

NEBRASKA RACING & GAMING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: August 15, 2025
TIME: 1:30 PM
LOCATION: Webex

PRESENT:

Dennis P. Lee Chairman
Janell Beveridge Vice Chairman
Helen Feller Commissioner
Chris Stinson Commissioner
Tony Fulton Commissioner
Jeffrey Galyen Commissioner
John Barrett Commissioner

Chairman Lee convened the meeting at 1:30 PM in compliance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 84-1411. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on August 6, 2025. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to those on the Racing and Gaming Commission agenda mailing list. A notification was given to the public of the open meetings law and notification of its location for public view.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Lee moved, seconded by Commissioner Feller, to enter Executive Session.

Voting Aye: Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Beveridge, Barrett, Lee

Abstaining: Galyen

Motion carried.

The Commission entered Executive Session at 1:36 PM for approximately 30 minutes. No votes or actions were taken during Executive Session, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

RECONVENE MEETING

The Commission reconvened the meeting at approximately 2:38 PM following Executive Session. Chairman Lee confirmed that no votes or actions were taken during Executive Session, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. It was noted for the record that a quorum was present, with all seven commissioners in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fulton moved, seconded by Barrett, to approve June 20, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

Voting Aye: Stinson, Fulton, Beveridge, Barrett, Lee

Voting Abstain: Feller.

Motion carried.

Lee moved, seconded by Beveridge, to approve the June and July 2025 Financial Reports.

Voting Aye: Stinson, Fulton, Feller, Beveridge, Barrett, Lee

Voting Abstain: Galyen

Motion carried.

NEW NRGC STAFF

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts introduced the new staff members:

- a. Investigator – Ron Kosiba
- b. Gaming Compliance Representative – Inri Dimas Garcia
- c. Licensing Specialist – Jaclyn Oakeson
- d. Accountant II – Paul Jones

No motion was carried.

SIMULCAST AGREEMENTS

The Commission considered the ratification of staff approval for the following simulcast agreements:

- a. Horsemen's Park
- b. Atokad
- c. HER/Ogallala

Fulton moved, seconded by Feller, to ratify the staff's approval of all three simulcast agreements.

Voting Aye: Stinson, Fulton, Feller, Beveridge, Barrett, Lee, Galyen

Motion carried.

COMMISSION TIMELINE STANDARDS FOR ALL OUTSTANDING RACETRACK CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts recommended adoption of timeline standards for all outstanding racetrack construction projects. Commissioners and industry representatives raised concerns regarding feasibility and requested additional time to review the proposal.

Galyen moved, seconded by Feller, to table consideration of the timeline standards until the next meeting.

Voting Aye: Galyen, Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Beveridge, Lee

Voting No: Barrett

Motion carried.

A committee of Director Ricketts, Deputy Director Holman, Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Stinson, and Commissioner Feller was formed to meet with industry representatives and provide recommendations at the next meeting.

ATOKAD/ SOUTH SIOUX CITY RACING

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts summarized the Atokad racetrack operator license application, noting that site inspections had been completed and temporary facilities were in place for the one-day race on August 16, 2025.

Lee moved, seconded by Feller, to approve the Atokad racetrack operator license for August 16, 2025, subject to the recommended conditions.

Voting Aye: Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Barrett, Beveridge, Lee

Voting No: Galyen

Motion carried.

HER/OGALLALA

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts summarized the HER/Ogallala racetrack operator license application. Following discussion, the Commission approved the racetrack operator license for 2025, subject to the condition that no payments be made to the for-profit PTC (Prairie Thunder Casino LLC) or its members until further order of the Commission.

Beveridge moved, seconded by Feller, to approve the HER/Ogallala racetrack operator license for 2025, subject to the stated condition.

Voting Aye: Galyen, Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Barrett, Beveridge, Lee

Motion carried.

LAKE MAC CASINO RESORT & RACETRACK

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts summarized the application to open a temporary casino at Lake Mac Casino Racetrack and Resort, including requests to approve the boundaries of the gaming floor and the sports wagering area.

Galyen moved, seconded by Beveridge, to approve the temporary casino license, boundaries of the gaming floor, and sports wagering area for Lake Mac Casino Racetrack and Resort, subject to the condition that no payments be made to PTC until further order of the Commission.

Voting Aye: Galyen, Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Barrett, Beveridge, Lee
Motion carried.

MEETINGS WITH ASSOCIATIONS

Speaking on behalf of the Nebraska Thoroughbred Breeders Association, Julie Larmon provided an update on association activities.

Speaking on behalf of the Nebraska Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Lynne McNally discussed ongoing racing and facility development.

Speaking on behalf of the Nebraska Quarter Horse Racing Association, Ed Ziemba provided an update on upcoming races.

Speaking on behalf of the Nebraska Quarter Horse Breeders Association, Ed Ziemba provided an update on breeder activities.

The Thoroughbred Racing Association of Nebraska had no update.
This was for informational purposes only. No motion was carried.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

NRGC Executive Director Casey Ricketts provided an update on recent staff hiring, including new team members and ongoing recruitment for open positions. She noted the agency's continued growth, with staffing expected to reach 48 during the racing season.

This was for informational purposes only. No motion was carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Lee moved to adjourn the meeting.

Beveridge seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Galyen, Fulton, Stinson, Feller, Barrett, Beveridge, Lee
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 PM.