

PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

PUBLIC MEETING

MAY 15, 2008, 1:34 P.M.

MAHONING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER
4358 WEST STATE STREET
HILLSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

BEFORE:

MARY DiGIACOMO COLINS, CHAIRMAN
RAYMOND S. ANGELI
JEFFREY W. COY
JAMES B. GINTY
KENNETH T. McCABE
SANFORD RIVERS
GARY A. SOJKA

HILLARY M. HAZLETT, REPORTER
NOTARY PUBLIC

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1 CHAIRMAN DIGIACOMO COLINS: All right. We'll
2 begin now, if that's all right. Good afternoon. I'm
3 Mary Colins, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control
4 Board. I will ask everyone to turn off cell phones,
5 BlackBerries, and other electronic devices.

6 We had reserved on our agenda some time for
7 Penn National Gaming, Inc.; but at the present, there is
8 no need for us to -- we thought there might be a need to
9 have a record open in the event that there was
10 additional information that we had to put on the record.
11 That is not the case. So we do not need that time.

12 We will now go to the agenda for the public
13 meeting. A quorum is present and the meeting is now
14 called to order.

15 By way of announcement, we held an Executive
16 Session on May 14th in accordance with the Sunshine Act
17 to discuss personnel issues, privileged agency business,
18 and to consult with counsel and other professional
19 advisors to the Board concerning current litigations or
20 matters in which complaints are expected to be filed.

21 Now, we'll move to the matter of transcripts
22 and minutes. May I have a motion for the Board to
23 approve the minutes and transcript?

24 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Yes, Madam Chairman. I
25 move that the Board approve the minutes and transcripts

1 of the April 10, 2008 meeting.

2 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: All in favor?

4 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

5 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

6 Motion carries.

7 Now, to new business. I neglected to state
8 regarding Penn National that on May 29th Penn National
9 will be heard again. That matter will be taken up at
10 our public meeting.

11 All right. Anne, please go ahead.

12 MS. LaCOUR NEEB: All right. Thank you. The
13 first matter I have to report to the Board is request
14 for new hires. There are three individuals that have
15 been recommended for hire as casino agents.

16 The first one is Julia Foster-Franklin. She
17 would go to the Meadows.

18 The next one is Chris Madulla. He would be at
19 Mount Airy.

20 James Strouse at Penn National.

21 We also have an employee we are recommending
22 for hire as Shawn Flynn, who would be a technical field
23 representative assigned to the Gaming Laboratory.

24 So I would request at this time that the Board
25 approve those individuals for hire.

1 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
2 motion, please?

3 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Yes. I move that the
4 Board approve the hiring of the agency staff on the
5 basis that all employees have completed the necessary
6 background investigation and drug testing as required.

7 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Any questions or
9 comments?

10 All in favor?

11 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

13 Motion carries.

14 MS. LaCOUR NEEB: Thank you. The other matter
15 I have was in connection with some RFPs, Request For
16 Proposals.

17 As you know, the Board has from time to time
18 utilized the service of PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, to
19 provide financial suitability and drive-time analysis of
20 perspective licensing applications.

21 The process PGCB has used on several occasions
22 has been upheld by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court when
23 the Board's decisions have been challenged. I think
24 we're justifiably proud of the completeness and
25 thoroughness of the analysis that has guided the Board's

1 decision.

2 We're in the process of completing the analysis
3 of the Applicants for the final group of licenses to be
4 awarded; particularly, the Category 3 Resort Licenses
5 and one remaining Category 1 Track License.

6 As we complete that work, I want to thank the
7 staff and Pricewaterhouse, who has assisted us by
8 providing expert analysis as a guide in making
9 decisions, which have stood the ultimate test of
10 judicial scrutiny.

11 While the bulk of our licensing effort is
12 behind us, upcoming challenges may continue to require
13 that we consult with financial experts as we address the
14 changing structure of the industry we regulate.

15 Mergers and acquisitions in this industry occur
16 more frequently than in the past and require expert
17 regulatory review.

18 I believe we should issue a request for
19 competitive proposals now for a vendor to be able to
20 provide analysis to the Board when and if required.

21 I would like to request a motion authorizing
22 the issuance of an RFP for financial consulting
23 services.

24 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
25 motion?

