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MEETING
STATE RACE TRACK LEASING COMMISSION
DEL MAR RACE TRACK AUTHORITY

DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS
2260 JIMMY DURANTE BOULEVARD
DEL MAR, CALIFORNIA 92014
Friday, September 5, 2025

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IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS:

MICHELE PERRAULT, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE; SRTLCH CHAIR
ANA M. LASSO, DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
MICHAEL FLORES, DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
MARK ARABO, 22ND DAA; RTA PRESIDENT
LISA BARKETT, 22ND DAA
KATHLYN MEAD, 22ND DAA

22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION STAFF:

CARLENE MOORE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MICHAEL SADEGH, RTA TREASURER
MOLLY ARNOLD, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HENRY RIVERA, PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION COUNSEL:

JOSHUA CAPLAN, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

OTHERS PRESENT:

JOSH RUBINSTEIN, PRESIDENT, DEL MAR THOROUGHBRED CLUB

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

OSCAR DE LE TORRE
MARIA LUISA

1 [Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m.]

2 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay, all right.

3 Good afternoon.

4 It is 1:32 on Friday, September, it is not the 2nd,

5 September 5th.

6 September 5th.

7 And I'm going to go ahead and call the meeting of the

8 State Race Track Leasing Commission to order.

9 Molly, if we could please call the roll.

10 MS. ARNOLD: Chair Perrault.

11 CHAIR PERRAULT: Present.

12 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Flores.

13 MR. FLORES: Present.

14 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Lasso.

15 MS. LASSO: Present.

16 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Arabo.

17 MR. ARABO: Present.

18 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Barkett.

19 MS. BARKETT: Present.

20 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Mead.

21 MS. MEAD: Here.

22 CHAIR PERRAULT: Great.

23 We have a quorum.

24 With that, I'm going to go ahead and move on now to item

1 2, which is the approval of the minutes.

2 We are going to consider our meeting minutes which were
3 from March 21st, 2025.

4 Before I entertain a motion, do we have any comments or
5 questions from board members on the minutes?

6 MS. LASSO: I was not here so I'll abstain.

7 CHAIR PERRAULT: That's not a problem.

8 And I'm sorry.

9 I should say commissioners, not board members.

10 My apologies.

11 Is there anybody from the public in the room who would
12 wish to speak on the minutes from March 21st?

13 Seeing none, and I do not show any online.

14 So with that, do we have a motion to approve the minutes
15 from March 21st, 2025?

16 MR. FLORES: So moved.

17 CHAIR PERRAULT: Moved by Commissioner Flores.

18 Is there a second?

19 MS. BARKETT: Second.

20 CHAIR PERRAULT: Second by Commissioner Barkett.

21 If we could please have a roll call.

22 MS. ARNOLD: Chair Perrault.

23 CHAIR PERRAULT: Aye.

24 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Flores.

1 MR. FLORES: Aye.

2 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Lasso.

3 MS. LASSO: Abstain.

4 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Arabo.

5 MR. ARABO: Aye.

6 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Barkett.

7 MS. BARKETT: Aye.

8 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Mead.

9 MS. MEAD: Aye.

10 CHAIR PERRAULT: Great.

11 Thank you so much.

12 That motion carries.

13 We'll now go ahead and move on to item 3, which is our

14 reports.

15 This is an information only item.

16 The commission will not be taking action on these reports

17 today.

18 But we are joined today by Del Mar Thoroughbred Club Chief

19 Operating Officer and President Josh Rubinstein to present on

20 the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club's 2025 Summer Race Meet and our

21 upcoming 2025 Breeders' Cup.

22 So Josh.

23 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you.

24 Is this on?

1 Good?

2 Good afternoon, commissioners and staff.

3 Josh Rubinstein with the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

4 Before we report on the Summer Meet and the Breeders' Cup,
5 a few remarks on the new single circuit in California racing.

6 As we reported at the last meeting in 2025, California
7 shifted its thoroughbred racing to a single circuit.

8 Running at the state south tracks, Del Mar, Santa Anita,
9 and Los Alamitos.

10 Previously there had been two parallel circuits in
11 California in the north and south.

12 The new single circuit structure provides operating
13 efficiencies and higher purses.

14 For example, purses at the Del Mar Summer Meet are more
15 than double those of comparable races run in Northern
16 California last year.

17 We applaud Northern California horsemen and horsewomen
18 that made the transition south.

19 Now a few comments on our eight week Summer Race Meet,
20 which will conclude on Sunday.

21 Del Mar began its 89th summer season on July 18th.

22 As usual, we had a sold-out crowd enjoying a day of world-
23 class thoroughbred racing at the beautiful Del Mar Fairgrounds
24 and racetrack.

1 With only three days remaining, the meet has delivered
2 very strong results, including increases in handle, which is
3 wagering, field size and attendance.

4 Food and beverage sales during the summer meet are
5 expected to exceed \$11 million with revenues going directly to
6 the 22nd DAA.

7 Beyond its financial contribution to the DAA and the
8 Racetrack Authority, horse racing at the fairgrounds has a
9 tremendous positive impact on the local community.

10 Many local businesses rely on race goers each summer and
11 fall.

12 And in 2024, the positive economic impact from horse
13 racing at the fairgrounds was over \$300 million.

14 Additionally, more than 3,500 people are employed at the
15 fairgrounds each summer as a direct result of the racing
16 season.

17 You've heard us report on this before but the importance
18 of equine safety and welfare remains Del Mar's top priority.

19 Over the course of the summer season at Del Mar it's
20 estimated that more than 80,000 high-speed equine events occur
21 between morning training and live racing.

22 Del Mar continues to maintain its standing as among the
23 safest racetracks in the country, a distinction we take great
24 pride in.

1 So I'll take a pause here and see if there are any
2 questions or comments before moving on to the Breeders' Cup.

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: Any questions or comments?

4 Yes, Commissioner Arabo.

5 MR. ARABO: I have a comment.

6 Thank you, Josh, for coming.

7 And I see that we have Bill Strauss here from your board.

8 Thank you, Bill and Chris for your council.

9 I want to thank the DMTC very much for you're a driver for
10 our economic engine, your commitment to equine safety.

11 We're so lucky to have you guys.

12 And thank you for your commitment to trying to be the
13 safest racetrack in the country.

14 And what you're doing for backstretch workers.

15 As always if there is anything we should consider or look
16 at, please let us know.

17 And we're very grateful.

18 And I don't know if you could have maybe, always like to
19 hear from horse owners.

20 If Bill wants to come with any words, a report under DMTC,
21 I would love to hear any comments he may have of the meet so
22 far.

23 As far as the macro, you guys are doing an incredible job.

24 And thank you for everything you do.

1 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you for those comments, Commissioner
2 Arabo.

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you.

4 Yes?

5 Commissioner Flores.

6 MR. FLORES: Yeah, I wanted to take this opportunity to
7 also thank you folks for what, you know, a lot of folks
8 consider a difficult situation in dealing with Northern
9 California horse racing and the multiple fairgrounds that it
10 affected, impacted and the fact that I think that the deal
11 that was worked out was beneficial to those in the north.

12 And I want to applaud your efforts and how cooperative you
13 were in working and open moving forward.

14 So thank you.

15 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you, Commissioner Flores.

16 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yes?

17 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

18 Josh, I missed the number of employees that have been able
19 to enjoy jobs during the summer.

20 Can you break that down a little for us in terms of the
21 categories of employees?

22 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Sure.

23 So the total number during the summer is 3,500.

24 We, Del Mar, we employee approximately 1,000.

1 Premier employs approximately 850.

2 Premier is the concessionaire.

3 And then the remaining, there are independent contractors
4 that work directly with the horses.

5 So it's the trainers, their staff, blacksmiths,
6 veterinarians, grooms, exercise riders, it's a whole community
7 back there.

8 We have close to 2,000 horses, so it's a whole community
9 back there that takes care of the horses.

10 So in all, total it's 3,500 people.

11 MS. MEAD: Josh, just a quick follow-on question.

12 Is the DMTC still providing meals for the backstretch
13 workers?

14 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Yeah, thank you for bringing that up,
15 Commissioner Mead.

16 We are providing free meals to the backstretch community
17 every racing day and then the day before racing.

18 We estimate that over the eight weeks we'll provide
19 approximately 21,000 free meals to backstretch workers.

20 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

21 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you.

22 CHAIR PERRAULT: Commissioner Barkett.

23 MS. BARKETT: Thank you so much.

24 I just want to compliment DMTC on an amazing race meet.

1 I know it's not over yet but we're looking really good
2 right now.

3 And the numbers are amazing both in attendance and F&B and
4 the handle.

5 And so I just want to say congratulations a little early.

6 But it really is something to see a successful year in
7 light of the past years.

8 So I want to thank you.

9 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you for those comments, Commissioner
10 Barkett.

