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: All right. We'll call for the vote.
6 Commissioner Davis?

7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: No.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

9 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

11 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

13 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: No.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

15 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

17 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: No.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. Motion
19 passes four to three.

20 Can we move on to item number four please? Discussion
21 and action by the Board regarding the proposed amendment of
22 CHRB Rule 1843.2, Classification of Drug Substances, to update
23 the Alphabetical Substances List to align with the Association
24 of Racing Commissioners International Uniform Classification
25 Guidelines for Foreign Substances.

1 Mr. Voss, I think you're going to fill us in on this;
2 correct?

3 MR. VOSS: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And good
4 afternoon Commissioners. This is Zachary Voss, Regulation
5 Analyst with the California Horse Racing Board.

6 Agenda item number four pertains to the proposed
7 amendment to Board Rule 1843.2, Classification of Drug Substances.
8 The amendment is necessary to update the alphabetical substance
9 list which is incorporated by reference in the rule.

10 The Association of Racing Commissioners
11 International, or the ARCI, publishes a yearly update to their
12 Uniform Classification Guidelines. And then our Board Rule
13 1843.2 contains our alphabetical substance list which is based
14 on the ARCI's Uniform Classification Guidelines. The current
15 Board alphabetical substance list is based on the 2018 version
16 of ARCI's Uniform Classification Guidelines. The ARCI has since
17 published two more updates, one in 2019 and another in December
18 of 2020.

19 The Board had approved an amendment to Rule 2843.2
20 in 2020 to align our list with the then most current 2019 ARCI
21 list. The amendment was submitted as an emergency regulation
22 to facilitate an immediate update to our alphabetical substance
23 list. The immediate update was thought to avoid confusion among
24 licensees and the public about the correct penalty class for
25 our various substances.

1 However, the Office of Administrative Law determined
2 that the amendment did not meet the Administrative Procedures
3 Act standard for an emergency, so the Board subsequently withdrew
4 the amendment with the intent to resubmit it later as a regular
5 rulemaking. However, by that time the ARCI had nearly published
6 its 2020 updated Uniform Classification Guidelines.

7 Therefore, it was determined that it would be more
8 efficient to incorporate both the 2019 and 2020 updates into
9 one resubmitted regular rulemaking. That rulemaking is now
10 before the Board for approval.

11 And, additionally, if there are any questions as to
12 the specific modifications or substances, Dr. Arthur is available
13 to answer any questions.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Dr. Arthur, for the edification of
16 the Board, why is it important that we're aligned with ARCI?

17 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Well, national
18 uniformity is always a goal. And the way that the ARCI drug
19 classification works is that there is a consensus amongst the
20 industry on how each drug is classified, and that includes input
21 from experts, veterinarians, veterinary pharmacologists,
22 analytical chemists, so that we all are talking on the same
23 page and implementing the same type of penalties for the same
24 type of drugs.

25 These go through a review of not only the

1 pharmacological action but whether they're FDA approved, whether
2 FDA approved for horses, the availability of the drugs. And,
3 obviously, the drug class is an indication of the drug's potential
4 to influence the outcome of a race or impact a race or impact
5 or impact the health and safety of horses participating in racing.

6 So this is national effort that includes a lot of
7 people from a lot of different jurisdictions. And it has worked
8 quite well.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Any questions from the Board?

10 Operator, do we have a queue on this?

11 OPERATOR: Yes.

12 If you would like to ask a question or make a comment,
13 please press star one now.

14 We will take our next comment from Martha Sullivan,
15 concerned citizen.

16 MS. SULLIVAN: Hello. This is Martha Sullivan from
17 San Diego County again.

18 You know, reading through the background material
19 on this agenda item, it was quite stunning that there are 53
20 pages of drugs that are affective by this rule, 53 pages of
21 drugs in horse racing. That's mindboggling to me. That, in
22 and of itself, is all we need to know about how totally screwed
23 up this industry is.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
3 Heather Wilson.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MS. WILSON: Yes. Thank you. Good afternoon again.

6 So I just wanted to clarify, this is regarding the
7 Association of Racing Commissioners International. The CHRB
8 withdrew from the ARCI on June 20th, 2019. So now the CHRB
9 wants to officially align with the ARCI's Uniform Classification
10 Guidelines for Foreign Substances? This just seems like a bit
11 of a conflict. Perhaps his is because the CHRB used these ARCI
12 guidelines on the classification of scopolamine. And the
13 decision to not disqualify boiled down to whether scopolamine
14 was a Class 3 or Class 4 violation, rather than consulting with
15 a forensic toxicologist with no financial ties to the industry
16 and no conflict of interest.

17 So does this mean that the ARCI is now going to rescind
18 its decision on withdrawing from the ARCI?

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

20 Next please.

21 OPERATOR: Thank you.

22 MS. WILSON: Anytime you're ready.

23 OPERATOR: Thank you.

24 We will take our next comment from Lynn Frudenberg,
25 horse advocate.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

2 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hi there. Thank you for taking my
3 comment. And this is regarding the CHRB and the ARCI, just
4 noting about their major inconsistencies.

5 First, the CHRB withdraws from the ARCI in June of
6 2019, citing differences. But then you magically align with
7 the ARCI's drug classification system so you can exonerate Bob
8 Baffert. The disqualification of his horse is literally hinged
9 on whether scopolamine was a Class 3 or Class 4 drug. So,
10 basically, you cherry pick the ARCI rules to best suit your
11 needs. Please reconsider your thoughts.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Next please.

15 OPERATOR: Thank you.

16 If you have a comment or a question, you may press
17 star one now.

18 There are no further comments or questions in queue.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Do we have questions from the
20 Board? Comments from the Board?

21 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: I have a question, Mr.
22 Chairman. This is Damascus.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

24 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Are you there? Okay.

25 So --

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Go ahead.

2 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: -- the question is, is
3 that we would be aligning ourselves with the ARCI but we would
4 still be able to change, modify, at least our rules and policies?

5 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: I can answer.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Dr. Ferraro --

7 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: This is Dr. Arthur.
8 I can actually make some comments.

9 There are minor variations between the CHRB
10 classification and what ARCI is proposing. And we have done
11 this from the very beginning of this classification system.
12 Even though the drug classes and penalty categories are all
13 the same there are subtle differences that have been -- we have
14 had in our drug classification. They're primarily having to
15 do with human drugs of abuse that are incidentally found in
16 horses. We've put language in our drug classification going
17 back, I think it was 2014, that ARCI subsequently adopted.
18 It's a little bit different language.

19 For example, there are four drugs here that are used
20 in reproductive health of fillies, primarily, that's Altronogest,
21 Medroxyprogesterone, which are progesterone drugs, and
22 granicdemanopropen (phonetic), a luteinizing hormone which are
23 glycoproteins that are involved in ovulation. All these are
24 used to either control estrus or to induce ovulation in fillies.
25 They would be a -- they're a violation if they're found in males.

1 In females, we -- I've classed -- I've recommended
2 we classify them as 4D, which is a warning, simply because if
3 we don't the RCI language says they're unclassified for fillies.
4 We have other language in our rules that say that unclassified
5 drugs are Class 1A. So we're never going to get a drug positive
6 for those four drugs in fillies. But just to make sure that
7 there's no ambiguity, those changes have been made.

8 We also have a tighter regulation for cobalt than
9 the RCI has, primarily because our cobalt regulation predates
10 the RCI regulation for cobalt.

11 So there are a few minor changes but they are consistent
12 with what our 1843.2 drug classification has been for several
13 years, many years, probably at least half a dozen or more.

14 So there are subtle changes, they're very few, and
15 they primarily are -- have to do -- they would be in the special
16 notation part of the regulation that's in your packet.

17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Commissioner
18 Gonzales -- Commissioner Ferrara, sorry. This is Executive
19 Director Scott Chaney. And just to kind of clarify a little
20 bit because I think there was some misinformation, probably,
21 in the -- that the public comment shared.

22 Just from like more of a 30,000-foot view, the CHRB
23 has incorporated these medication classifications for quite
24 some time. This is not the first time we've done it. We do
25 it regularly in order to align ourselves because they're

1 constantly being updated through the ARCI, and that's certainly
2 the standard. Our participation as a member of ARCI is, frankly,
3 unrelated to the classification system. They're just two
4 separate issues.

5 And then, lastly, as pointed out, we try to -- there's
6 always some lag time between when they publish their new
7 classifications or their changes to classifications and when
8 we can reduce that to a regulation. Obviously, the regulatory
9 process takes some time.

10 As Mr. Voss pointed out, we attempted to do that through
11 an emergency regulation so that lag time was short.
12 Unfortunately, OAL does not view this as an emergency. And
13 so there's always going to be kind of this lag time between
14 when ARCI adopts their classifications, or at least their new
15 ones, and when the CHRB is able to codify those in regulation.
16 It's simply unavoidable and that's how life is.