1 Oh, are you finished? I'm sorry. I'm so
2 sorry. Keep going.

3 MS. LaCOUR NEEB: At this time, I would move
4 that the Board issue and request to accept proposals for
5 financial consulting.

6 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Madam Chair, I move that
7 the Board issue a request and accept proposals to
8 provide financial consultant services including but not
9 limited to financial suitability and analysis,
10 accounting services, and auditing services and training.

11 COMMISSIONER GINTY: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Any questions or
13 comments?

14 All in favor?

15 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

16 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

17 Motion carries.

18 MS. LaCOUR NEEB: Thank you. I would also ask
19 that we also do the same thing, request a proposal for
20 case management.

21 The PGCB has been working to develop a case
22 management system that will combine document imaging,
23 records management, and automated work flow routing and
24 enable us to streamline our procedures. The system must
25 communicate with multiple existing document retrieval

1 systems and databases.

2 Recently, the agency purchased a significant
3 amount of hardware and software for this system. We now
4 require the assistance of a vendor to work with our IT
5 staff to implement and customize and train users on the
6 case management document imaging system and to assist in
7 the conversion of existing documents and data.

8 I would like to request a motion authorizing
9 the issuance of an RFP for assistance in customizing our
10 acquired software and implementing a case management
11 system.

12 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
13 motion, please?

14 COMMISSIONER GINTY: So moved.

15 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Second?

16 COMMISSIONER COY: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Thank you.

18 Questions or comments?

19 All in favor?

20 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

22 Motion carries.

23 MS. LaCOUR NEEB: Thank you. I don't have any
24 other matters at this time. I think next is --

25 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Frank Donaghue.

1 Great. Thank you very much.

2 MR. DONAGHUE: Good afternoon. Our first order
3 of business, Chairman Colins and Board members, pertains
4 to proposed regulations and the Director of our
5 Regulatory Review, Richard Sandusky will present the
6 first matter to the Board.

7 MR. SANDUSKY: Good afternoon. The first item
8 for consideration today is proposed rulemaking to No.
9 125-88. This is a series of omnibus amendments to
10 Chapters 461a, 463a, 465a, and 467a.

11 Many of these amendments reflect existing
12 practice of the Board. Putting them in the regulations
13 will improve the ability for enforcement, if that is
14 ever an issue.

15 They involve some changes in terms of what we
16 will be requiring as part of internal controls. Lastly,
17 they also streamline the process for submitting small
18 amendments to what may be happening on the gaming floor,
19 such as relocation of slot machines or whatnot.

20 If there are any questions on the proposed
21 amendments, I would be happy to try and respond to them.
22 Otherwise, we would ask for a motion for approval.

23 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
24 motion, please?

25 COMMISSIONER COY: Madam Chair, after I

1 reviewed these at length last night, I'm prepared to
2 move that the Board adopt Proposed Regulation No. 125-88
3 amending Chapters 461a, 463a, 465a, and 467a and that
4 the Board establish a public comment period of 30 days
5 and that the proposed regulations be posted on the
6 Board's website.

7 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Will anyone second
8 Commissioner Coy's endorsement of these changes?

9 COMMISSIONER ANGELI: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: All right.

11 Questions or comments?

12 All in favor?

13 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

15 Motion carries.

16 MR. SANDUSKY: Thank you. The second item we
17 have for your consideration today is another Proposed
18 Rulemaking No. 125-89, which amends Chapters 435a, 441a,
19 and 465a.

20 These amendments are intended to make certain
21 improvements in terms of reporting violations that may
22 have occurred from either gaming or non-gaming employees
23 so that we can monitor the character requirements
24 required under the Act.

25 They also set some time frames for prompt

1 submission of paperwork-related applications to make
2 sure that nothing gets slowed down in the process and
3 also shift the responsibility for issuing temporary
4 licenses back to the Bureau of Licensing rather than
5 from the Casino Enforcement Agents at the facility.

6 These changes are all designed to improve the
7 administrative processes in the Bureau of Licensing. We
8 would be happy to answer any questions you may have. If
9 there aren't any, we would ask for a motion for
10 approval.

11 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
12 motion?

13 COMMISSIONER ANGELI: Yes. Madam Chairman, I
14 move that the Board adopt the Proposed Regulation No.
15 125-89 amending Chapters 435a, 441a, and 465a and that
16 the Board establish a public comment period of 30 days
17 and that the proposed regulations be posted on the
18 Board's website.