11 And I would be remiss if I didn't bring up the
12 relationship, the worker relationship that DMTC has with the
13 22nd DAA.

14 There's no way we could put on a race meet let alone as
15 successfully as we do without the support from Carlene and her
16 team.

17 Turning this facility over from a fairgrounds that, you
18 know, ended July 5th, and we opened July 18th, it's really
19 incredible.

20 And once racing begins, Carlene and her team are always
21 available.

22 So it really is a team effort between our two
23 organizations.

24 I'll just give a few comments on the Breeders' Cup.

1 And we are thrilled to be hosting the Breeders' Cup, which
2 is the Super Bowl of horse racing, on October 31st and
3 November 1st.

4 And this marks the fourth time in the last nine years that
5 the fairgrounds has hosted the Breeders' Cup.

6 And think about that, four times in nine years.

7 That's something that we all should be proud of, the
8 commission, the DAA, DMTC.

9 So you know it says a lot.

10 Not just about this facility but also the way San Diego
11 embraces horse racing at Del Mar.

12 The Breeders' Cup is truly an international event
13 featuring the world's best horses, jockeys and trainers
14 competing in 14 championship races worth over \$34 billion.

15 Local hotels and restaurants will be at full capacity
16 Breeders' Cup week as a global audience descends upon San
17 Diego.

18 And we hope that all commissioners are able to attend this
19 really terrific event.

20 So that's all of the comments I have.

21 And happy to answer any questions.

22 CHAIR PERRAULT: Great.

23 Thank you.

24 Additional comments, commissioners?

1 MR. ARABO: I have one quick question.

2 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yes, Commissioner Arabo.

3 MR. ARABO: Clarification.

4 Josh, remind us for, you said that DMTC is such a big part
5 of the 22nd DAA and commission's survival economically, remind
6 us for the current contract, when does it run to and then to
7 the bonds, when do they expire?

8 When are they due?

9 MR. RUBINSTEIN: So we are in the final five-year term of
10 our operating agreement, which expires December 31st, 2030.

11 So essentially, we have five years to go.

12 And I'm not probably the best person to speak on the
13 bonds.

14 But I believe the repayment schedule on the bonds and you
15 know that's more of an RTA item, the bond repayment schedule
16 is through 2038.

17 And those bonds were used to build the grandstand in 1991
18 but also beyond that and since that time, facility
19 improvements and upgrades, you know, over the last 25-plus
20 years.

21 MR. ARABO: Okay.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIR PERRAULT: All right.

24 Additional -- yes, Commissioner Mead.

1 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

2 Josh, I just want to congratulate you and your team.

3 And thank you for bringing the Breeders' Cup again two
4 years back to back, not only five years over that, or five
5 times over that nine years, but the back-to-back years is very
6 special.

7 And we're delighted that you've -- entrust that you have
8 been entrusted by the Breeders' Cup to bring the Breeders' Cup
9 to San Diego.

10 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Thank you, Commissioner Mead.

11 It really, it's a great event.

12 And as I said, it's a testament to this facility, to the
13 teams that we have working here and also the support San Diego
14 community has toward horse racing.

15 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you.

16 Any others?

17 I'll just echo the comments already stated.

18 And Josh, I do appreciate the additional information
19 related to sort of the impacts that we were or were not
20 anticipating related to, you know, Del Mar becoming it in
21 California.

22 And so, appreciate that.

23 And would love if, again, I know our body here only gets
24 together a couple of times a year but would like to continue

1 to sort of hear how it's going.

2 I'm glad that it seems to be moving in the right direction
3 and we could be looking at something much differently today.

4 So glad to continue to hear updates as we continue to sort
5 of make that transition, you know, in a longer term.

6 So with that, we do -- are going to move to public comment
7 on item 3.

8 So what we'll do is take any public comment here in the
9 room first.

10 Is there anybody in the public in the room that would like
11 to speak?

12 Come on up, please.

13 I'm not trying to force you but please.

14 BILL STRAUSS: It's a big mistake.

15 CHAIR PERRAULT: And just as a reminder, just to be fair
16 speaker time is limited to two minutes per speaker.

17 MR. STRAUSS: Oh, don't worry about that.

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: And you can't cede your time, my friend,
19 but go for it.

20 MR. STRAUSS: So I'm Bill Strauss.

21 I'm on the Board of Directors of the Del Mar Thoroughbred
22 Club.

23 And more importantly to the point Mark made, I'm actually
24 a horse owner, which is my passion, it's in my blood and I

1 love it.

2 And I do try to compete at the highest level in the game.

3 So I have horses running literally all over the country on
4 any given weekend.

5 West Virginia, Delaware, Saratoga, I mean, you name the
6 track I've probably been there in the last 12 months.

7 I can tell you without a doubt when I know my horses are
8 going to be running here at Del Mar, I have no concerns about
9 whether not only my horse will be in tip-top shape and ready
10 to run, but equally important how are the other horses in the
11 races going to be performing as well.

12 Because your horse can be great but if you have some other
13 issues that can cause you issues.

14 This track, you know, after the protocols they set up a
15 few years ago, it's the best and the highest standards that
16 I've seen in the industry.

17 And I don't think twice about running my horse at this
18 racetrack at any level at this racetrack.

19 It gives me a very warm and comfortable feeling to know
20 what we have in place that Josh and his team put together and
21 working with this group as well.

22 So it's just a pleasure to run horses here.

23 And I feel good about it when they go in the starting gate
24 it's going to be a really well-run race and everybody is going

1 to come back safe and sound.

2 That's certainly what's gone on.

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much.

4 Appreciate it.

5 Seeing no other public comment in the room.

6 No?

7 Okay, I do believe we have three individuals who signed up
8 for public comment remotely.

9 So Molly.

10 Let's see.

11 I can't see everybody, so I'll go ahead and call the first
12 name.

13 And just as a reminder, you'll have 2 minutes.

14 And Molly will be helping us keep time here.

15 So Jim Coleman, if you are online, go ahead and unmute
16 yourself and you may begin your comments.

17 JIM COLEMAN: Good afternoon, commissioners.

18 I've been a local resident, business owner for over 40
19 years.

20 And I want to use my time to support and comment on the
21 tremendous positive impact the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club has
22 on our community and area.

23 Not only to the excitement of world-class horse racing
24 that impacts our area but by the way they conduct their

1 operations and by being such good neighbors.

2 DMTC is known for doing things the right way and it served
3 a national reputation for professionalism and integrity which
4 draws visitors, fans and horsemen from across the country.

5 That translates directly into an economic boost for our
6 region.

7 Every summer and fall, the Del Mar racing season fills our
8 hotels, restaurants, shops, visitors extend their stays to
9 explore our region and spend money with our local businesses
10 that depend on that seasonal boost.

11 DMTC also supports thousands of jobs, which you've heard
12 already.

13 Equally important is the DMTC's commitment to community
14 beyond racing.

15 It's been a consistent supporter of our local charities,
16 funding local youth programs, health initiatives and
17 partnering with organizations providing services for families,
18 education and veterans, reinforcing their role as a
19 responsible community partner.

20 In short, DMTC's leadership provides a model of how
21 thoroughbred racing benefits its state, its local businesses,
22 and its community.

23 Thank you very much.

24 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much for your comments.

1 Next in the queue I'm going to call but it looks like
2 perhaps is not in the queue but Oscar de la Torre, are you in
3 the queue?

4 MR. RIVERA: He's still not in the queue.

5 CHAIR PERRAULT: Still not in the queue.

6 Okay.

7 We're going to go ahead and move on to the next speaker.

8 And if Mr.

9 De la Torre ends up back in the queue, we'll go ahead and
10 call out of order.

11 Next up is Maria Luisa.

12 Are you in the queue?

13 Go ahead and unmute yourself and you may begin your
14 comments.

15 MR. RIVERA: I think Oscar might have been listed as the
16 wrong person.

17 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

18 MR. RIVERA: So he got a hand up.

19 And I put him in the queue as Maria Luisa.

20 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

21 Okay.

22 Well, I have both on my list.

23 So either Oscar or Maria, go ahead and unmute yourself and
24 you may give your comment.

1 OSCAR DE LA TORRE: Yes.

2 Hello, this is Oscar, can you hear me?

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yes, we can hear you.

4 Go right ahead, sir.

5 MR. DE LA TORRE: Okay great.

6 Yes, thank you.

7 My name is Oscar de la Torre.

8 Thank you, State Race Track Leasing Commission members for

9 allowing me the opportunity to speak.

10 I just want to call in to congratulate DMTC.

11 To say also that DMTC has proven to be an effective and

12 responsible track operator.