17 VICECHAIRGONZALES: ChairmanFerraro, OscarGonzales
18 here. If I could just offer up a couple key points?

19 And I, for one, believe that we should hold off. I
20 mean, it's good we're having a discussion, but I believe we
21 should hold off for at least a month to act on this. One of
22 the things I learned as a Commissioner is we don't know what
23 we don't know. And the medications that would be, I guess in
24 a sense, fast-tracked, for all we know there could be something
25 out there, as was the case back in 2018, where we just don't

1 know who that falls on or where that lies.

2 The other point that I want to make is, again, I will
3 go back to the Horse Racing Integrity Act and, at the federal
4 level, a complete revisiting, revamping, bringing in leadership.

5 I just would not want anything to come across that the State
6 of California is trying to fast-track, ramrod in any approval
7 of medications without knowing what to expect. I think, in
8 fact, we need to tread very, very lightly on that front.

9 So it's for these reasons, not to mention the, again,
10 the -- somewhat of the confusion. You know, we go with ARCI
11 but we saw fit to pull back. And, you know, it almost seems
12 as if when it's strategically important we bring up certain
13 rules and regulations and measures. And I just think we just
14 have to be fair across the Board.

15 So I don't want to add any more, other than to say,
16 unless there's some urgent matter, I'd recommend that we push
17 this off, and even perhaps defer to Chairman Ferraro and
18 Commissioner Solis, who sit on the Medication and Safety, to
19 explore whether this is even an item that warrants a Committee
20 meeting or, at a minimum, a conference with ARCI leadership
21 to get a better sense of what is going on, besides them probably
22 wanting us back as a member since we mention them so much.

23 So those are my thoughts.

24 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: You know, I think,
25 Mr. Chairman, there seems to be a real misunderstanding or lack

1 of understanding as to how this works.

2 The way all of the changes that we are seeing here,
3 it is -- they originally go through the Racing Medication and
4 Testing Consortium Scientific Advisory Committee that is --
5 that I sit on, Dr. Jeff Blea sits on, Dr. Heather Knych sits
6 on, Dr. Ben Moehler (phonetic) sits on, and about 20 other leading
7 veterinarians, chemists in the country. The classification
8 changes are based on the scientific analysis that are recommended
9 to the RMTTC Board. And the RMTTC Board has presented this to
10 RCI. RCI publishes the list of these changes. They are open
11 for public debate, similar to what we're doing now. There is
12 a -- they meet.

13 There were changes that were adopted in September
14 after their August meeting. There were changes here in December
15 of '20 that have been changed that have been noticed to the
16 RCI. So this has all gone through a very rigorous process.

17 And, frankly, if you want to continue to deal with
18 the mess, like happened with Justify, because you didn't update
19 this properly, then you can go ahead and do it. It's no skin
20 off of my nose. It's only going to be the skin off the nose
21 of a trainer that gets in a situation that they really don't
22 know what the circumstances are because we haven't updated our
23 drug classification.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Well, the whole purpose of this ARCI
25 list is just establish a national standard. Isn't that the

1 purpose of it?

2 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Everybody's working
3 from the same drug classification --

4 CHAIR FERRARO: So --

5 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: -- document.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: -- so if we adopt, if we update to
7 confine with what they've done, then we're assuming every other
8 racing jurisdiction is doing the same thing; is that a reasonable
9 assumption?

10 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: That's a reasonable
11 assumption.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: And how long have we been doing this?

13 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: We've been doing
14 it from 2008 when it was originally established.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. And that -- and, Mr. Chaney,
16 the reason we're not members of ARCI is not an issue over the
17 adoption of these standards; is that correct?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: That is correct. I can't
19 intelligently speak to all of the reasons that we withdrew that
20 predated when I started. And, in fact, I think it was maybe
21 a year before, so about two years ago. It is super costly.
22 And we actually still engage with them for national license
23 searches and things like that. And so it's not like we're not
24 engaged at all. Obviously, we look to adopt their classification
25 system, and we do a few other things with them. Rejoining,

1 you know, it is certainly a possibility, but it's not something
2 I've researched thoroughly enough in my short time, short and
3 busy time, to be able to speak intelligently to. But it certainly
4 has nothing to do with the classification system.

5 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Yeah. The drug
6 classification is entirely different. It was never part of
7 the discussion having to do with the RCI membership. But the
8 fact of the matter is that RCI -- Wyoming, and San Vin (phonetic),
9 South Dakota, where we have more Board meetings than they have
10 race dates, has the same vote as California. And if somebody
11 wants to go back and revisit it, they can, but the fact of the
12 matter is if RCI was effective, you want to have the HISA in
13 a federal legislation.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Well, it's my understanding the reason
15 we're not members, and I'm not, you know, an authority on this,
16 but my understanding, it was explained to me, is that because
17 we had differences in policy issues regarding progressive changes
18 to racing rules and regulations, not we had no dispute over
19 the drug -- stated drug levels that they published.

20 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Right. It had
21 to --

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Is that (indiscernible)?

23 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: -- it had to do with
24 our more restrictive medication regulations and more restrictive
25 whip regulations.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Correct. Okay.

2 Oscar, I don't know quite well to put it off or to
3 put it to a medication meeting but I'm not sure what we gain.
4 We'd come back and be in the same position, would we not?

5 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Dr. Ferraro, Commissioner
6 Gonzales here.

7 All it is, is again, in the category of we don't know
8 what we don't know. We've got federal legislation that we just
9 passed. I don't think that it hurts one bit just to ask a few
10 more questions. I'm glad that we have you at the helm in terms
11 of this area of expertise. I just -- and I do appreciate Dr.
12 Arthur shedding some light on this. I get what we're trying
13 to avoid. But, again, unless somebody can make a case as to
14 why this needs to be approved today, I would just encourage
15 that we put this off until next month, give us an opportunity
16 to make sure that we're on the right track. That's all I'm
17 asking for.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Do you want to put that in the form
19 of a motion?

20 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Can I just speak?

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah. I'd like to move -- oh,
22 go ahead.

23 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Yeah. I'd like to
24 make a comment here.

25 First of all, we do not have the infrastructure to

1 revisit this again. And nobody on the Board is going to be
2 able to do that without the input of myself, Ben Moehler, Heather
3 Knych, Dr. Blea, who have already had the input when it was
4 there originally.

5 The major -- there's always minor things. Most of
6 these drugs we will never see and never deal with. But the
7 fact of the matter is there is one drug, which is dipyrone,
8 which Dr. Ferraro understands, it was Noven (phonetic) when
9 we were young veterinarians, was taken off the FDA approval
10 list, and so it was classified as a 4B. That is a minimum 30-day
11 suspension.

12 It is now become FDA approved for use in horses again.
13 So if somebody gets a violation for dipyrone, an FDA-approved
14 drug for horses, they are going to have a minimum 30-day suspension.
15 I mean, obviously, the stewards can adjust that. But that's
16 the type of thing that happens because the RMTC Scientific Advisory
17 Committee keeps an eye on these FDA approval changes and all
18 those sorts of things.

19 So it's not going to be a big deal. It's going to
20 take a year for this to get approved a year anyway. And if
21 you delay it a month -- but nothing is going to happen in the
22 next month on this matter because we don't have the infrastructure
23 to redo what has already been done that we already participated
24 in with your technical expertise.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have a motion? We have a motion,

1 do we not?

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I move that we postpone this
3 agenda item until next month so we can take a careful look,
4 get additional input. But I also just want to thank for the
5 information that we have so far and that was included in our
6 binder.

7 So that's my motion, that we push this off for one
8 month.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have a second?

10 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

11 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Second.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Which one? Is that you, Wendy, second?

13 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Whoever you want, Brenda or
14 me.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Okay. Mitchell seconds.

16 Let's take a vote.

17 Commissioner Davis?

18 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

20 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

22 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: No.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

24 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

1 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: No.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

3 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Ferraro votes no. The
5 motion carries four to three.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Can you --

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Moving on to --

8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Dr. Ferraro, this is --

9 CHAIR FERRARO: -- item number --

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- Scott Chaney. If I
11 could just --

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes?

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- if I could just --
14 I'd like a quick clarification. I respectfully disagree with
15 the Board's action today.

16 But what I'd like to know is what kind of
17 additional -- I mean, Staff will be burdened with having to
18 provide some kind of additional information. I share Dr. Arthur's
19 puzzlement at exactly what that additional information is going
20 to be. So I'm worried that we will not provide the Board with
21 what they want next month.

22 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I will give you an example.
23 We just -- Scott, we have -- this is a different era of medication
24 and regulation at the federal end. And maybe I'm just drawing
25 on my ten years and counting years in the federal government.

1 And there's now a brand new presence and player in the medication
2 space. That's just the reality.

3 And if we are going to try to make sure that our assets,
4 including the Maddy Center, are protected, and that we're being
5 thoughtful, and we're going to be engaging to keep some semblance
6 of why California is unique to us on the medication front, we
7 have to have a different approach. And all I'm asking for is
8 if we could just simply hold off for one month so anybody who's
9 dealing with or addressing medication, there is now a federal
10 focus and presence that is now upon us.