19 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Questions or
21 comments?

22 All in favor?

23 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

25 Motion carries.

1 MR. SANDUSKY: The final item we have for the
2 Board's consideration today is adoption of a Final-form
3 Rulemaking. What this rulemaking will do is bring the
4 renewal dates for the slot machine licenses consistent
5 with the approval date of the Board allowing Licensing
6 to sync both the applications for the slot machine
7 licensees and the principals and key employees all to
8 the same date, so they're all on one cycle.

9 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
10 motion, please?

11 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Yes. Madam Chairman, I
12 move that the Board adopt Final-form Regulation No.
13 125-81 amending Chapter 441a. As we always do, we ask
14 that the Final-form Regulation be posted on the Board's
15 website.

16 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Any questions or
18 comments?

19 All in favor?

20 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: All opposed?

22 Motion carries.

23 MR. SANDUSKY: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Thank you.

25 MR. DONAGHUE: Turning to the next order of

1 business as it relates to a petition for approval to add
2 nine additional slot machines to the gaming floor for
3 WTA at its temporary facility and for certain other
4 modifications.

5 This petition being considered on a documentary
6 record is that of WTA to add nine additional slot
7 machines to the gaming floor at its temporary facility
8 and for certain other modifications as presented.

9 The addition of nine slot machines to the
10 gaming floor at its temporary facility will not affect
11 the square footage of the existing gaming floor and no
12 additional surveillance cameras are needed.

13 The square footage of the gaming floor will
14 remain at 47,226 square feet. The number of machines
15 will increase to 1,825.

16 WTA also requests permission to create a new
17 entrance to permit additional patron access to the
18 facility. The door is currently an emergency exit. If
19 approved, ingress and egress by the public would be
20 monitored by a security officer stationed at the podium
21 -- portable podium, existing surveillance coverage of
22 this area as well.

23 Amendments to WTA's internal controls regarding
24 security staffing and the slot drop route have been
25 submitted to the Board's staff for review.

1 The Office of Enforcement Counsel has filed an
2 answer to the petition and does not object to these
3 requests outlined in this petition but does request that
4 WTA not be permitted to commence gaming activity on the
5 nine additional slot machines or utilize the emergency
6 door until they have met five conditions as set forth in
7 OEC's answer.

8 Counsel for WTA and OEC are present to address
9 any questions that the Board may have.

10 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Mr. Creany?

11 MR. CREANY: Barry Creany on behalf of the
12 Office of Enforcement Counsel. Just to correct the
13 record, there are five conditions; but Attorney Marie
14 Jones and I had worked on two additional points that are
15 after operations commence that have been worked into a
16 revised Order as well. We have no objections to the
17 petition and have worked out a Stipulated Order.

18 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Okay. We have that
19 Order. Very good.

20 Do you have any other comments?

21 MS. JONES: No. I agree with his comments.
22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Very good. We have
24 the Stipulated Order.

25 May I have a motion?

1 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Oh, I'm sorry. I was
2 reading the Order.

3 Madam Chair, I move that the Board approve the
4 petition submitted by Washington Trotting Association
5 for additional slot machines and modifications to the
6 temporary facility.

7 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
8 second?

9 COMMISSIONER GINTY: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Questions or
11 comments?

12 COMMISSIONER McCABE: I do have a question.

13 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Okay.

14 COMMISSIONER McCABE: That's why I was reading
15 it. Changing the emergency door exit, do you have an
16 opinion from the fire chief? Is that okay with him?

17 MR. CREANY: Yes, Commissioner. We have
18 submitted from the Office of the Gaming Operations, they
19 had submitted a letter that said that they felt -- let
20 me just see. I have the wrong folder. We did receive a
21 letter through Kevin Hayes that they had no problems
22 with that change, I believe.

23 MS. JONES: That is correct. The fire
24 department has gone on the record saying that they are
25 okay with it.

1 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Very good. We have
3 a second, right?

4 Okay. All in favor?

5 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

7 Motion carries.

8 MS. JONES: Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Thank you very
10 much.

11 MR. DONAGHUE: The second petition before the
12 Board today was received by W&W Glass, LLC, requesting
13 removal from the list of prohibited vendors.