13 The commitment to safety for horses has been recognized as

14 one of the safest racetracks for horse racing in the nation.

15 And you know, we should all applaud that because

16 California is the leader in the safety reform effort impacting

17 the rest of the nation.

18 And Del Mar is leader in the state of California.

19 So what we do at Del Mar is not just good for the horses,

20 you know, here in you know at the racetrack at Del Mar in

21 California, but also impacts California and the rest of the

22 nation.

23 The reform effort in California has proven that safer

24 horse racing is possible and DMTC is definitely in the lead in

1 that role.

2 As mentioned, you know, by the previous comments the many,
3 many families depend on live horse racing.

4 Many working families depend on the success of live racing
5 here at Del Mar.

6 850 workers in the backstretch, thousands more working in
7 local hotels and restaurants.

8 But the backstretch workers here that I represent that
9 I've been having the privilege to work with, receive living
10 wages, medical and dental care, housing, and support, you
11 know, in various ways, you know, when the support is needed.

12 And so, one example of that is the free meal program that
13 DMTC provides workers in the backstretch.

14 And that's greatly, greatly appreciated.

15 And you know, we're just very happy, you know, to continue
16 the good work.

17 And glad to see that the Breeders' Cup is returning
18 because that's just going to, you know, provide more economic
19 benefit, more jobs stability for the workers in horse racing.

20 So thank you very much, and congratulations, DMTC.

21 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much for your comments.

22 I'm showing Maria Luisa.

23 If you are on and would like to unmute yourself, you may
24 begin your comments.

1 Maria?

2 MARIA LUISA: Yes.

3 Hi.

4 Can you hear me?

5 CHAIR PERRAULT: We can hear you now.

6 Go right ahead.

7 MS. LUISA: Good afternoon, members of the State Track
8 Leasing Commission.

9 My name is Maria Luisa.

10 And I'm calling in to congratulate the DMTC and every
11 stakeholder responsible for a successful Summer Race Meet at
12 Del Mar.

13 Horse racing was not -- would not be possible without the
14 hard work and dedication of hundreds of the backstretch
15 workers that commit their lives to the well-being of the
16 horses under their care.

17 Many of my family members and friends who work in the
18 backstretch are truly appreciative of the opportunity to
19 contribute to the success of live racing that creates economic
20 benefits to many workers at the racetrack and throughout North
21 County of San Diego.

22 We should all be proud of Del Mar's sustained horse safety
23 record.

24 Some people with extreme views will never accept Del Mar

1 being recognized as one of the safest racetracks in America.

2 Instead of applauding the successes of horse safety reform
3 effort in California, which has improved significantly since
4 2019, a vocal minority continue to advocate for the
5 prohibition of horse racing without any thought of the
6 consequences of this on the many working families whose lives
7 depend on the success of live horse racing.

8 It's hard enough to be an immigrant and worker in America.

9 The cost of housing is high and inflation continues to
10 make things more challenging for working families.

11 My family members who work in the horse racing earn living
12 wages and receive health benefits and other supports such as
13 scholarships, and most recently thanks to DMTC, free meals.

14 On behalf of my family members who work at the racetrack I
15 want to express our appreciation for the thoughtful support
16 the DMTC has provided backstretch workers.

17 DMTC continues to show that it is a responsible operator
18 by continuing to be responsive to the safety concerns of both
19 horses and the workers of Del Mar.

20 MS. ARNOLD: Ms.

21 Luisa, your time is up.

22 MS. LUISA: Thank you very much for your time.

23 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much.

24 I appreciate your comments.

1 I'm just double checking, we don't have any other
2 additional hands raised in the queue.

3 MR. RIVERA: That is correct.

4 CHAIR PERRAULT: Great.

5 Thank you.

6 Then at this time, we will go ahead and close public
7 comment on item 3.

8 Just a reminder again, this is not an action item so we
9 will go ahead and move on to general public comment, which are
10 public comments on matters not on the agenda.

11 So just as a reminder, this item is for matters not on
12 today's agenda.

13 And the commission will not debate nor act on any comments
14 heard today.

15 If you are here to speak on an agenda item, please wait
16 until we take up that item.

17 Do we have anybody from the public in the room wishing to
18 speak on matters not on today's agenda?

19 Seeing none.

20 And I also do not show anybody listed online to provide
21 general public comment.

22 But are there any raised hands that are on the Zoom for
23 general public comment?

24 MR. RIVERA: No, there are not.

1 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

2 All right.

3 Then seeing none, we will again, this is not an action

4 item, so we're going to go ahead and move right along.

5 We are going to move on to item number 5, which is to take

6 a recess.

7 The commission will now go into recess to open the Del Mar

8 Race Track Authority meeting.

9 And I'll turn the meeting over to Race Track Authority

10 President Arabo.

11 [The SRTLTC meeting recessed at 1:56 p.m.]

12 MR. ARABO: Thank you, Commission Chairperson Authority

13 Vice President Perrault.

14 Today is Friday, September 5th, 2025.

15 The time is 1:56 p.m.

16 I now call this meeting of the Del Mar Race Track

17 Authority to order.

18 Can we please call the roll.

19 MS. ARNOLD: President Arabo.

20 PRESIDENT ARABO: Here.

21 MS. ARNOLD: Vice President Perrault.

22 VICE PRESIDENT PERRAULT: Present.

23 MS. ARNOLD: Member Flores.

24 MR. FLORES: Present.

1 MS. ARNOLD: Member Lasso.

2 MS. LASSO: Present.

3 MS. ARNOLD: Member Barkett.

4 MS. BARKETT: Present.

5 MS. ARNOLD: Member Mead.

6 MS. MEAD: Here.

7 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay, we have a quorum.

8 I want to thank Member Lasso for attending.

9 I'm very happy that you are able to, that you are here

10 with us.

11 Very grateful for everyone that's come out and traveled to

12 today's meeting.

13 For the item, we will now consider the authority's meeting

14 minutes from March 21st, 2025.

15 Do we have anyone from the public in the room wishing to

16 speak on the minutes?

17 I don't see anyone in the room or anyone online.

18 I don't see anyone online either.

19 MR. RIVERA: That is correct.

20 PRESIDENT ARABO: Do we have one?

21 No.

22 VICE PRESIDENT PERRAULT: I'll go ahead move the minutes.

23 PRESIDENT ARABO: We have a motion.

24 MR. FLORES: Second.

1 PRESIDENT ARABO: A second from Mr. Flores in this motion.
2 Any discussion on the motion from our board?
3 Seeing no further discussion, if we could take a vote.
4 MS. ARNOLD: President Arabo.
5 PRESIDENT ARABO: Aye.
6 MS. ARNOLD: Vice President Perrault.
7 CHAIR PERRAULT: Aye.
8 MS. ARNOLD: Member Flores.
9 MR. FLORES: Aye.
10 MS. ARNOLD: Member Lasso.
11 MS. LASSO: Abstain.
12 MS. ARNOLD: Member Barkett.
13 MS. BARKETT: Aye.
14 MS. ARNOLD: Member Mead.
15 MS. MEAD: Aye.
16 PRESIDENT ARABO: Motion passes unanimously, with one
17 abstention.
18 Number 3, reports.
19 We will now move on to item 3 on the reports.
20 This is an information only item.
21 The Authority will not take any action on these reports
22 today.
23 The information can be found in your packets on pages 5
24 through 7.

1 It looks like it's the financials.

2 If anyone on the Board any questions if we could -- looks
3 like we're doing really well.

4 Members are great.

5 Great direction.

6 Who do we have put this together?

7 The minutes?

8 MS. MOORE: The financials are prepared by 22nd DAA staff,
9 so Michael and he's also the RTA treasurer.

10 PRESIDENT ARABO: Great.

11 Michael, if you want to maybe run us through it real
12 quick.

13 I know it's looking very promising.

14 I want to thank all the great work the DMTC and the meet's
15 doing.

16 You know, we have good news especially in a time where
17 they are saying the industry is hurting and single circuit
18 people are worried.

19 If we have good news, definitely want to report it.

20 Or bad, but in this case it's good.

21 MR. SADEGH: Absolutely.

22 The District through the month of July, which is the
23 conclusion of the fair, did pretty well.

24 We had a few soft spots in our revenue spots where we did

1 have savings in our cost structure, which throughout the --
2 for the seven months, provided a net positive variance of
3 about \$3.7 million in comparing to the budget.

4 So we're ahead of the game through the month of July.

5 Our cash position is really strong.

6 We have about \$41 million for the District.

7 And then there are restricted cash set aside for the RTA
8 bonds.

9 So the District is in a very liquid position and
10 financially we're doing pretty well for the first seven months
11 of the year.