11 And so I will leave that up to staff. But there has
12 to at least be perhaps you, Scott, conferring with your other
13 state executive directors. Perhaps there's some other
14 exchanging of information that we could just -- so that we're
15 being more strategic about this, and anything else involved
16 with medication, is all I'm saying. So I -- you know, if you're
17 saying nothing can change between now and then, I could see
18 a lot of things going wrong between now and then, after we approve
19 this.

20 So all it is, is just let's just -- the same -- this
21 harkens back to if we're going to ask any industry players to
22 hit the pause button, to take a break, to slow down, but we,
23 ourselves, as a regulatory body aren't willing to do what we're
24 asking others, then we really have a dynamic on our hands that
25 needs some soul searching.

1 That's my point here, Scott.

2 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Fucking crap.

3 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: And there you go.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Scott --

5 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: There's Dr. Arthur.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: -- something we might do --

7 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Hold on one second.

8 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Excuse me?

9 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Hey, hold on. There was a
10 profanity. And this is not the first time that Dr. Arthur has
11 chosen very choice words and used vulgarities in a very
12 professional setting.

13 And, Dr. Arthur, I'd ask you to stand down and please
14 never do that again. Whenever you have not gotten your way
15 you've attacked this Board, you've questioned us and, in many
16 cases, you've undermined what we try to do on behalf of the
17 horse racing industry. So please put your phone on mute and
18 we will never hear that from you again.

19 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Well, my apologies.
20 I thought my phone was on mute. But I don't -- it doesn't change
21 my thoughts. This is silliness. This will not become effective.

22 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Commissioner Ferraro --

23 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: -- before --

24 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Chairman Ferraro --

25 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: -- before January

1 1st --

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- can we take a five-minute
3 break please?

4 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: -- 2022.

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yeah.

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Can we take a --

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Just one --

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: -- can we take a five-minute
9 break please?

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah. Hold on one second.

11 Scott, over this next month that we have this pause,
12 what you might try and find out is what's the likelihood that
13 the national body, this new federal body, is going to use ARCI
14 standards as their medication guidelines? And that would answer
15 that question and we'd know we're in line with what's coming
16 down the pike. It might be very helpful.

17 And with that, let's take a five-minute break.

18 (Off the record 12:58 p.m.)

19 (On the record at 1:04 p.m.)

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Discussion and action by the Board
21 regarding the delegation of authority to the executive director
22 pursuant to California Business and Professions Code 19428 for
23 one year.

24 Mr. Brodnik, do you want to address that first?

25 MR. BRODNIK: Yes. Good afternoon Commissioner.

1 Robert Brodnik, California Horse Racing Board.

2 Agenda item five pertains to the delegation of authority
3 for the Executive Director for common administrative matters
4 that require timely attention. Historically, these
5 administrative actions have been approved by the Executive
6 Director. But Staff is bringing these to you today for formal
7 approval for increased transparency.

8 The specific requests are indicated in the Staff
9 analysis, but they include authority to approve a change in
10 the first post time, authority to approve the cancellation of
11 a place or show pool, authority to permit an authorized racing
12 day which has been canceled to be run on a non-racing day within
13 the license period.

14 Staff is bringing these to you for approval. And
15 happy to answer any questions.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions from the Board?

17 Mr. Chaney, do you have a comment?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah, I do. So I've been
19 at the job about nine or ten months, I suppose. And on sort
20 of a regular basis I'm asked to do certain things and
21 don't -- and sometimes feel a little uncomfortable about the
22 statutory or regulatory authority, and these are three examples.

23 Request to cancel show pools or place pools are,
24 obviously, timely and not something that we can bring to the
25 Board all the time. And that's something I probably grant at

1 least weekly.

2 One of the second items is changing first post time
3 which is part of most track license applications. That's been
4 particularly -- it's an issue with respect to simulcasting in
5 terms of our California tracks trying to stay away from each
6 other, and then also trying to stay away from sort of national
7 organizations. And it's actually come up specifically recently
8 with the Governor's stay-at-home order, you know, when -- I
9 mean the curfew that started at 10:00 p.m. each night. So some
10 of our night racing tracks actually had to, you know, change
11 their first post times in order to have their cards completed
12 in enough time to comply with that order.

13 And then the third item is -- came up recently in
14 the context of COVID-related cancellations or things like that.
15 And sometimes tracks want to run an additional day to make up
16 for that. Typically, I've consulted with both the Chairman
17 and the Vice Chairman before that particular thing is granted.

18 So I really have no ego about any of these requests.
19 They're more just to kind of streamline things. If the Board
20 has some sort of conditions or something that they want to set,
21 that's perfectly fine. The ED may have been granted this authority
22 at some point in the past by the Board and we just can't find
23 any ready example of that. So Chief Counsel Brodnik and I just
24 thought it was important to bring this to the Board's attention
25 and have it be transparent.

1 The plan sort of is to do it maybe every January going
2 forward. That way we can add or subtract items, depending on,
3 you know, situations that may come up.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Comments or questions from the Board?
5 None?

6 Do we have a queue on this, Operator?

7 OPERATOR: If you would like to ask a question, please
8 press star one now. Again, if you would like to ask a question
9 or make a comment, please press star one now.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: We have none?

11 OPERATOR: We have no questions or comments in queue
12 at this time.

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Mr. Chairman, Dennis Alfieri.
14 I'd like to make a motion to approve this item.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: And I'll second.

16 Commissioner Davis?

17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

19 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

21 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

23 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. Motion
4 passes.

5 Item number six, discussion and action by the Board
6 regarding the proposal to partially suspend CHRB Rule 1845(k),
7 Authorized Bleeder Medication, pursuant to CHRB Rule 1406,
8 Suspension of the Rule.

9 Dr. Arthur, can you explain this to us?

10 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: Yeah. CHRB 1845,
11 the authorized bleeder medication regulation, has very specific
12 provisions for putting horses on the bleeders list to receive
13 furosemide, the only authorized bleeder medication, and the
14 process and restrictions as to how and when they can be taken
15 off. The regulation was never designed, nor anticipated the
16 situation where horses are going on and off the bleeders list
17 as under the current Stronach Group-TOC agreement.

18 For this to work, and I'm talking about the agreement,
19 we need to suspend part of 1845(k). And this would allow us
20 to reduce at least part of the administrative paperwork that
21 is now required, as well as facilitate horses going on and off
22 the bleeders list.

23 Keep in mind, we have a large number of horses today
24 that go back and forth between stake races and allowance and
25 high-priced claimers, which only exacerbates this problem.

1 You'll see a more permanent solution in the next agenda item.

2 So the real -- what we're trying to accomplish here
3 is, basically, when someone enters a horse into a stake's race
4 that is a no-Lasix stake's race, that we can minimize the paperwork
5 to do that. So right now, they all right required to submit
6 a CHRB 194 form, that has to be handled by the official
7 veterinarian's secretary, to take the horse off. And then the
8 same form has to be submitted to put the horse back on.

9 We also have the situation in 1845(k) where you can
10 only do this with the permission of the official veterinarian
11 the first time. And you can't do it the third time, put a horse
12 back on the third time, within 90 days under any circumstances,
13 which some horses are almost already at their third time.

14 So what we're asking to do is suspend a portion of
15 this 1845(k) that will allow the Santa Anita/Golden Gate
16 Fields/TOC agreement to be implemented. Otherwise, it's not
17 going to work.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the Board?

19 Do we have a queue on this, Operator?

20 OPERATOR: If you would like to ask a question or
21 make a comment, please press star one now.

22 We will take our next comment from Alan Balch of the
23 California Thoroughbred Trainers.

24 MR. BALCH: Alan Balch.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

1 MR. BALCH: California Thoroughbred Trainers. Thank
2 you, Dr. Ferraro and Commissioners.

3 Dr. Arthur has explained it properly. We very much
4 appreciate the consideration of this and hope you will agree.
5 This is really an administrative matter. As I think all of
6 you know, the protocols and procedures, which have been
7 continually coming on over the last couple of years, have really
8 created an administrative nightmare, actually, in some cases
9 for not just trainers but owners and veterinarians. And this
10 is just an example of something that was an unintended consequence.
11 It's something that is very well intended, which is to
12 have -- ease out of Lasix and have horses running in stakes
13 without Lasix. But there are some exceptions to those stakes
14 which TOC has negotiated.

15 And so it's a complicated issue that the trainer and
16 veterinarians have to deal with. And we very much appreciate
17 Dr. Arthur coming up with a potential solution. And I think,
18 as a practical matter, this would be very important for all
19 the reasons that he described.

20 We hope you will support it.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Next please.

23 OPERATOR: Thank you.

24 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
25 Dr. Holly Wilson.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

2 DR. WILSON: The partial suspension of Rule 1845,
3 section (k), pursuant to Rule 1406 is on the agenda.

4 First of all, why is Lasix an agenda item with such
5 regulatory? Why can't this Board come to an agreement as to
6 how the horses are going to be drugged?