14 Counsel for W&W Glass is present to address the
15 reasons for this request.

16 MS. KAUFMAN: Good afternoon. Lynne Kaufman
17 for Cooper Levinson. I would just like to give a little
18 background to the request.

19 W&W Glass is a manufacturer and supplier of
20 specialty glass. In December of 2005, they entered into
21 an agreement with TN Ward to perform services as a
22 subcontractor in connection with Harrah's Chester.

23 They completed the services in September of
24 2006. Later in September of 2006, they received a
25 letter from TN Ward requesting them to fill a vendor

1 certification and application form in order to be able
2 to continue services.

3 Since they had already finished providing
4 services and had no intention to ever provide services
5 to other slot machine -- slot machine licensees in
6 Pennsylvania, they decided not to complete the form.

7 They were placed on the Prohibited Vendors List
8 in February of 2008. As luck would have it, in March,
9 they received an opportunity to perform services as a
10 subcontractor in connection with the Majestic Star
11 project.

12 At that time, they reconsidered the previous
13 decision and decided they did want to conduct business
14 with slot machine licenses in Pennsylvania.

15 At the time they had initially entered into the
16 contract with TN Ward, they did not know about the
17 subcontractor licensing requirements. In fact, at that
18 time, they hadn't been quite established.

19 Section 437(a)(d) of the regulations provides
20 that a vendor can be removed from the Prohibited Vendors
21 List if it was placed on there for failure to file a
22 form by filing a completed vendor certification
23 application and petitioning the Board.

24 Therefore, I'm here before you today to request
25 that W&W Glass be removed from the Prohibited Vendor

1 List.

2 MR. PITRE: Office of Enforcement Counsel,
3 Cyrus Pitre. We have confirmed with the Bureau of
4 Licensing that W&W has submitted the required
5 application and the necessary application fee.

6 So, we have no objection to the Board's taking
7 under consideration these facts and removing them from
8 the Prohibited Vendors List.

9 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Are there any
10 questions?

11 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Yes, Madam Chair. I have
12 a question. I guess my question really is of Susan. At
13 what point did we notify them that they needed to be on
14 -- to fill out the application for the Vendors List for
15 the work that they have completed?

16 MS. HENSEL: We communicate with each of the
17 facilities and require the facilities to communicate to
18 their vendors; if they have a general contractor,
19 through the general contractor; or if they have a
20 relationship with the vendor, to the vendor itself that
21 they must file.

22 The vendor regulations and the vendor process
23 has been an evolving process. Very early on, you know,
24 we were ramping up and I think that that communication
25 is better today than it maybe was at the very beginning

1 of our process.

2 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: My question really is
3 specifically, when did we notify W&W that they needed to
4 fill out the application?

5 MS. HENSEL: I believe that was in --

6 MS. KAUFMAN: W&W was notified by TN Ward on
7 September 12th of 2006.

8 MS. HENSEL: And that would have been as a
9 result of communication that we had with the facility
10 and its general contractor to get its contractors into
11 the system.

12 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: I guess, how did
13 they get onto the Prohibited Vendors List?

14 MS. HENSEL: They were put on the Prohibited
15 Vendors List after we sent a number of letters to W&W
16 Glass indicating that they had not -- that first they
17 should file an application because they had conducted
18 work with the slot operator.

19 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: How did we find
20 that out, that they were conducting work with a slot
21 operator?

22 MS. HENSEL: We receive disbursement reports
23 from all of the facilities and that allows us to see who
24 has done business with the facility and who is doing
25 business with the facility.

1 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: So, it's all part
2 of the way that Licensing checks on whether or not
3 vendors are appropriately licensed?

4 MS. HENSEL: That is correct. We monitor all
5 of the vendor transactions.

6 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Okay. Good.

7 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Given that situation, how
8 are they able then to land another contract when, in
9 fact, they are not a certified vendor the second time
10 around?

11 MS. HENSEL: They would not be allowed to
12 conduct business with another facility if they're on the
13 Prohibited Vendors List. I don't know what the status
14 of the contractual relationship is.

15 MS. KAUFMAN: What happened is because they are
16 a speciality glass provider and they had provided
17 services, they were contacted by a contractor to provide
18 services.

19 However, it couldn't go any further because
20 they are on the Prohibited Vendors List. That is why
21 they completed the application.