12 MR. ARABO: Great.

13 And we're above you said \$3.7 million better than
14 expected.

15 MR. SADEGH: Yes.

16 PRESIDENT ARABO: Great job to Carlene and Josh, DMTC.

17 Shows a very healthy and strong financials.

18 Any other questions from anyone in the public in the room
19 wishing to speak on the reports?

20 And none online, I don't see.

21 MR. RIVERA: Correct.

22 PRESIDENT ARABO: Thank you, again.

23 This was not an action item, so we'll move onto unfinished
24 business.

1 We have one unfinished business item today, which is 4A.

2 It's a consideration and vote on whether to authorize a
3 board member on the Del Mar Race Track Authority to create -
4 to take the initiative to create a plaque recognizing each
5 individual that served previously as a board member for the
6 Del Mar Race Track Authority since its inception in 1990.

7 I want to thank Carlene and the staff.

8 And we have currently in the director's room a plaque of
9 the current volunteers that have been on this board.

10 The idea at the last meeting was almost like a living
11 memorial.

12 There were a lot of volunteers prior to this board that
13 served.

14 And so, we felt that someone should take initiative but
15 not overburden staff.

16 The idea was someone from the board could volunteer to
17 take that action and to doing it.

18 As was previous board meetings, this was -- it's going to
19 be donated from whoever wants to donate.

20 And hopefully we can find a place to install it in the
21 grandstand.

22 We will move directly to public comment.

23 Any public comment on this item?

24 I don't see -- nothing online as well.

1 MR. RIVERA: Correct.

2 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay.

3 Open to the Board.

4 MR. FLORES: You need a motion on this?

5 PRESIDENT ARABO: Yep.

6 Yeah.

7 MR. FLORES: Since I'm on it, I'll move it.

8 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay.

9 >> [off mic]

10 PRESIDENT ARABO: You going to volunteer someone or you

11 want to be?

12 MR. FLORES: Oh, I thought I, oh -

13 PRESIDENT ARABO: Authorized.

14 MR. FLORES: Okay, I thought I was it last time.

15 Yeah, I was.

16 >> [off mic]

17 MR. FLORES: Yeah.

18 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay, perfect.

19 I'll do the motion to nominate that, Member Flores to be

20 our volunteer to take the initiative for the living memorial.

21 >> [multiple speakers] - Second.

22 PRESIDENT ARABO: He accepted.

23 He accepted.

24 MR. FLORES: I don't know after that.

1 PRESIDENT ARABO: Everyone is very excited.

2 Everyone is enthusiastic to do it.

3 Okay, great.

4 Any other comments or discussion amongst board members?

5 Yeah.

6 MS. MEAD: Commissioner Flores, from the last meeting I
7 think you were going to do a little bit of research into this.

8 Have you had a chance to do that?

9 Were there findings in terms of cost?

10 MR. FLORES: I'm going to defer to Carlene on that.

11 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

12 MS. MOORE: You know, cost is really going to come down to
13 what materials and also location where this is - where this is
14 going to be.

15 I think many of you, so something to be thinking about for
16 those of you who may be joining and attending the races later
17 this afternoon is the space of where in the director's room
18 for this.

19 There's actually not a lot of wall space in there.

20 But there are options, so depending on location.

21 I know at the last meeting there were talks about, you
22 know, 40,000 plus.

23 That's a, you know, bronze, you know, like a bronze
24 building plaque versus, you know, there are other means to

1 have that signage.

2 And so, there's that.

3 In terms of the research and history, we do have -- we as
4 the 22nd DAA and as your RTA secretary, I have the list of who
5 all have served during that time since its inception in 1990,
6 so we do have that information.

7 PRESIDENT ARABO: Great.

8 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT ARABO: And I'm sure that we can identify wall
10 space, DMTC throughout the area.

11 I know there is a lot of, it's a big room and there's
12 different rooms.

13 Josh, I have a question for if the board member, we
14 nominate one board member to take the lead on everything, can
15 other board members provide -- they cannot provide any, I know
16 they can't meet together.

17 It has to be only one.

18 Can they provide emails on or no?

19 How would it work?

20 If Member Flores needs support, he comes back to the Board
21 and ask?

22 How does that work?

23 MR. CAPLAN: He would have to come back to the Board and
24 ask for support during the public meeting.

1 PRESIDENT ARABO: Got it.

2 MR. CAPLAN: Yes.

3 MR. FLORES: Got it.

4 PRESIDENT ARABO: We want to be as supportive as we can,
5 but hopefully it's something I know a lot of other agencies
6 have it, a living memorial of people that have served in this
7 capacity, volunteers prior.

8 MR. FLORES: Are you insistent that it has to be on the
9 wall in the director's room?

10 PRESIDENT ARABO: No.

11 I think there's a nice memorial when we open the
12 grandstands.

13 It's really old and I think it needs to be cleaned up, but
14 it's a little hidden.

15 Carlene showed it to me in the area.

16 But I think anywhere around the Turf Club or the
17 director's room, there's plenty of wall space.

18 There's different photos of different items.

19 But I think if we could, you know, I know you are
20 volunteering, narrow down like a timeline.

21 I don't know how long it will take, maybe a few months,
22 six months.

23 So I don't know, but I know different people wanting to
24 help and donate.

1 I'm one of them.

2 MR. FLORES: We'll get it done before I retire.

3 [chuckling]

4 MS. BARKETT: When is that?

5 MR. FLORES: Well, I turn 69 this year.

6 So it's probably going to be this year.

7 PRESIDENT ARABO: Great.

8 MR. FLORES: I'll make sure it gets done before that.

9 Not this year.

10 I mean, '26, yes.

11 MS. LASSO: If board members have ideas or recommendations
12 for communication, could we offer that to Carlene or Joshua
13 and then they can facilitate that information?

14 MR. CAPLAN: That's challenging because then effectively
15 you all are building consensus on the vision of this space
16 outside of a public meeting.

17 And so, that would be problematic under Bagley-Keene.

18 Neither me nor Carlene can serve as like the spoke to
19 facilitate those discussions and then direct them to Director
20 Flores.

21 And so I would say if directors have ideas sitting here in
22 this meeting today, even like a brainstorming session, now
23 would be the time to share those ideas.

24 But it becomes difficult even facilitating one-on-ones.

1 I don't want to put Director Flores in a tough spot not
2 having -- not up -- we certainly don't want to prohibit him
3 from considering feedback but that feedback really needs to
4 come in a public space.

5 CHAIR PERRAULT: So Josh, though, could we, could we not
6 establish a subcommittee of some sort so that we have less
7 than quorum and it's more than one member so that that, some
8 of those dialogues could occur?

9 And then be brought back to the committee as a whole?

10 MR. CAPLAN: Okay, so yes.

11 If President Arabo wants to create a two person advisory
12 committee --

13 CHAIR PERRAULT: Advisory committee.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. CAPLAN: -- authority to go do the research and come
16 back with the recommendations for the full authority to
17 consider, then President Arabo can certainly do that.

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

19 I wonder if we want to consider something like that just
20 so that isn't, you know, two heads thinking of ideas.

21 Not that I'm not sure yours would be amazing and brilliant
22 and dead on.

23 [chuckling]

24 CHAIR PERRAULT: That'd be great.

1 But I just, you know an effort, I just want to make sure
2 if that was an option.

3 PRESIDENT ARABO: Yeah, that's a great idea.

4 Love to create an advisory committee to give Board Member
5 Flores some support if anyone -- would this be the time to
6 create one?

7 You could do it now or no?

8 You need a motion?

9 MR. FLORES: Two additional members as an advisory
10 committee.

11 PRESIDENT ARABO: No, one other person.

12 MR. FLORES: Okay.

13 All right.

14 MR. CAPLAN: What is the -- where are we in terms of the
15 motion that's on the floor, has there been a vote yet on the
16 motion?

17 PRESIDENT ARABO: No.

18 MR. CAPLAN: So it sounds as if this -- it sounds as if the
19 Race Track Authority does not want to vote on this particular
20 motion but rather the president wants do create an advisory
21 committee.

22 The president at-will can create advisory committees and
23 just appoint members to that committee to report back to the
24 Race Track Authority at a future meeting.

1 So there's no need and certainly the Race Track Authority
2 can't take action on that anyway because if the Race Track
3 Authority takes action that would create some challenges under
4 Bagley-Keene.

5 That two-person committee would have to meet in public.

6 So President Arabo, at any point during the meeting today
7 you can create a committee, an advisory committee to report
8 back to this body at a future date with their findings and
9 recommendations for the group to consider as a whole.

10 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay.

