MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

On Tuesday, January 21, 2020, a regular meeting of the Illinois Racing Board was held at the James R. Thompson Center, Chicago, Illinois starting at 11:00 a.m. The following Board members were present at the JRTC: Chairman Jeffrey Brincat and Commissioners Dan Beiser, Marcus Davis, Thomas McCauley, Arlene Mulder, Benjamin Reyes, and Gregory Sronce. Staff members Domenic DiCera, John Gay, Mickey Ezzo, and Michael Belmonte were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY
The Board entertained comments from the following speaker: Illinois thoroughbred breeder, owner, and trainer Chris Block.

LICENSEE REQUESTS
Commissioner Beiser moved for approval of race officials at Fairmount Park for calendar year 2020. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (7-0) by roll call vote.

Commissioner Sronce moved for approval of Fine Eatz, LLC for an occupation license to operate as the concessionaire at the intertrack wagering location at 1304 Cross Creek Drive, Normal, Illinois. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (7-0) by roll call vote.

BOARD REQUESTS
Commissioner Reyes moved for approval of the following contracting goals for calendar year 2020 for organization licensees pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Illinois Horse Racing Act: minority owned businesses – 11%; female owned businesses – 7%; and businesses owned by persons with disabilities – 2%. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Commissioner Sronce moved for approval of the certification of the following recapture amounts to be deducted from the purse accounts in calendar year 2020: Arlington Park Racecourse - $4,509,245; Hawthorne Race Course (thoroughbred) - $3,397,016; Hawthorne Race Course (harness) - $1,718,980; Fairmount Park (thoroughbred) - $1,862,419; and Fairmount Park Illinois Colt Stakes Fund - $27,283. Extensive discussion ensued regarding the calculations and timing of the payments. Chairman Brincat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (7-0) by roll call vote. Michael Campbell, David McCaffrey, and Chris Block appeared on behalf of the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (ITHA). Tony Petrillo, John Matter, and Shawn Wood appeared on behalf of Arlington Park Racecourse.

Commissioner Sronce moved for approval to initiate rulemaking to amend Sections 603.60 Permitted Use of Foreign Substances and Threshold Levels) and 603.210 (Androgenic Anabolic Steroids) and adopt the ARCI thresholds and changes to the Controlled Therapeutic Medication Schedule. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (7-0) by roll call vote.

Chairman Brincat moved for approval to initiate rulemaking to amend Section 1318.90 (Use of the Harness Whip) and adopt the ARCI model rule. Also, table the initiation of rulemaking to amend Section 1411.100 (Riding Crops). Extensive discussion ensued regarding the staff proposal to restrict use of the riding crop by jockeys. Commissioner Sronce seconded the motion. Tony Somone appeared on behalf of the Illinois Harness Horse Horsemen's Association. Jeff Johnston appeared on behalf of the Jockeys' Guild. Jim Miller appeared on behalf of Hawthorne Race Course. Michael Campbell appeared on behalf of the ITHA.

Status of contract negotiations between Arlington Park Racecourse and the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (ITHA). Michael Campbell, David McCaffrey, Chris Block, and Kerry Lavelle appeared on behalf of the ITHA. Tony Petrillo, Shawn Wood, and John Matter appeared on behalf of Arlington Park Racecourse.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Commissioner Sronce moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2019 Board meeting. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURMENT
At 2:45 p.m., Commissioner Reyes moved to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Brincat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Domenic DiCera
Executive Director