22 COMMISSIONER GINTY: Cyrus, you have no problem
23 with that.

24 MR. PITRE: We are fine with W&W now.

25 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Okay. Good.

1 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: You answered my
2 questions.

3 COMMISSIONER GINTY: Madam Chairman, I move
4 that the Board approve the petition submitted by W&W
5 Glass Corporation to be removed from the Prohibited
6 Vendor List.

7 COMMISSIONER COY: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: All in favor
9 opposed?

10 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

11 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

12 Motion carries.

13 MS. KAUFMAN: Thank you.

14 MR. DONAGHUE: And that concludes the Office of
15 Chief Counsel's report.

16 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Thank you very
17 much. Thank you.

18 Susan Hensel, Director of Licensing.

19 MS. HENSEL: Thank you, Chairman Colins and
20 members of the Board. I have two matters to bring to
21 your attention today.

22 The first matter is a Proposed Order certifying
23 the following eight vendors; Associated Components,
24 Battaglia Electric, Inc., Cash Systems, Inc., Dempsey
25 Uniforms and Linens Supply, Inc., Gasser Chair Company,

1 Inc., Pace CM, Inc., Pareci Incorporated, and
2 Specialized Productions Incorporated.

3 Each of these vendor applicants have submitted
4 applications and have been investigated by the Bureau of
5 Investigations and Enforcement. I ask that the Board
6 adopt a motion approving the Order.

7 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: May I have a
8 motion, please?

9 COMMISSIONER COY: Madam Chairman, I move that
10 the Board approve the order approving the applications
11 for vendor certification.

12 COMMISSIONER ANGELI: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Questions or
14 comments?

15 All in favor?

16 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

17 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

18 Motion carries.

19 MS. HENSEL: Next, the Bureau of Licensing is
20 proposing an Order that would delegate to the Director
21 of Licensing authority to approve the routine withdrawal
22 of permanent registration and licensing applications.

23 Examples of routine withdrawals would include
24 situations where a job offer was rescinded, an applicant
25 declined a job offer, or the employee was terminated

1 prior to the Board acting to approve or deny the
2 application.

3 In cases of license applications for key
4 employees or principals, the delegated authority would
5 be limited to those situations where an individual
6 becomes deceased prior to the application being acted
7 on.

8 The Bureau of Licensing is proposing this
9 delegation of authority as a means of streamlining the
10 withdrawal process.

11 I ask that the Board consider the Order
12 delegating the authority to the Director of Licensing.

13 COMMISSIONER ANGELI: Madam Chairman, I move
14 the Board approve an Order for routine withdrawals of
15 licensing applications as described by the Bureau of
16 Licensing.

17 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Any questions or
19 comments?

20 All in favor?

21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

23 Motion carries.

24 MS. HENSEL: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Thank you very

1 much.

2 Next is Melinda Tucker, Director of Racetrack
3 Gaming.

4 MS. TUCKER: Good afternoon, Chairman Colins
5 and members of the Board. As you know, Act 71 and its
6 later amendments is intended to positively impact horse
7 racing, horse breeding, and horsemen in the
8 Commonwealth.

9 In connection with this statutory intent, I am
10 offering a Resolution for the Board's consideration that
11 addresses an issue that has come to the forefront
12 recently in the horse racing industry. That is the
13 issue of the health, safety, and wellness of the equine
14 athlete.

15 The Resolution that I am asking you to consider
16 reads as follows:

17 Whereas, the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development
18 and Gaming Act of 2004 is delivering on its promise of
19 strengthening Commonwealth's horse and harness racing
20 industries.

21 To date, slot machine gaming has generated more
22 than \$190 million for purses, breeder and sire stakes
23 awards, and health and pension benefits for horsemen,
24 their families and employees.

25 And whereas, the Gaming Control Board through

1 its Director of Racetrack Gaming works closely with the
2 racing industry and the Horse and Harness Racing
3 Commissions to ensure the Gaming's Act provisions
4 related to racing are followed.

5 And whereas, the Board applauds the recent
6 action by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture,
7 the Horse and Harness Racing Commissions and Governor
8 Rendell to protect the equine athlete by banning
9 anabolic steroids in racing.