11 Yeah, perfect.

12 I would love to.

13 I think that's a good -

14 Board Member Flores has a question or Lisa, sorry.

15 MS. BARKETT: Okay.

16 I will do it.

17 PRESIDENT ARABO: Yeah.

18 Would love that.

19 MS. BARKETT: Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT ARABO: Board Member Lisa and Board Member Flores
21 will be the advisory committee.

22 And hopefully, I don't know if we'll need another meeting
23 before the end of the year, but if we do, we'll let everyone
24 know.

1 I know we have a fall meet in November.

2 I know everyone's schedules are pretty busy.

3 We'll try to do what we can to hopefully get it done prior

4 to the next summer meet.

5 That's my goal.

6 Hopefully then.

7 And thank you so much, Michael and Lisa.

8 MS. MOORE: As a matter of housekeeping, we do have a

9 motion and a second.

10 So is there anything that needs to be done?

11 >> [multiple speakers] - moving the - whoever moved the

12 item.

13 >> [multiple speakers]

14 MS. BARKETT: I'll withdraw the motion.

15 PRESIDENT ARABO: Okay.

16 MS. MEAD: Excellent.

17 PRESIDENT ARABO: Thank you.

18 Excellent.

19 Okay.

20 Number 5, new business.

21 The Authority does not have any new business to report

22 today so we will move to public comment on matters not

23 appearing on the agenda.

24 Any public comment?

1 I don't see anyone in the room.

2 No one online.

3 That's new business.

4 Okay.

5 And I would like to before we recess, I would like to
6 mention that if anyone on the Board wants any item that you
7 would like the RTA to look at or discuss, please let us know.

8 I want to be as much as collaborative as possible, as much
9 input as possible so we can talk about it in a public setting.

10 Okay.

11 Is there any other further needs that we need to carry it
12 over before the commission, actually to this meeting
13 Authority.

14 I see none.

15 Okay, seeing none at this time, it's 2:11 p.m.
16 on September 5th.

17 This meeting of the Del Mar Race Track Authority is hereby
18 adjourned.

19 We'll now return to the State Race Track Leasing
20 Commission.

21 Back to you, Commission Chairperson Perrault.

22 [The RTA meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.]

23 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you, President Arabo.

24 We are now back from recess at 2:11 to continue the State

1 Race Track Leasing Commission meeting.

2 We'll go ahead and move on to item number 7, which is our
3 general business.

4 And the commission does have one action item before it
5 today.

6 First up is item 7A, which is to discuss and vote on
7 whether to adopt a commission ticket policy.

8 As are reminder, this is an action item.

9 And before we continue, I just want to provide a reminder
10 about our process.

11 We will go ahead, we'll take up public comment first.

12 And reminder that the comments should pertain to the item,
13 meaning the adoption of a policy for the distribution of event
14 tickets.

15 Again, each speaker will have 2 minutes, may not cede
16 their time to others.

17 Afterwards, commissioners will have an opportunity to
18 discuss and make a motion and we can entertain any questions
19 at that time.

20 Again, just a reminder to speak when recognized by the
21 chair and let's, we'll have one person speaking at each time.

22 So with that housekeeping taken care of, is there any
23 public in the room that would like to speak on this item?

24 Seeing none.

1 And I do not see any public online, but just double
2 checking that we have none.

3 MR. RIVERA: Correct.

4 CHAIR PERRAULT: Correct.

5 Okay.

6 Great.

7 Then with that, we will go ahead and bring it back to the
8 commission.

9 Commissioners, you should have a draft of the ticket
10 policy in your packet, in your board packet.

11 So at this point, is there any comments or questions from
12 members?

13 And I don't know, Josh, maybe if you want to maybe just
14 give a little framing as well to sort of how we arrived at the
15 draft we have before us and then maybe we can then we can move
16 to commission dialogue.

17 MR. CAPLAN: Sure.

18 So I had some discussions at the request of the chair and
19 vice chair of the commission asking if there was a legal
20 mechanism to allow members of the commission to attend events
21 on the property that are related to your role as the
22 commissioners and the operating agreement that you all
23 approved with the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club for horse racing
24 on the property.

1 As many of you probably already know, you probably sit on
2 several boards or commissions in addition to this one.

3 There are some limits for public officials in their
4 ability to receive gifts from a single source.

5 And I think as of today, the limit is \$630.

6 So what that practically means is in your role as
7 commissioner, if you were to receive, say, a ticket to attend
8 an event at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, you would be
9 limited in terms of the value of that ticket or that gift up
10 to \$630 over the course of the calendar year.

11 There's also various reporting obligations under Form 700,
12 as you all are quite familiar with, to report gifts that you
13 receive from outside sources.

14 And that's, again, to ensure that there's a public-facing
15 document so the public can see and be sure that when you're
16 doing the public business there's no potential conflicts of
17 interest.

18 Importantly though, the regulation that was promulgated by
19 the Fair Political Practices Commission includes an exception
20 or an exemption to those gift reporting requirements.

21 And that exemption essentially authorizes an agency like
22 the State Race Track Leasing Commission to adopt a written
23 ticket policy.

24 That's the draft policy that you all have in your board

1 packet today.

2 And so long as tickets are distributed by the agency or by
3 the commission in accordance with that policy to the
4 individual commissioners, then those tickets do not need to be
5 reported as gifts.

6 Now, there are a few additional caveats to that.

7 That's kind of the overarching theme and the purpose for
8 this particular regulation.

9 The policy itself has to include specific language that
10 the regulation directs the policy to include.

11 This policy includes that language.

12 There's one in particular that I do want to point out,
13 which is -- actually, there's more than one that I'd like to
14 point out.

15 The first is that the commission is going to, may receive
16 tickets or passes to certain events in a number of ways.

17 Maybe an organization donates tickets to the organization.

18 Maybe the commission elects at some point to purchase
19 tickets to an event.

20 But primarily for the purposes of the Race Track Leasing
21 Commission and the work you all do in negotiating and
22 enforcing the terms of the operating agreement with the
23 operator, the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

24 Likely, we're talking about tickets or events to DMTC-

1 related events on the property.

2 So that would be horse racing events during the summer or
3 the fall.

4 It may include other events that come up, for example, the
5 Breeders' Cup.

6 Again, so DMTC or another outside source provides tickets
7 to these events directly to the commission, the commission
8 itself needs to distribute those tickets or passes consistent
9 with the public purposes that are also identified in this
10 policy that you have before you.

11 And so if you look at section 3.0 of the policy, which
12 starts at page 2.

13 That includes a list of the public policy reasons why the
14 commission would distribute a ticket or a pass, not only to
15 the individuals sitting around this table, but if an
16 individual, if a commissioner thinks that it may be important
17 to get someone from a particular business sector or for other
18 community relations to bring folks on the property to attend
19 an event that DMTC is hosting, then so long as the commission
20 agrees that distributing that ticket for that purpose falls
21 within the policy, then it's covered by the exemption by the
22 Fair Political Practices Commission.

23 The piece that's important for, I think, each member
24 around the table to keep in mind is each of you is also under

1 this policy entitled to a ticket to an event on the property
2 for your own personal use.

3 And again, that ticket needs to be distributed to you by
4 the agency itself.

5 So DMTC couldn't walk up to Commissioner Flores and say,
6 "Hey, Commissioner Flores, here's a handful of tickets for you
7 to use.

8 Go -- come to the races.

9 We hope to see you there."

10 Those would be reportable gifts under the regulations.

11 But if DMTC goes to the commission and says commission,
12 here are, you know, 500 tickets to races over the course of
13 the season, the commission can then determine how those
14 tickets will be distributed.

15 For your all's benefit, you all are each entitled to
16 receive one ticket from the commission to each of those
17 events, in addition for your own personal use.

18 So you can't take the ticket and then hand it off to
19 somebody else.

20 You'd have to use it or lose it, as they say.

21 You're also entitled to a ticket for each member of your
22 immediate family.

23 And again, this is in the policy, but I thought we would
24 walk through this because it's an important thing to explain

1 in case there are questions.

2 So immediate family would include a spouse or registered
3 domestic partner as defined by California law and dependent
4 children.

5 And so, if you have a domestic partner and five dependent
6 children, then you are allowed to receive seven tickets.

7 You can keep one for yourself and you can then distribute
8 the remaining six to your family members.

9 But this policy expressly prohibits you transferring those
10 tickets to anybody else.

11 They're for your own personal use for that of your family.

12 If you don't want to accept or distribute to your family,
13 you're also allowed to accept one ticket for yourself and one
14 ticket for no more than one guest.

15 And so maybe you want to bring an independent child or you
16 want to bring a close family friend, you are allowed to
17 distribute no more than one ticket to no more than one guest
18 to that particular event, but it can't be both.