7 Rule 1406 and I quote, "For good cause, with or without
8 a hearing, the Board may temporarily suspend the application
9 of any of its rules upon any conditions it may impose," end
10 quote. You have given yourselves tremendous latitude with
11 regards to rule suspension, yet there is no mention of a partial
12 suspension. So we just make rules and then just tailor them
13 to our needs?

14 Rule 1845 goes into exquisite detail in terms of how
15 Lasix is to be administered. Frankly, considering the volume
16 of horses and the sheer number of races taking place, how is
17 any of this, indeed, actually regulated? It just calls into
18 question, who is responsible for the enforcement of your rules?

19 I have carefully read 1845, section (k), and have
20 questions. You want to partially suspend this section. What
21 parts are you proposing to be suspended and what parts will
22 remain? This section describes that a horse registered on the
23 so-called official authorized bleeder medication list must remain
24 on the list until the trainer or owner's veterinarian requests
25 that the horse be removed. As it stands, a trainer, who has

1 no medical certification or education, can request that their
2 horse be removed from this list. Why do you even have a list
3 at all?

4 In no other sport do the so-called athletes take a
5 diuretic to curtail bleeding lungs from strenuous exercise.
6 Just take a moment to ponder that. What has become as normal
7 to you as tying your shoes is actually a grotesque utilization
8 of this lifesaving medication.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

10 Next please.

11 OPERATOR: Thank you.

12 DR. WILSON: You're welcome.

13 OPERATOR: We will take our next comment from concerned
14 citizen, Martha Sullivan.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

16 MS. SULLIVAN: Hello. This is Martha Sullivan, again,
17 from San Diego County.

18 It is very clear to me, watching the livestream of
19 horse races in California over the last several months, I mean,
20 the handicappers who comment before these races talk about how,
21 you know, Lasix will affect a given horse's performance, whether
22 the horse, you know, has gone on Lasix, is that going to boost,
23 you know, his or her performance? It's very clear. It's very
24 clear. This not a medication to address bleeding as much as
25 it is a performance-enhancing drug. The industry considers

1 it that way and uses it that way.

2 So instead of all this administrative hoop jumping,
3 which, you know, is really caused by the industry because they're
4 trying to carve out these exceptions to this Board's regulations,
5 just ban Lasix. Just do it. Get it over with. Stop with this
6 whitewashed smokescreen about it being for medical purposes.
7 It's a performance-enhancing drug. Kick the habit.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

9 Next please.

10 OPERATOR: Thank you.

11 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
12 Heather Wilson.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

14 MS. WILSON: Yes. Thank you. It's kind of strange.
15 It seems like Lasix is on the meeting agenda every single month.

16 And I'm wondering, is the bleeding list the same as
17 the vet list? And what kind of clearance are you implementing
18 for the horses that bleed? Because there is evidence that every
19 horse used in racing and training does suffer from EIPH. And
20 frank epistaxis is actually an insensitive indicator, so these
21 horses could very well be bleeding and that's why you have to
22 pull them and poke them. You're not actually going to see it.

23 So Cali Caliente was just on the list, on the vet
24 list, November 26th for bleeding. And he had a star next to
25 his name, indicating that he had a vet list history. And then

1 on January 9th, just a month or so later, this four-year-old
2 gelding is dead, listed as sudden death and classified as training
3 related. However, his last clock workout was on that same day,
4 on January 9th, four furlongs on the dirt, and it was described
5 as "handley (phonetic)."

6 So this is just -- it's not normal. It's not natural
7 for horses to run until their lungs bleed. And I'm a nurse
8 anesthetist. I do anesthesia. I have a pretty good
9 understanding of how medications work. I used to work in the
10 emergency room. I've given Lasix countless times to patients
11 in congestive heart failure.

12 So I've asked this many times, I've never gotten an
13 answer, can one of the veterinarians please explain to me, how
14 does a diuretic stop bleeding? I really would like to understand
15 this. So if you could please tell me? Anybody?

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

20 OPERATOR: Thank you.

21 We will take our next comment from Lynn Frudenberg,
22 horse advocate.

23 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hi there. Thank you for --

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

25 MS. FRUDENBERG: -- thank you for taking my call.

1 And why does the CHRB make rules and, subsequently,
2 have agenda items to suspend them? The CHRB goes through the
3 trouble of making these rules and regulations in the case when
4 the industry people complain about them. This just happened
5 with Lasix rule in two-year-old horses at Los Alamitos.

6 It is the function of the CHRB to oversee and regulate.
7 If the industry will not allow them to do their jobs, then why
8 have a CHRB?

9 And I kind of am in line with all the other callers.
10 I've been an E.R. nurse for over 25 years. I administer Lasix
11 frequently. Only in horse racing is Lasix considered
12 anti-bleeding. It's used to prevent respiratory bleeding in
13 horses running at high speeds. As the horse runs, blood gets
14 into its lungs, which leads to pulmonary hemorrhage. This is
15 why they have bleeding noses at the end of the race. Horses
16 bleed more if they run. They do recover but are left with permanent
17 lung damage.

18 Let's be clear, Lasix is a diuretic. Horses lose
19 water weight, which makes them run faster. That's why it's
20 being used. The faster they run the more they bleed into their
21 lungs. Lasix causes dehydration that can affect them for at
22 least three days, decreasing sodium, calcium and chloride levels.
23 Lasix fails as an anti-bleeding drug. But Lasix is not the
24 problem. The real problem is horse racing itself.

25 As an owner of horses for 28 years, I have never

1 considered giving my horses Lasix for performance enhancement.

2 Horses deserve better. I can only hope to see the
3 end of this vile blood sport caused by human greed.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next question or comment from Dr.
9 Dionne Benson of The Stronach Group.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

11 DR. BENSON: Good morning, Chairman Ferraro and
12 Members of the Commission. Actually, it's afternoon even there
13 now. Thank you for taking my call. I just wanted to touch base
14 on a couple of things.

15 First of all, I think we appreciate the Board taking
16 this up. This is really a stopgap on the way to decreasing
17 medication use in horses, particularly Lasix. It's a step that
18 we need to take because we did not do a wholesale decrease or
19 elimination of Lasix in one fell swoop just because of the breeding
20 and other concerns. You know, we wanted to make sure we had
21 horses who could race without Lasix, and I think that's been
22 successfully so far, that we have had horses that have been
23 racing successfully without Lasix.

24 And appreciating Commissioner Gonzales's concerns,
25 even the HISA does contemplate a phase-out of Lasix within three

1 years of the time that the bill takes effect. So even under
2 HISA, this would be an issue or a concern that the Board could
3 face and a difficulty that would be faced by horsemen, the
4 racetrack, and the CHRB.

5 So we appreciate your consideration of this regulation
6 and this change. And if there are any questions, I am more
7 than happy to answer them.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Any questions from the Board?

9 Thank you, Dr. Benson.

10 DR. BENSON: Yup.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

12 OPERATOR: Thank you.

13 We will take our next comment from Kimberly Marrs
14 of KTM Equine.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

16 MS. MARRS: Hi. This is regarding the Lasix. I want
17 to explain to everybody that not only racehorses bleed. I know
18 a lot of jumpers, barrel horses, show horses, and a lot of horses
19 that might just be out in the field that exert themselves, they
20 can bleed as well. It's not a racehorse issue per se.

21 Lasix in the small amount that we are allowed to utilize
22 at this point could help, along with other preventative measures,
23 to help a horse that could be prone to an EIPH episode. I would
24 like to see the use of Lasix at the level allowed for all racehorses
25 right now as opposed to jockeying from stakes' races and going

1 down. I think that if you go on an inconsistent medication
2 with something like that, that a horse might have an issue,
3 that we could present them with a lot of other problems that
4 we don't even know right now that we could be setting them up
5 for.

6 I believe we have to look at the welfare of the horses.
7 I know that there's a lot on both sides for Lasix. I know it's
8 gotten a bad wrap, the way that it's been used in the past.
9 But I think that the way that it's being used now with the minimum
10 level that we're -- or maximum level, which is a very low level
11 that we are allowed to use, I really think it just helps them.

12 That little bit that can help a horse not have the
13 pulmonary issue and present them and set them up for some other
14 potential problem would be, to me, a lot more humane in going
15 forward as opposed to, you know, letting them use it, not letting
16 them use it, going back to letting them use it. I just think
17 it sets the horse up, potentially, for a lot more problems.
18 Now I'm not a vet but it just seems to be common sense that
19 could be more of a problem issue down the road.

20 Anyway -- and as people mentioned before about the
21 litany of all the medications that we use in racing, there's
22 reasons that we have these medications for use. There's
23 medications that alleviate certain issues, like we have
24 antihistamines. We have horses that have allergies. We have
25 to give them antihistamines. They're just like people. Some

1 of them have problems. There's prescribed and allowable
2 medications for certain issues, the same way that you would
3 prescribe medications for somebody that has their own medical
4 conditions.

5 So just let that be understood that we're not -- it's
6 not a drugging thing. These are allowed medications for
7 particular problems. And, you know, obviously, the reforms
8 are working and we're keeping them in line. And we're looking
9 at all this so they're not overused, abused and, again, misused.