10 And whereas, catastrophic injuries to horses on
11 the national stage including 2006 Kentucky Derby winner
12 Barbaro and the filly Eight Belles in this year's Derby
13 have focused attention on the need for a comprehensive
14 examination of every facet of equine health ranging from
15 breeding practices to medication.

16 And whereas, racetracks located at Philadelphia
17 Park, Penn National, Presque Isle Downs, Mohegan Sun,
18 Harrah's Chester, the Meadows, and the future Valley
19 View Downs represent an important economic engine in
20 Pennsylvania. Together, they produce an annual economic
21 impact in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

22 And whereas, funding for horse health and
23 welfare is a worthwhile investment in the future of an
24 important industry. Pennsylvania is home to outstanding
25 equine researchers and facilities.

1 And whereas the Board recognizes it does not
2 have regulatory oversight in the area of horse health
3 and safety; but nevertheless, offers its support and
4 cooperation to the Horse and Harness Racing Commissions,
5 the Department of Agriculture, horsemen, breeders, and
6 all other stakeholders who are committed to the health
7 and welfare of the equine athlete.

8 Now be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Gaming
9 Control Board supports efforts to invest in horse health
10 and welfare, to prevent and manage life-threatening
11 athletic industries, prevent economic loss, ensure the
12 integrity of racing, improve the health of the industry,
13 increase the longevity of competing and breeding horses,
14 and maintain the strength of the gene pool.

15 Upon Motion duly made and seconded, the
16 foregoing Resolution was adopted on May the 15th, 2008.

17 At this time, I ask that the Board move to
18 adopt this Resolution.

19 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Very good.

20 May I have a motion?

21 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Yes. Madam Chairman, I
22 move that the Board approve Resolution 2008-4-RG
23 regarding horse health and safety.

24 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Second.

25 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Now, are there any

1 questions or comments from the Board?

2 COMMISSIONER SOJKA: Yeah. First of all, just
3 a couple of things that I would like to highlight
4 because it's a fairly long resolution.

5 The first is I want to really make it clear
6 that this Board through this Resolution is not
7 attempting to overreach or to move into a jurisdiction
8 of where it doesn't have authority.

9 We are, however, I think, responsible for
10 making sure that this is an industry that continues to
11 make the kind of progress that it has. I think we're
12 all aware that these -- this recent rash of catastrophic
13 breakdowns is a serious threat to the industry itself.

14 We would like very much to be supportive of the
15 efforts that we know are beginning in state and have
16 been ongoing in the Commonwealth.

17 I think the second important point that we
18 shouldn't miss is Pennsylvania has made great strides in
19 the size of its purses and incentives that it has had to
20 build the racing industry but a less highly publicized
21 issue has been the very positive steps that Pennsylvania
22 has been taking in already moving toward improving
23 health and safety with its very good regulations having
24 to do with doping issues in horses.

25 We are a national leader in that area.

1 Finally, if there are going to be significant
2 improvements in equine health and safety, those
3 improvements very likely could come from this
4 Commonwealth, where we have a concentration of
5 outstanding researchers who work on equine health and
6 safety and I know stand eager and ready to work with
7 whatever entities can help support this kind of
8 activity.

9 Finally, I would like to compliment Melinda for
10 the work on this and Paul Resch and also point out that
11 they have reached out to the Department of Agriculture
12 and have reached out to the horse and harness people and
13 that some of their input is already built into this --
14 I'm sorry not the horse and harness people but the
15 thoroughbred people and their input has been built into
16 this document.

17 We are in continuing communication with them.
18 Hopefully, we will have a representative from the
19 Thoroughbred Association at one of our upcoming
20 meetings.

21 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: We will. Thank
22 you. Thank you very much.

23 All right. May I have a vote?

24 All in favor?

25 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Opposed?

2 Motion carries. The Resolution is adopted.

3 Thank you very much.

4 MS. TUCKER: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: That now concludes
6 our business. Our next meeting will be on May 29th at
7 1:00 p.m. in the North Office Building, Hearing Room 1.

8 May I have a motion to adjourn?

9 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: So moved.

10 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: Second?

11 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: All in favor?

13 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN DiGIACOMO COLINS: We are adjourned.

15 (The meeting concluded at 1:47 p.m.)

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1 I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are
2 contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me
3 on the within proceedings and that this is a correct
4 transcript of the same.

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Hillary M. Hazlett, Reporter
Notary Public

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