19 So you're either accepting and handing out tickets to your
20 immediate family or you're accepting tickets, using one for
21 personal use and giving the second to that one guest.

22 The reason why it's important is that one of the purposes
23 behind this regulation is to ensure or provide a mechanism
24 where members of a board or commission can attend events on a

1 property or within an organization that they govern and allow
2 them not to have to attend those events alone.

3 So this was the FPPC's way to acknowledge, we don't want
4 board members, directors, commissioners to be going to these
5 events, and we can exempt just the ticket for them.

6 Because I think that would probably discourage
7 participation by most volunteers and all of you sitting around
8 this table are volunteers in this position.

9 And so that's the first big piece of this policy.

10 The second big piece, and there's decisions for this
11 commission to make during the meeting today, is you all need
12 to identify a single person to act as the ticket
13 administrator.

14 And that's going to be the individual that's responsible
15 for fielding requests from commissioners.

16 If they want tickets to a particular event, that
17 administrator is going to need to be sure that they're
18 tracking who's using tickets, who's going to which events.

19 That information needs to be posted on a forum put out by
20 the FPPC and that forum needs to be published on a public-
21 facing website within a certain number of days after the
22 event.

23 The ticket administrator also is the one that will
24 determine, let's say President Arabo approaches the ticket

1 administrator and makes a request for 15 tickets to be sent to
2 company "A".

3 And the reason for that is that providing these tickets
4 would to company "A" would serve one of the public purposes
5 identified in the ticket policy.

6 Maybe it's related to community relations or it's for
7 intergovernmental relations purposes or business development.

8 Ultimately, the ticket administrator will need to make the
9 determination if in fact the request from President Arabo
10 wouldn't -- would fall within one of those policy requirements
11 of the policy.

12 So this ticket administrator has some responsibility, a
13 significant amount of responsibility under this policy.

14 And so, I defer to the commission on who that person
15 should be.

16 But that person likely will need to be identified as part
17 of the conversation today so that leaving today we have a
18 policy in place that will then be administered by an
19 individual.

20 The only other piece I wanted to touch on, and I want to
21 explain this because I'm sure a lot of you all in your roles,
22 whether it's with DGS, CDFA or Department of Finance may all
23 your other agencies that you work for or maybe other boards
24 you sit on may have similar ticket policies.

1 And so, while it may not happen for your role on the State
2 Race Track Leasing Commission, there may be some, there's
3 always a possibility for overlap, right.

4 So let's say CDFA, for whatever reason DMTC decides to
5 allocate to CDFA a handful of tickets to a particular day
6 during the fall racing season, and DMTC allocates also
7 allocates to the State Race Track Leasing Commission for that
8 same day of racing.

9 Commissioner Flores can't take two tickets, one from CDFA
10 and one from the commission and do with those tickets what he
11 wants to, right.

12 He can use one ticket for his own personal use at that one
13 event.

14 And then certainly, he again, he can give a ticket to no
15 more than one guest or his immediate family.

16 But there's essentially no double dipping.

17 So if you sit on multiple commissions or departments, and
18 those organizations are all getting tickets from the same
19 source, the regulation allows for you only to get one ticket
20 to that one event for your own personal use.

21 So you can't collect multiple tickets simply because you
22 wear multiple hats during the course of your service.

23 And maybe I'll just leave it up for discussion.

24 Or if there's particular questions, I'm happy to do my

1 best to answer them.

2 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you.

3 And can I actually ask a clarifying question on the - and
4 I think maybe I just read this differently.

5 So I'm glad that we asked you to walk through some of
6 these pieces.

7 Because I do think this is complicated.

8 And it can get, you know, because it's complicated, I
9 think we want to make sure it's very clear because nobody
10 really wants to be contacted by the FPFC because of whatever
11 reasons, right.

12 So but on the additional ticket for either a guest or
13 immediate family member.

14 I guess I read that as, so I'll just use myself as an
15 example.

16 So my husband, because I have a husband, he's the only
17 other person that could receive the second ticket.

18 But what I thought I heard you say was, let's say my
19 husband is not available I can bring one other guest that's a
20 friend, family, whatever but it can't be -- I'm still allowed
21 to bring in a guest that's not my spouse even though I have a
22 spouse?

23 Or am I asking that well?

24 MR. CAPLAN: Yes.

1 CHAIR PERRAULT: I don't know that I am.

2 MR. CAPLAN: I'm looking at the language that we have in
3 the policy just to be sure that it tracks the language in the
4 regulation.

5 Let me start with the language of the regulation.

6 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

7 MR. CAPLAN Which the language in the regulation includes a
8 list of prohibitions.

9 So it's language in the negative.

10 And what the regulation directs an agency who's adopting a
11 ticket policy to do is to include in that policy, a provision
12 that prohibits the transfer of any ticket that's received by a
13 commissioner under this policy except to members of the
14 official's immediate family or no more than one guest.

15 So the way the regulation reads, that doesn't mean that
16 only commissioners without any immediate family can bring no
17 more than one guest.

18 I think what the regulation means is effectively the
19 commissioner needs to make a decision, right.

20 They can either bring every member of their immediate
21 family.

22 Maybe a commissioner or maybe one of you has immediate
23 family with, you know, a registered domestic partner and 20
24 dependent children, right.

1 So certainly, you can bring all, you know, 22 of you can
2 go to a race.

3 Or maybe you're like, you know what, I want to invite no
4 more than one guest because that's just too many people.

5 It's going to make the racing experience less enjoyable.

6 So you certainly would be able to elect to bring no more
7 than one guest.

8 The regulation does not require that a public official
9 have no immediate family to make use of the --

10 CHAIR PERRAULT: So I think we might need to rewrite this
11 just slightly.

12 Because the way it reads now is, for which the commission
13 may receive enough tickets for the commission official and
14 each member of their immediate family or if the commission
15 official has no immediate family.

16 So that makes it seem like if you have no immediate family
17 then you may bring a guest.

18 So either, I don't know if it's, or if the commission
19 official has, you know, elects not to bring their immediate
20 family, has no immediate family in attendance, something.

21 Or just take out the no immediate family or the commission
22 official may bring -- something.

23 Just the way it reads right now makes it seem like you
24 have to have no immediate family in order to bring one guest.

1 MR. CAPLAN: Okay.

2 So I think for section 3.2, and this language is pretty --
3 the language that's in this section 3.2 is pretty common for a
4 lot of agencies but this commission can elect to -- [multiple
5 speakers].

6 So this agency can elect to more closely track the
7 regulation.

8 A lot of agencies take the position where they don't want
9 the public official to be able to make that choice to bring a
10 family member or a friend but that's -- but the regulation
11 allows for it.

12 So what the commission could do sitting here today is we
13 could simply amend section 3.2 and 3.1.

14 Let's start with section 3.1.

15 And we can simply remove the clause between the two
16 commas, if the commission official has no immediate family.

17 So it would simply read, performance of a ceremonial role
18 or function representing the commission at an event for which
19 the commission official may receive enough tickets for the
20 commission official and each member of their immediate family
21 or to no more than one guest solely for their personal use.

22 And that's so if there's -- if the commission authorizes
23 that change during the course of the meeting today, I can
24 certainly work with the commission leadership to clean up the

1 language to make sure that it more closely tracks the
2 regulation.

3 Because the regulation is clear.

4 It does not preclude a public official from bringing no
5 more than one guest even if they have immediate family members
6 that would qualify under this exemption.

7 CHAIR PERRAULT: And I guess that's a question then to the
8 commission.

9 I just noticed that, you know, the way it's written in
10 3.1, 3.2 and 3.10 is definitely, because of the way it's laid
11 out definitely 3.10.

12 That's how I, maybe that -- so again, I guess that's a
13 question to the commission.

14 I do have that.

15 I don't have other questions immediately.

16 So I don't know if we want to take that up or if other
17 commissioners have comments or questions first.

18 Yes, Commissioner Mead.

19 MS. MEAD: I have one other question.

20 And I just want to clarify.

21 It isn't an "and" it's an "or".

22 So I could not bring my husband and another guest.

23 It has to just be one.

24 Well then shouldn't - I'm sorry, there's heads shaking.

1 I didn't know if that's right or you could do both.
2 Bring a guest and a husband.
3 MR. CAPLAN: It's either or.
4 MS. MEAD: It's either or.
5 MR. CAPLAN: Yeah.
6 MS. MEAD: So the language that we just reviewed where we
7 take out that clause, rather than say "or a guest" could be
8 "and/or a guest".
9 MR. CAPLAN: No, you cannot.
10 MS. MEAD: Oh, I thought you said either/or.
11 MR. CAPLAN: It can't be both.
12 MS. MEAD: Can't be both.
13 MR. CAPLAN: One or the other.
14 MS. MEAD: Thank you.
15 That was the clarification, thank you, I was looking for.
16 [multiple speakers-inaudible]
17 CHAIR PERRAULT: Please.
18 MS. BARKETT: You know the only, if I may, clarification
19 too, is on dependent children.
20 And I think that could be some issues.
21 Especially in the world we're living in today where
22 dependent children is it an age related or actually a
23 dependent related issue.
24 Especially if you had a handicap child that was 4 years

1 old.