10 So thank you for your time.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

12 Next please.

13 OPERATOR: Thank you.

14 If you would like to make a comment, please press
15 star one now.

16 We will take our next comment from Bonnie Croker,
17 concerned citizen.

18 MS. CROKER: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

20 MS. CROKER: Good afternoon. Thank you so much. I
21 had not actually planned to comment on this agenda item because
22 I don't have a medical background. However, I thought it might
23 be useful to let you know that you have a severe public relations
24 problem when it comes to Lasix.

25 Are you aware that track announcers at Los Alamitos,

1 and especially at Santa Anita recently, talk about Lasix and
2 horses coming into being on Lasix as though it's a right of
3 passage, and something to be excited about, and something to
4 bet on? They literally talk about horses coming of age and
5 saying, "Oh, she's on Lasix now, so that could make an improvement.
6 You might want to be on her." I mean, it's terrible public
7 relations and you should really, you know, put a lid on that.
8 I just thought I'd chime in on that because that's really a
9 serious problem.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

12 Next please.

13 OPERATOR: Thank you.

14 Again, if you would like to make a comment, please
15 press star one now.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: All right. No further comments.

17 Can I have a motion from the Board?

18 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Castellanos. Motion.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: I'll second.

20 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: I second.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay, Alex, I'll let you second.

22 Commissioner Davis?

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

25 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

2 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

4 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. Motion
8 approved.

9 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: You missed me --

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Moving on to item number --

11 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: -- but that's okay.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Oh, I'm sorry. I did.

13 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: That's okay.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Oh, I guess I did that. Can I have
15 your vote please?

16 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Sure. Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Thank you. I apologize. I
18 didn't mean to do that.

19 Item number seven, discussion and action by the Board
20 regarding the proposed amendment of CHRB Rule 1845, Authorized
21 Bleeder Medication, to clarify the usage of furosemide in specific
22 races.

23 Again, Dr. Arthur, can you explain what this is about?
24 Dr. Arthur?

25 EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR ARTHUR: I had my mute on,

1 as I should have had previously.

2 But anyway, in addition, what this does, in addition
3 to the suspended on-and-off provisions that we talked about
4 in the previous provision, we can suspend part of a regulation
5 but we can't add to it. And what this actually does is try
6 to provide a permanent solution to the problem we just discussed,
7 that is horses going on and off the list.

8 In addition to the suspended on-off provisions and
9 restrictions that we talked about in 1845(k), we are adding
10 a provision that says, very simply, "A horse registered on the
11 authorized bleeder medication list shall not be administered
12 furosemide when entered into a race where furosemide is prohibited
13 under race conditions approved by the Board," as the Board did
14 or the TOC/Santa Anita/Golden Gate Fields agreements.

15 This is the simplest solution and the most common-sense
16 solution to this no-Lasix-in-stakes situation. A horse that
17 is a no-Lasix race approved by the Board just doesn't get Lasix,
18 we leave it at that. Trainers don't have to file paperwork
19 with the official veterinarian taking the horse off Lasix. And
20 they don't have to file paperwork putting horses back on the
21 bleeder list if they want to race them in a race that allows
22 Lasix.

23 This is really not that complicated. When horses
24 on the CHRB bleeders list are shipped to Dubai where they don't
25 allow Lasix, they come back to California and race back, they're

1 still on the Lasix list. This is a somewhat analogous situation.

2 So if the Board has approved a race that does not
3 allow Lasix, and it doesn't affect whether the horse has to
4 be taken off Lasix on the bleeders list or not, they just run
5 in the race without Lasix.

6 So that's what we're looking for in the long-term
7 solution. And this will actually be part of the 1845, Authorized
8 Bleeder Medication, regulation, along with the elimination of
9 the suspended portion of 1845(k) that we just talked about in
10 the previous item.

11 Hopefully, this has all made sense, but it's a very
12 simple solution to this conundrum we're dealing with right now.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions from the Board?

14 Do we have a queue on this, Operator?

15 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

16 If you would like to ask a question or make a comment,
17 please press star one.

18 We will take our first comment from Dina Cohen,
19 concerned citizen.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

21 MS. COHEN: Hi. Yes. I just want to say that
22 racehorses aren't the only horses that bleed. When you make
23 an animal do an unnatural thing and make them perform unnaturally,
24 then unnatural things happen. Barrel horses, jumpers, they
25 bleed. And, you know, it's not humane to whip these animals

1 and force them to perform unnaturally.

2 Horse racing is not a medical condition, it's a human
3 greed condition.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next comment from Mary Forney of
9 Thoroughbred Horse Owners of California Association.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

11 MS. FORNEY: Thank you. Mary Forney, TOC.

12 TOC supports the amendment of Rule 1845 as proposed
13 in agenda item seven. We believe it addresses an unintended
14 consequence of the original rule and will effectively eliminate
15 the current confusion for tracks and horsemen.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

18 Next please.

19 OPERATOR: Thank you.

20 We will take our next comment from Christina Gindt
21 of the Intervision Equine Physiotherapy.

22 MS. GINDT: Hi. My name is Christina Gindt. Thank
23 you for your time and patience today.

24 I just wanted to say, I mean, I think this is an excellent
25 solution for the on-and-off Lasix list for our horses. I'm

1 also in agreement with Kim Marrs's statement previously regarding
2 on-and-off Lasix list for horses. And so I think this is an
3 excellent solution to keep the horses on the Lasix list if they
4 are on it. And if they enter in a non-Lasix race, that is up
5 to the recommendation of the veterinarian, as well as the trainer.

6 Thank you very much for this solution.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

8 Next please.

9 OPERATOR: Thank you.

10 Our next comment comes from Martha Sullivan, a concerned
11 citizen.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

13 MS. SULLIVAN: Hello. This is Martha Sullivan from
14 San Diego County again.

15 So as I'm reading the revision to this rule, what's
16 deleted or proposed to be deleted is that -- are time limits
17 on removing a horse from the authorized bleeder medication list.
18 So, I mean, there's a 60-calendar day time limit. There's a
19 second time in a 365-day period. So are these not medical concerns
20 anymore? Do these concerns that were codified in this rule
21 not concerns anymore? I mean, I haven't heard anything to indicate
22 that there's any new research or anything to indicate that these
23 concerns about horses, the amount of time horses are on or off
24 bleeder medications, you know, has been proven untrue or, you
25 know, otherwise any kind of medical reason for this change.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

2 Next please.

3 OPERATOR: Thank you.

4 Our next comment comes from Kimberly Marrs of KTM
5 Equine.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

7 MS. MARRS: Hi. I just wanted to agree that I love
8 this rule. I agree to put this rule in place. To me, it debugs
9 and unclutters the paperwork nightmare. I was just asked this
10 very question this morning about what's going to happen with
11 this, with the on-and-off horses when they're running in stakes.

12 A lot of the stakes' horses sometimes will come back
13 and run in allowance races, so you would be allowed Lasix, and
14 then it tracks them or sets them up for another stake race.
15 So instead of going through all the paperwork nightmares, if
16 it's a race that a horse isn't allowed Lasix, then they just
17 don't get Lasix. I just think it will save a lot of time and
18 a lot of headaches for everybody and it's just a great rule.
19 I hope you approve it.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

21 Next please.

22 OPERATOR: Thank you.

23 Our next comment comes from Elvia Sedano, a concerned
24 citizen.

25 MS. SEDANO: Hello everyone.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

2 MS. SEDANO: Hello everyone. It seems like the topic
3 of the bleeder medication is frequently on the agenda. There's
4 so much discussion about this medication but there is never
5 talk about why this medication is needed in the first place.

6 Horses do not normally bleed from their lungs. They
7 bleed because they are being raced or trained and their blood
8 vessels rupture.

9 The underlying cause of the bleeding is directly related
10 to humans, human greed and human desires. This is so cruel
11 and abusive. How dare the industry say that these horses are
12 so loved when you are the ones hurting them and making them
13 bleed?

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

16 Next please.

17 OPERATOR: Thank you.

18 We will take our next comment from Dr. Dionne Benson
19 of The Stronach Group.

20 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Go ahead please.

21 DR. BENSON: Thank you. Hello again Commissioners.

22 I just want to support -- voice The Stronach Group's
23 support for this rule. I believe it's well written and a good
24 solution for this issue. I think that the ease in which we
25 can make it for horsemen to enter without Lasix encourages a

1 use -- a movement away from the medication, and we are fully
2 in support of that.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

4 Next please.

5 OPERATOR: Thank you.

6 Our next comment comes from concerned citizen, Dr.
7 Holly Wilson.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

9 DR. WILSON: Yeah. For those in support, we're talking
10 about alleviating paperwork and reducing the headaches. What
11 about what the animals endure? Number one.

12 Number two, we have still not gotten a clear answer
13 from your veterinarians as to why Lasix is classified as an
14 anti-bleeder medication. Lasix does not affect the bleeding
15 cascade, the clotting cascade. It does affect platelet
16 aggregation. It does not induce vasospasm of ruptured blood
17 vessels. Why is this medication that is a diuretic being
18 classified as an anti-bleeder medication? We're still waiting
19 or an answer on that. And I would love to have this discussion
20 with any of your vets.