2 You know, they're dependent on their family.

3 So I don't know if this takes into effect disabilities
4 and/or those who are just you know home because they need to
5 be home.

6 CHAIR PERRAULT: I think under the definition, right, Josh,
7 I think under the definition where it lays it out is related
8 to Government Code and Family Code.

9 I assume that further defines dependent children within
10 those?

11 MR. CAPLAN: Well, interestingly, it does not.

12 I mean, Section 82029 of the Government Code which defines
13 immediate family, it simply says, "immediate family means the
14 lower case spouse and lower case dependent children".

15 So dependent children is not a defined term for the
16 purposes of that section.

17 And I don't want to shoot from the hip here, but my sense
18 is that it's probably an age-related definition.

19 I'm not sure that it would be, for example, related to
20 like a tax return where you're claiming dependents on a tax
21 return but we can certainly through the implementation of this
22 policy we can be sure to have a further understanding as to
23 what dependent child means for purposes of Section 82029.

24 And that way the ticket administrator will know which

1 commissioner's children will qualify and which don't.

2 That would be on the operations side.

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yeah.

4 Okay.

5 I think that that's a great point.

6 And I do know that in different sections of statute and
7 code, who knows if it's consistent, I would like to say it is.

8 But there probably is varying definitions of a dependent
9 child based on either age or often times a dependent child can
10 be considered dependent well beyond the age of 18.

11 For example, if there's a disability that's recognized.

12 So maybe that's, like you said, maybe we don't need to --
13 I don't want to get too granular here because I feel like
14 that's going to create actually more confusion.

15 But I do think we need to if the commission decides to
16 adopt this, and I know we saw other things we need to identify
17 and vet on the draft, I think the next step will be that we do
18 need to make sure that we really define both to protect the
19 administrator as well as those who are going to receive
20 tickets to make sure everything is being done very
21 consistently.

22 So that's a great point.

23 Other questions?

24 Comments from Commissioners?

1 Commissioner Arabo.

2 MR. ARABO: Yeah, I have a question.

3 Thank you, Josh, for your hard work putting this together.

4 To Lisa's point, to Commissioner Barkett's point, does the
5 commission have latitudes or to define the dependents?

6 Like for example, myself I have four kids under 18.

7 Let's say you have a child that has a child, a
8 commissioner that has a child that is disabled that is 35
9 years old.

10 Does the commission have latitude to say, well, this is
11 how we define dependent children?

12 Or is it not?

13 MR. CAPLAN: The short answer is no.

14 The commission is bound by whatever definition was
15 contemplated by Section 82029 of the Government Code.

16 Whatever that definition is, which is the definition
17 that's incorporated by the regulations put out by the FPFC,
18 that is the definition that you have to go with.

19 MR. ARABO: But at this time, we don't know what it is?

20 MR. CAPLAN: No.

21 It will be a very easy task for our office to figure out
22 what that definition is, and at least there would be
23 certainty.

24 And that's something that we can certainly circulate to

1 the commission through some sort of privileged one-way
2 communication.

3 MR. ARABO: Yeah, the more clarity the better.

4 So that would be good.

5 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yes, Commissioner Mead.

6 MS. MEAD: Thank you.

7 I don't know if we should take it up now or in discussion,
8 but I'm now thinking about the delegation responsibility for
9 implementing a policy that we might get to.

10 And I'm wondering whether it has to be somebody that is
11 sitting on the commission or we could ask to delegate it to
12 like DMTC staff who is already administering a program like
13 this.

14 MR. CAPLAN: I think it might be problematic for the
15 contractor that's in a long-term contract with the commission
16 to be managing your internal ticket policy.

17 MS. MEAD: Okay.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR PERRAULT: Other, hold on.

20 Okay.

21 Commissioner Arabo, then Commissioner Lasso, then
22 Commissioner Flores.

23 MR. ARABO: Yeah.

24 To that point, Josh, for the 22nd DAA, we have a ticket

1 policy and we have the board staff member managing the ticket
2 policy.

3 So we have that for the District?

4 MR. CAPLAN: No.

5 The difference --

6 MR. ARABO: What is the difference for that?

7 MR. CAPLAN: To use a similar analogy, Director Arabo, it
8 would be as if the 22nd DAA's ticket policy were administered
9 by an employee of its food and beverage provider, right.

10 So it's having an employee of a contractor outside --

11 [multiple speakers-indiscernible]

12 MR. ARABO: Outside.

13 MR. CAPLAN: Right.

14 And a lot of agencies that have these policies will
15 appoint a staff member of that very agency to manage the
16 policy.

17 The challenge for this commission is that you all have no
18 staff member.

19 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

20 Hold on one sec.

21 So Commissioner Lasso, Commissioner Flores and back to
22 Commissioner Mead.

23 Go ahead, Commissioner.

24 MS. LASSO: Just for clarification.

1 Thank you, Commissioner Perrault.

2 For clarification, the cycle of the annual cycle is
3 calendar year, right?

4 Not --

5 MR. CAPLAN: That's my understanding because that's the
6 same cycle that you file your reporting obligation under Form
7 700.

8 MS. LASSO: Thank you.

9 CHAIR PERRAULT: That's a good question for some of us that
10 have a lot of those.

11 Commissioner Flores.

12 MR. FLORES: So we have no staff.

13 CHAIR PERRAULT: We have no staff.

14 We have generous, no, we have generous volunteers from
15 very long, and that is another -- [multiple speakers -
16 indiscernible]

17 MR. FLORES: [off mic]

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: Well, I'm going to -- I don't want to make
19 that designation.

20 Carlene and I have not had that conversation.

21 And just, this is not part or the item but the commission
22 leadership is in conversation about we do need to figure out a
23 long-term solution for staffing.

24 And the statute designates a way for us to do that.

1 So I just, in you know, I'm trying to be very mindful.

2 The 22nd DAA has been very, very generous with their time
3 but the commission's workload has been increasing.

4 So I think I don't want to assign a long-term thing when
5 we may be having some changes around staffing as well to be
6 respectful.

7 But great question.

8 All right, Commissioner Mead.

9 MS. MEAD: So at present, we don't have staff to administer
10 a ticket policy.

11 And we've heretofore got it without a ticket policy.

12 So I'm wondering whether or not we want to table
13 discussion about a ticket policy that we can't administer.

14 CHAIR PERRAULT: So that is a good question.

15 And I'll kick this back to Josh because, I apologize, I
16 feel like we had this was part of our conversation.

17 Does it need to be staff or could it be a member of the
18 body?

19 MR. CAPLAN: It could be a member of the body.

20 CHAIR PERRAULT: It could be a member of the body, okay.

21 So I guess to your point, Commissioner Mead, if we do not
22 have a member of the body that is able to do so, then we may
23 be forced to table the policy.

24 MS. MEAD: I guess maybe I've got a different question.

1 Is it necessary for us to consider the policy at this
2 time?

3 CHAIR PERRAULT: I think it's necessary if we want to have
4 protections to have tickets that are distributed to members.

5 I think, well let me back up.

6 I think part of, and again, my history on this is shorter
7 so I will turn to Commissioner Arabo on this as well.

8 But I think that part of the reason this discussion has
9 come before us and we've been talking about it a little bit is
10 we've just really been trying to encourage more attendance of
11 the commission to be present for events.

12 And for, I won't speak for everybody but I think for
13 several of the folks that sit on this body because we're Form
14 700 filers, we wanted to have some assurances.

15 Otherwise it's pretty prohibitive to us to be able to take
16 tickets and utilize them.

17 So we're trying to find a way through to have more
18 presence and support.

19 So I think that's where we came about with it.

20 So anyway, that's the history on it.

21 I don't know, Commissioner Arabo, if you have additional
22 comments that you want to provide because I know you've been
23 in the conversation as well with me for a while.

24 MR. ARABO: Yeah.

1 I think to that exact point, we'll try and encourage as
2 much as participation from commissioners to know what we're
3 voting on so we see how the operations are similar to other
4 organizations like CHRB and other agencies.

5 At the same time be mindful of there was never a policy.

6 So we want to really refine it and define it and more of
7 the operators running operator invites, this or that but we
8 didn't have anything formal.

9 So that's, but I'm very comfortable having a, you know, a
10 commissioner.

11 I know Commissioner Mead, you are on the governance, I
12 know it's a different organization but you would be great for
13 administrator.