21 I'm a physician. I went through medical school and
22 pharmacology. And I've been administering Lasix for the past
23 20-some-odd years. It is not an anti-bleeding medication.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Next please.

1 OPERATOR: Thank you.

2 We will take our next comment from Thomas Copeland.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

4 MR. COPELAND: Yes. Thank you. One argument is we
5 have the folks out there saying reducing the paperwork is the
6 way to go. But then on a different agenda item the argument
7 is to protect jobs. You know, now what's it going to be? Is
8 it going to be an argument to protect jobs or reducing paperwork?

9 Meanwhile, the World Doping Association -- Anti-Doping
10 Association has listed Lasix as a band item for human athletes
11 because it hides, it masks, other drugs. So what is the real
12 reason that we want to -- or you want to ban or, I guess, not
13 ban but use Lasix, okay? I'd like to hear more on that issue,
14 Doctor.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Next please.

18 OPERATOR: Thank you.

19 We will take our next comment from Lynn Frudenberg,
20 horse advocate.

21 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hi there.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

23 MS. FRUDENBERG: Hithere. Goodafternoon. Hey, I'll
24 keep this really short.

25 I can only hope you do what's right for the horses.

1 Please make your decision on their well-being, not a decision
2 made to line the pockets of the people in the industry. Please
3 do the right thing. Stand behind the horses, not the money
4 it generates. And I'm sorry if paperwork is a hassle but that's
5 part of life. And it shouldn't be any -- that should not have
6 any decision with your vote. Do what's right for the horses
7 please.

8 I know I'm getting really jaded listening to this
9 meeting, so thank you very much. Please do what's right.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

11 Next please.

12 OPERATOR: Thank you. There are no further questions
13 or comments in queue.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Any comments or questions from the
15 Board? Can I have a motion please?

16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

17 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: I move to approve.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri, were you about
19 to make a motion?

20 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: That was me, Alex Solis.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: A motion to approve, is that what
22 you're saying?

23 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes, sir.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Do I have a second?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yeah, second.

1 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

2 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Alfieri.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Alfieri seconds.

4 Commissioner Davis?

5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

7 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

9 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

11 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes. Motion
15 passes.

16 This is number eight, discussion and action by the
17 Board regarding approval of the change of ownership for the
18 minisatellite Race & Sports Authority LLC, dba 58 Flat, pursuant
19 to Board Rule 2066(h).

20 This motion was tabled from December to this meeting.

21 Amanda, can you explain to us what's going on here?

22 MS. DRUMMOND: Yes, I can. Good afternoon

23 Commissioners. Amanda Drummond here.

24 Agenda item eight is the approval of the change of
25 ownership for the Minisatellite Race & Sports Authority, LLC,

1 dba 58 Flat. In 2016, when the Board issued 58 Flat a license
2 to operate as a minisatellite provider, the business applying
3 for licensure was listed as Race & Sports Authority, LLC which
4 is owned 100 percent by Denny Kanakaris. And then in 2019,
5 Explorador (phonetic), Incorporated, which is also owned by
6 Mr. Kanakaris, purchased 24 percent of Race & Sports Authority.

7 And then pursuant to Board Rule 2066(h), a change
8 in ownership interests for Race & Sports Authority requires
9 the notification of the Board in writing seeking permission
10 to amend their license, so that is why it is before us today.

11 And then just another thing to note for the Board,
12 according to public record, Explorador is currently in the process
13 of going through a Chapter 11 bankruptcy, so that's just for
14 your own information.

15 And then the current license for the minisatellite
16 is current until May 26th of this year.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: It's my understanding that neither
18 is operating though; is that correct?

19 MS. DRUMMOND: That is correct. Yeah. So they're
20 not currently in operation because of COVID-19.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: So we have change of ownership to
22 an entity that is in bankruptcy proceedings, neither of which
23 are operating, and the license comes up again in May. So I
24 may just be cynical, but can you tell me why we should even
25 bother to approve this since they're not operating anyway?

1 MS. DRUMMOND: I mean, that is, you know, up to the
2 Board to, you know, make that decision. I'm just here to, you
3 know, present the information. But I do believe
4 Mr. Kanakaris -- I apologize if I mispronounced that -- is here,
5 or his attorneys representing him are here to answer any questions
6 that the Board has.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Well, let's hear from them then.
8 Operator, can you open their line?

9 OPERATOR: Yes.

10 If your name has been listed, please press star zero.

11 MR. MARTEN: Operator, let the Race & Sports Authority
12 enter the queue.

13 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

14 MR. KANAKARIS: Hello? Hello?

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes. Go ahead please.

16 MR. KANAKARIS: This is -- can you hear me?

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

18 MR. KANAKARIS: Okay. Hi. This is Denny Kanakaris.
19 I am the 100 percent owner -- I'm sorry. Let me start off by
20 saying good afternoon to you, Chairman, and the restoration
21 of the Board and Commissioners. I am -- my name is Denny Kanakaris.
22 I am the sole owner, 100 percent owner, of Race & Sports Authority,
23 LLC, dba 58 Flat. I am also the owner, 100 percent owner, of
24 Explorador, Incentive.

25 So the purpose of this transaction that took place

1 was simply because back in 2016, when I signed the lease for
2 58 Flat as the minisatellite, the lease was under 58 Flat.

3 Subsequent to that, in May of 2017, I purchased a
4 liquor license for that same location because both entities
5 conduct their business at the same location. I purchased that,
6 a Type 47 from the Alcohol Beverage Control liquor license in
7 May of 2015. In '17, I purchased the corporation that owned
8 that license. ABC, per their rules, require that the lease
9 states that Explorador is the owner -- I mean is the full tenant
10 of that location.

11 Per my -- per the recommendation and advice of my
12 attorney, in May of 2019 we had Explorador acquire, without
13 any exchange of monies because I am owner of both entities,
14 24 percent of 58 Flat. I was unaware that the CHRB -- and I
15 would at no time violate any rules of the CHRB. But I did have
16 a copy of my SCOTWINC contract that specifically states that
17 any ownership of 25 percent of more requires some written
18 communication to SCOTWINC. So I was unaware of any rule that
19 was required by the CHRB.

20 I would like to mention that I have been a horse owner,
21 and I'm still a licensed racehorse owner since 1999, 21 years.
22 I've been licensed at this minisatellite facility for almost
23 five years. It is the leading, not including Del Mar, the leading
24 minisatellite location in San Diego County as far as handle.
25 I have had an increase year over year of handle at that location

1 up until COVID time. Sadly, we have been closed. We were closed
2 from March 17th to June 6th. We were again forced to close
3 on December 6th to current. We're still currently closed.

4 I have never been in front of the Board for any violations
5 for my horse racing or this minisatellite. This is the first
6 time. And I really, truly feel this was just a minor
7 administrative change to provide a transparency and a -- provide
8 a legal tenancy for 58 Flat because the lease was edited due
9 to the ABC.

10 They also -- if -- I was aware of this when Ms. Drummond
11 brought this to my attention. And I will gladly fill out any
12 edited or amended application that would show this. But, again,
13 I want to emphasize that I am the owner of both entities 100
14 percent. There was no exchange of any proceeds or monies due
15 to this. And it was done solely for the purpose of -- to provide
16 a legal tenancy for Race & Sports Authority/58 Flat.

17 I think that's pretty much the full description of
18 what occurred. I've given you --

19 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: I'll move the item. This is
20 Commissioner Mitchell. Can we move the item?

21 MR. KANAKARIS: This is item number eight.

22 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: I'd like to move the item
23 so we can vote.

24 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Well, I'll second. I'll second
25 that, Commissioner Mitchell.

1 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Thank you.

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Pardon me, Commissioners.
3 This is Scott Chaney, Executive Director. I don't think we've
4 taken public comment yet.

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Oh, well, I can -- all right.
6 I can still move it but then we could take public comment.
7 It's up to the Chairman.

8 MR. MARTEN: There's no one in queue for public comment.

9 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Could we have --

10 MR. MARTEN: We have one.

11 OPERATOR: We do have --

12 MR. MARTEN: We have one now in --

13 OPERATOR: Yes. We do have one person in queue for
14 public comment.

15 Chairman, are we taking public comments at this time?

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: This is Executive Director
17 Chaney. I'm not sure where Dr. Ferraro is.

18 Vice Chair Gonzales, would you mind taking over for
19 the time being?

20 CHAIR FERRARO: I'm here. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I
21 was on mute.

22 Go ahead with the public comment please. I'm sorry
23 about that.

24 OPERATOR: Yes, sir.

25 So our first public comment comes from Kimberly Marrs

1 of KTM Equine.

2 MS. MARRS: Sorry. I just wanted to make sure, this
3 is the bottom comment, public comment; correct?

4 CHAIR FERRARO: No, it is not.

5 MS. MARRS: Okay. I'm so sorry.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: It's the next item up.

7 MS. MARRS: Okay. Thank you. Sorry.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have anybody else in the public
9 queue?

10 OPERATOR: We do have one person in the public comment
11 queue, Lynn Frudenberg, horse advocate.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

13 MS. FRUDENBERG: I'm sorry. Is this item number nine
14 for public comment?

15 CHAIR FERRARO: No, it is not. We're still on number
16 eight.

17 MS. FRUDENBERG: Okay. I'm sorry.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: You'll have to --

19 MS. FRUDENBERG: I got confused listening.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: -- requeue.

21 MS. FRUDENBERG: Okay. Thank you.

22 OPERATOR: If you would like to make --

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay.

24 OPERATOR: -- a public comment on item eight, please
25 press star one.

1 There are no comments for item eight.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Commissioner Mitchell, you
3 made a motion to approve; is that correct?

4 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I have a question.

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes. Yes. Correct.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead, Dennis.

7 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: We're approving a license that
8 part of the ownership is in -- or 100 percent of the ownership
9 is in bankruptcy, Chapter 11.

10 MR. KANAKARIS: Can I comment --

11 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: And that's --

12 MR. KANAKARIS: -- on this? This is Denny Kanakaris.

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: (Indiscernible.)

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

15 MR. KANAKARIS: Race & Sports Authority, LLC is not
16 in Chapter 11. It is Explorador, which owns the liquor license,
17 and it was due to -- COVID-related because of all the very
18 significant rental fee at that location. And to protect the
19 interest of the liquor license, Explorador, Inc., we recently
20 submitted yesterday, my attorney submitted, to dismiss it, to
21 exit bankruptcy. So it was not the applicant, original applicant,
22 Race & Sports Authority, it's Explorador. And we recently
23 submitted, with the trustee, to remove it or to dismiss that
24 bankruptcy.

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Okay. Thank you very much.

1 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes. Just moving between two
2 of his entities, pretty much.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: All right. Okay. We have a motion
4 to approve, and a second; is that correct?

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Correct.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Let's proceed to the vote.

7 Commissioner Davis?

8 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

10 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Solis?

12 COMMISSIONER SOLIS: Yes.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

14 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

16 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

18 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. Motion
20 approved.

21 Move on now --

22 MR. KANAKARIS: Thank you, Board.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: -- to public -- you're welcome.

24 We have public comment, number nine. I'd remind
25 everybody, this is a 30-minute period. You have two minutes

1 max. And you're welcome to make comments on anything you feel
2 is pertinent.

3 So, Operator, let's begin.

4 OPERATOR: Thank you.

5 So we'll take our first comment from Dr. Wayne Johnson,
6 concerned citizen.

7 DR. JOHNSON: Well, thank you very much.

8 First of all, I'd like to talk a bit about a comment
9 that was made by Mr. Baffert. Mr. Baffert, one of the most
10 notorious, infamous rule-breakers in the history of horse racing.
11 If you want to be on Mr. Baffert's side, then the history books
12 will also record, according to one of your members, that Mr.
13 Allred is -- Dr. Allred, excuse me, is somehow going to be looked
14 on as a great figure in the history of horse racing. Dr. Allred
15 will be remembered for dead horses.

16 Mr. Chaney begins the meeting by a plea for civil
17 discourse. Mr. Chaney and the Board, I'm an old guy. I marched
18 with Dr. King. Dr. King always told us that civil discourse,
19 as well as non-civil disobedience, was important. I'm all set
20 for civil discourse.

21 But, Mr. Chaney, when you talk about that, do you
22 realize that Members of the Board and the Medical Director and
23 other people connected to horse racing in California don't return
24 their emails, don't return their phone calls. Civil discourse
25 is a two-way street, sir. Look in your own house when you're

1 advocating for civil discourse.

2 On January 1st, 2021, all greyhound racing was ended
3 in Florida because the people knew it was cruel. The same thing
4 will be coming for California. It took them 20 years in Florida.
5 I don't know how long it's going to take here. But make no
6 mistake about it, our attendance to these meetings is not enough.
7 Whatever we say at these meetings is not enough. The people
8 of California will decide on this cruel, brutal industry.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Next please.

11 OPERATOR: Thank you.

12 We will take our next comment from concerned citizen,
13 Dr. Holly Wilson.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

15 DR. WILSON: The more I learn about this industry
16 the more horrified, saddened, and purely disgusted I become.
17 One does not need to be a horse person to comprehend that these
18 animals are nothing more than objects, caught in the crosshairs
19 of a sick and twisted game of gambling. The majority of the
20 horses being raced are babies.

21 Everyone wants the next Tiz the Law or Aesthetic,
22 and sadly, most will not meet the high expectation. The horses
23 are trafficked all over the state and all over the country.
24 They are just cogs in a wheel of a big, bloodstained machine.

25 These CHRB racetracks are meatgrinders. Any love

1 you might claim to have for the horses is completely overshadowed
2 by the treatment they endure. Love is not found at the end
3 of the whip, in the needle that injects them with drugs, nor
4 in their tiny stalls.

5 Industry folks are great at selling us short, but
6 do not underestimate us. I am a physician and can process any
7 medical information this Board presents. I also watch the
8 post-parades, the loading, and the whipping. It does not take
9 an equine behavioral specialist to understand terror and fear.
10 The horses resist being loaded and they are repeatedly whipped.

11 I also read the race charts. And a horse is never
12 the cause of their own trouble. The trouble is this industry
13 that forces their will upon these gentle sentient beings.

14 What is this Board's threshold for an acceptable number
15 of dead horses? Data is withheld. Unsound horses are shipped
16 out of state. Horses are euthanized on non-CHRB tracks. And
17 horses end up in kill pens. Your data are deeply flawed. There
18 is no need to be self-congratulatory.

19 A 26-year-old Bob Baffert brood mare named Censored
20 was just rescued from a kill pen, and she was raced at Santa
21 Anita. Oh, but they're loved like family.

22 Stop lying to us and stop lying to yourselves.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you

24 Next please.

25 OPERATOR: Thank you.

1 DR. WILSON: No problem.

2 OPERATOR: We will take our next comment from Martha
3 Sullivan, concerned citizen.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

5 MS. SULLIVAN: Hello again. This is Martha Sullivan
6 from San Diego County.

7 On January 13th the racing industry's trade press
8 magazine or publication, BloodHorse, published an article that
9 Jockey Umberto Rispoli has been suspended January 16th to 18th
10 for his fourth offense in a 60-day period for a violation on
11 Mac Daddy Too, winner of the fifth race January 8th at Santa
12 Anita. This is of your whip rule.

13 Drayden Van Dyke was suspended for January 17th through
14 18th -- 17th, 18th and the 22nd, also for a repeated violation
15 of your whip rule.

16 So what do we see on Saturday at Santa Anita Racetrack?
17 There are four stakes' races which are considered designated
18 races exempted from suspension. So suspended Jockey Rispoli
19 rode in all of them and placed first in one. He also rode on
20 Sunday and Monday, placing first, again, on Sunday. So on two
21 days he's supposed to suspended he raced and made money. His
22 financial gain from these races vastly outweighs any penalties
23 from his suspension for repeat violations of this Board's faulted
24 rule to reduce the number of times horses are whipped per race.
25 It's a whitewash and it's really a sick joke.

1 Drayden Van Dyke also rode, when he was supposed to
2 be suspended, on Sunday, again, because it was a stake's race
3 and is exempt from suspension.

4 So, you know, as so much of this industry, it's all
5 smoke and mirrors. That's what gambling is, really, smoke and
6 mirrors. You know, it's about the gambling. It's certainly
7 not about horse safety.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

9 Next please.

10 OPERATOR: Thank you.

11 We will take our next comment from Heather Wilson,
12 concerned citizen.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

14 MS. WILSON: Yes. Thank you.

15 Regarding the horses who are vanned off and still
16 missing, we know of at least one of them that will be used for
17 breeding. Princess Noor, trained by Bob Baffert, will now be
18 lucky enough to be forcibly impregnated, carry a foal for 11
19 months, endure labor and birth, only to do it all over again.
20 And what becomes of Princess Noor when she is no longer able
21 to make babies and feed this dying industry?

22 Feedlots and kill pens are fill of spent brood mares.
23 We have discovered two such former California racehorses. So
24 how exactly is that no-slaughter policy working out for you?
25 These horses were destined for slaughter. They were bailed

1 out. I know because I donated to one of them to be rescued.
2 Their names, Possession and Censored.

3 Possession was raced at Del Mar and Santa Anita in
4 2003. She was then retired for breeding, was purchased at a
5 livestock auction for \$200 and saved from slaughter.

6 Censored was just rescued, just a couple weeks ago,
7 at age 26, the equivalent of a 78-old female, a human. This
8 26-year-old horse was no longer considered useful, after giving
9 birth at least eight times. She was previously raced in
10 California, all over California, from 1998 to 2000, another
11 horse trained by Bob Baffert. And she was just rescued. And
12 this horse is, thankfully, now safe.

13 But how many others, countless others, make it into
14 the slaughter pipeline, horses that are from California, horses
15 that were raced in California, horses that were under the oversight
16 of the California Horse Racing Board? I mean, this is shameful.
17 And these are the horses that the industry claims to love like
18 family. They end up in feedlots. There's no denying this.

19 And another horses, which will not make your list
20 because he must have been euthanized at a non-CHRB clinic, was
21 Bowies Hero, killed from (indiscernible), trainer D'Amato, the
22 same trainer as Noor Khan, one of the horses killed at Los Alamitos.

23 So the problem is racing. That is the underlying
24 cause of every single one of these issues. It's a one-word
25 answer. It's called racing.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

2 Next please.

3 OPERATOR: Thank you.

4 MS. WILSON: No problem.

5 OPERATOR: We will take our next comment from Jerry
6 Wallace of Jerry Wallace Racing Stables.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

8 MR. WALLACE: Hey. I just wanted to -- I got some
9 phone calls today. I guess there's some concerned citizen that
10 brought up one of the horses I trained, his name is Rule He
11 Will. And I just wanted to assure everybody, Rule He Will is
12 just fine and dandy. He's boarded right over here about a mile
13 from my house. He was retrained to become either a show horse,
14 hunter/jumper, or go on to some other type of career, maybe
15 just a saddle horse. But he's very fine. He (indiscernible).
16 He was pulled up during a race because the jockey felt that
17 he (indiscernible). And out of an abundance of caution, pulled
18 him and brought him back, and he's been retired and he's just
19 fine.

20 So if anybody wants to see him, come visit him, let
21 me know.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

24 Next please.

25 OPERATOR: Thank you.

1 We will take our next comment from Bonnie Croker,
2 concerned citizen.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

4 MS. CROKER: Yes. Yes. I first want to thank and
5 commend Commissioners Gonzales, Mitchell, and Davis for standing
6 by their convictions and their duty as state-appointed industry
7 regulators. Thank you for acknowledging the concerned
8 tax-paying citizens who expect you to exercise the authority
9 you are entrusted with. You chose not to rubberstamp and approval
10 for an extension to the Los Alamitos license. The fact that
11 agenda item number three was even on the agenda this month shows
12 total disrespect for your thoughtful last month.

13 Unfortunately, Los Alamitos still managed to take
14 the reigns out of the CHRB's hands today. They have whipped
15 you more consecutive times than anyone can count. But you are
16 visibly rising towards the fulfillment of the growing expectations
17 that are delegated to you and, for that, you have the growing
18 respect of many concerned citizens.

19 I also want to thank the other Commissioners who were
20 swayed in Los Al's favor for the time you spent listening to
21 approximately 40 people who called in to voice their opinion
22 on agenda item three. People in the industry do swarm these
23 teleconferences when their money and their hobby is on the line.

24 Thank you to the gentleman who called in just now
25 to report on the welfare of Rule He Will. That was very kind

1 and much appreciated. Unfortunately, there's still too many
2 horses missing and we will not give up looking for them.

3 Lastly, I want to remind the Board to do something
4 about the livestream racetrack commentators at Santa Anita and,
5 particularly, who constantly refer to and reenforce Lasix as
6 a performance-enhancing drug that horses qualify for by age.
7 Over and over they tell betters to consider betting on the
8 new-to-Lasix horses because that may mean improved performance.
9 The commentators are actually being honest, according to what
10 the trainers and owners believe and have made known. Everyone
11 one on this call knows that is why the commentators are
12 regurgitating this information.

13 This actually supports the animal rights stance. But
14 these comments and the behavior are so bizarre, I felt inclined
15 to mention this issue to you today. It demonstrates the ignorance,
16 incompetence and heartlessness of so many participants in this
17 murderous industry.

18 Thank you and good afternoon.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

20 Next please.

21 OPERATOR: Thank you.

22 We will take our next comment from Kimberly Marrs
23 of KTM Equine.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead please.

25 MS. MARRS: Hello. I would just like to thank all

1 of you today for taking your time to listen and the consideration
2 on all the matters presented today before you.

3 I'd like to thank the Board for approving the dates
4 for Los Al and allowing the track to perform the reforms they
5 need to affect the change, just like Santa Anita has done.
6 Reforms aren't easy. They're going to take time. And look at
7 what Santa Anita has done. We're running a very safe race meet.

8 And I just want to let people know, you're not ever
9 going to eliminate all risk. Everything in life is a risk.
10 And horses go out and, like they said, they can do the dumbest
11 things and hurt themselves. And far more, probably, in the
12 private sector do horses get injured, kill themselves, whatever,
13 than you see in racing. But because racing is under such a
14 public scrutiny that puts you focused on.

15 There really needs to be a little bit more education,
16 self-education, I think, on the concerned citizen with regards
17 to EIPH bleeding and why it happens, why we use Lasix. And
18 I'm not a big proponent of Lasix. I've never really used a
19 lot of Lasix in my horses. It was never something that I really
20 felt I needed to use a lot. But from a standard of horse welfare,
21 I understand why it needs to be used. And I think at the current
22 levels that we're using it at, I think it's great if we can
23 keep doing that to help prevent potential problems down the
24 road.

25 Our industry is providing a lot of jobs for the industry.

1 And I really think that we just need to keep the ball rolling.
2 The Board's doing a great job. And let's just keep moving forward
3 with the positive changes for this industry and our horses.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Next please.

7 OPERATOR: Thank you.

8 We will take our next comment from Elvia Sedano, a
9 concerned citizen.

10 MS. SEDANO: Hello everyone.

11 Los Alamitos should not be getting all the attention.
12 Santa Anita is just as culpable when it comes to fatalities.
13 According to the Daily Racing Form, Bowies Hero was just euthanized
14 this week. His last start was on New Year's Day at Santa Anita.
15 He is listed as working out at Santa Anita for all of December.
16 He was just euthanized on January 18th after being treated at
17 a veterinary clinic in Southern California for laminitis.

18 Regardless of where this horse was injected with
19 euthanasia, this is a Santa Anita horse and should be counted
20 as such.

21 Then there is Cali Caliente, killed in training at
22 Santa Anita, listed as sudden death. Healthy young horses should
23 not be succumbing to sudden death. He was on the vet list for
24 bleeding less than two months ago. Was this poor horse drowning
25 in his own blood?

1 Another recent fatality was Abaco. This poor animal
2 collapsed and landed on his face. Of course, the racing replay
3 was completely butchered, but I have seen the original unedited
4 version as it actually happened. Why did Santa Anita edit this
5 video? Why can't they let the public see how much they love
6 their horses?

7 The fourth Santa Anita fatality from the last month
8 was Penelope Rose, a two-year-old filly who had never been raced.

9 There's one dead horse a week at Santa Anita which
10 puts this track right on schedule for their average of 50 deaths
11 a year.

12 It is 2021, time to phase out the racing of animals.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

15 Next please.

16 OPERATOR: Thank you.

17 And our next comment comes from Lynn Frudenberg, horse
18 advocate.

19 MS. FRUDENBERG: Good afternoon Commissioners. I
20 want to thank Commissioners Gonzales, Mitchell, and Davis for
21 standing behind the decision to limit Los Alamitos to a six-month
22 license. So sorry you were the minority. But you do give me
23 a glimpse of hope for the horses who continue to suffer at the
24 hands of Los Alamitos.

25 The rest of the Board has, once again, cowered to

1 Dr. Allred's bullying and threats. So shameful. I don't know
2 how you guys sleep at nighttime. Item agenda number three should
3 have never been brought up for discussion. I can only wish
4 I was a fly on the wall when closed-door discussions were happening
5 over this past month.

6 You know, horse advocates are stating facts. We are
7 not projecting feelings. So just -- we are just -- this is
8 truly factual information.

9 I can't tell you how blown away I was when a comment
10 was made about the percentage of horses who die in their stalls
11 of colic. This is not a small percentage of horses. This is
12 huge. This is due to poor management and lack of observation.
13 Colic is not a quick death. It is extremely painful for a horse.

14 You know, the industry seems to have a lack of concern
15 for the horses' health/injury, and along with their deaths,
16 not even stopping to mourn the death of their horse. They just
17 move on to the next race.

18 The more I learn about horse racing is the more I
19 want to see it shut down.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Next please.

23 OPERATOR: Thank you.

24 If you have a public comment, please press star one
25 now.

1 MR. MARTEN: There is no more in the queue.

2 OPERATOR: Correct.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Then the Board now will go into
4 executive session. At it's conclusion, we will reconvene the
5 public meeting for the sole procedural purpose of adjourning
6 the public meeting without further comment. Anyone wishing
7 to hear that meeting adjournment can use the link to audio webcast
8 on the CHRB website.

9 Can I have a motion? No, we don't adjourn now.

10 So with this, we'll go into closed session.

11 (The teleconference Board meeting of the
12 California Horse Racing Board convened in closed session.
13 at 2:08 p.m. and later adjourned.)

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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 26th day of January, 2021.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

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 26, 2021