14 I mean, I'm very comfortable with a commissioner until we
15 get a staff member.

16 CHAIR PERRAULT: Yeah.

17 And I, to that point, and to your point, Commissioner
18 Mead, I don't know what the workload on this would look like.

19 I mean, it's hard for me to, you know, I just don't want
20 to say it will be minimal and then somebody goes, yeah, I can
21 handle it.

22 So I think we do need to have that conversation.

23 The other piece to it is that and I guess to piggyback on
24 Commissioner Arabo's comments and mine as well as the

1 historical on this that I think it is to our protection to
2 have this in place.

3 Then we are very transparent about what is allowed, what
4 is not allowed to anybody that's looking in just to so that
5 they are aware that we are supportive and want to be
6 supportive to, again, to Josh's comment of the organization in
7 which we govern, but we want to make sure that folks
8 understand the how and the why and that there are -- I mean,
9 it is a very limiting, you know, it's a limited policy and
10 it's there for a reason.

11 So I think that's the other piece I would say.

12 The only other, so I think we have a few things.

13 We have an amendment that I think we know we want to maybe
14 clarify further on the guests versus immediate family piece.

15 And then, I wanted to just bring up the other piece we
16 need to discuss, which is not just the administrator, is that
17 the policy has to be posted on a prominent -- in a prominent
18 location.

19 And I'll look to you, again, Josh on this.

20 I think when leadership was having some conversation about
21 it, we thought that it would still make sense even if, you
22 know, the commission doesn't have its own free-standing site
23 and everything.

24 And we do post our current agendas.

1 And I would assume we would continue to do so along with
2 RTA's on the DAA's site.

3 And that would be the logical place I would suggest for
4 this as well.

5 I think that's what people are used to going to see
6 information about what is happening with the commission.

7 And I want to make sure, again, in the air of transparency
8 that we don't put it somewhere obscure, right.

9 It needs to be somewhere where folks can, naturally would
10 be going.

11 So unless there's an issue, I think, and I'm looking to
12 Carlene on that, as well.

13 That would be my suggestion for the fill in the blank on
14 where it needs to be posted.

15 But again, that means that the administrator who is, you
16 know, tracking all of the tickets going out would have to work
17 with somebody on your staff, Carlene, to just make sure that
18 that posting gets updated.

19 So it's not just as simple as posting the policy and it's
20 gone.

21 We do have the secondary element, I think, to it.

22 Okay, so that being said, I guess, yeah, where I'm going
23 to go with this is, we can certainly table the conversation.

24 But I just want to be very open and honest about the fact

1 that as we're trying to figure out how we staff the
2 commission, that may not be a quick.

3 I mean, I'm not talking it's going to happen in the next
4 two weeks kind of a consideration.

5 We got to work through some things.

6 So we could certainly do that but just know that that puts
7 this policy on its own, on a slow track, which is fine if
8 that's the will.

9 However, if there's somebody on the commission that would
10 be willing to work as an administrator in the meantime, we
11 certainly could take up the policy.

12 And then I would, again, I'm looking to Josh, but
13 presuming if at some point, however our staffing or support
14 ends up happening for the commission, we could then take it up
15 to move, we could change the administrator at any given time
16 either with a vote or a -

17 MR. CAPLAN: With a vote.

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

19 All right.

20 At least I wasn't too off there.

21 Okay.

22 So before we move further, any other comments or
23 amendments either to the language or questions?

24 MR. CAPLAN: There's one additional item that would need to

1 be added.

2 And this, and apologies.

3 I should have included this in the original draft that was
4 circulated.

5 But we will need to add a new section 8.0 to this policy.

6 And it's language that essentially will ensure that the
7 policy is not essentially doesn't result in the
8 disproportionate use of tickets or passes by any member of the
9 commission.

10 CHAIR PERRAULT: I see.

11 MR. CAPLAN: If at some point in the future there's some
12 sort of chief administrative officer or employee of the
13 commission that would be eligible under this policy, that new
14 section 8.0 would need to be added.

15 And so to the extent there's a motion to approve this
16 policy, the motion should include adding this new section 8.0
17 to track section 18944.1 of the regulation.

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

19 It doesn't needed to be added at this time though.

20 You would wait.

21 MR. CAPLAN: I mean, we can talk it through.

22 And I can read the language out to the commission again.

23 And so long as there's no questions.

24 And the motion can simply say -

1 CHAIR PERRAULT: With the amendment.

2 MR. CAPLAN: We would adopt this policy with the following
3 amendments.

4 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

5 MR. CAPLAN: And then we can identify the few things that
6 we've already flagged, I think.

7 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

8 MR. CAPLAN: That we would need to change.

9 CHAIR PERRAULT: I think it might be helpful to add that
10 section sooner rather than later if we move forward.

11 Okay.

12 But before we can move forward, I think we have to figure
13 out if there is any willing commissioner that would act as the
14 administrator.

15 I mean, we're all looking at --

16 MS. MEAD: I am happy to do so.

17 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much.

18 Commissioner Mead, I appreciate that.

19 And we don't take lightly the role you've just been given.

20 Hopefully, it is not, you know, an overwhelming piece but
21 we really appreciate your willingness to step up.

22 Because I think it would be nice to move this forward and
23 have a little bit more presence at events sooner rather than
24 later.

1 Is there any others that are just dying to stand up and do
2 that?

3 No?

4 Yes?

5 MS. MOORE: May I ask a question on behalf of the potential
6 ticket administrator.

7 Josh, in terms of the Form 802 posting, it says within 30
8 days after distribution.

9 Especially when you think about, for example, the Summer
10 Race Meet, which is, you know, carrying on for eight weeks.

11 Can that distribution or can that posting be done either
12 at the end of the season or just on a monthly basis?

13 What might that cadence look like?

14 MR. CAPLAN: I might need to --

15 MS. MOORE: Versus the daily tickets of it.

16 MR. CAPLAN: To understand if at the beginning of the
17 summer racing season if it's like a, if you're getting an
18 individual ticket for each day or if you're getting a pass to
19 attend racing each day over the course of the season, I would
20 say if it's a single pass that gives you access to every day
21 of the races, that form should be posted 30 days from the date
22 that pass is distributed.

23 And so, but if it's individual tickets for individual race
24 days, then you're going to have to post the form on a rolling

1 basis, essentially like on every, so on day 30, you're going
2 to have to, it's essentially 30 days from each day where
3 tickets are handed out.

4 So there might be a period of time where the ticket
5 administrator is posting an updated form every day.

6 MS. MOORE: If that were happening.

7 CHAIR PERRAULT: That doesn't even make sense.

8 MS. MOORE: Or if the tickets were requested, if -- but
9 even if it was tickets to individual races, let's just say,
10 and that was, those were provided at one time.

11 MR. CAPLAN: Yes.

12 MS. MOORE: You could also do the posting -

13 >> [multiple speakers]

14 CHAIR PERRAULT: 30 days from that one time.

15 MR. CAPLAN: Yes, you could.

16 One time.

17 Yes, it's all - it all depends on when the ticket
18 administrator hands the tickets over to the commissioner.

19 That's what starts the 30-day clock.

20 CHAIR PERRAULT: And I, so I think to that note, to
21 commissioners, it's not in the policy, but from a - but from
22 our administrator's purposes, it would be helpful, and this is
23 that next step, so I don't want to get ahead of ourselves.

24 But it does speak to the oversight, which is if we have a

1 full calendar prior to of what is available, with a deadline
2 to commissioners to say if you are wanting to attend any of
3 these please let us know by "X" date so that then maybe we can
4 group the issuance of tickets at the same time.

5 Now granted there may be an outlier here or there.

6 But perhaps that would minimize so you're only needing to
7 post, you know, a whole group 30 days after.

8 Again that, I don't think that needs to be in the regs.

9 That's more of just an operational norms but that would be
10 helpful to our administrator I would think.

11 And to the DAA.

12 MS. MEAD: Yes.

13 >> [multiple speakers]

14 MS. MEAD: Not just us, but since we're dependent on the
15 DAA.

16 CHAIR PERRAULT: Correct.

17 MS. MEAD: For posting.

18 CHAIR PERRAULT: Correct.

19 MS. MEAD: And I'm more than happy to work with the DAA.

20 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay, thank you.

21 Okay, so it looks like we have a spot for it to be posted
22 on the website.

23 Thank you, DAA.

24 We have a potential administrator willing to step in for

1 the time being.

2 So I think, are there other questions, comments, concerns?

3 Otherwise I'll try to articulate an amended motion, if
4 that is helpful.

5 Okay.

6 All right.

7 So then, I think what the motion would be, would be to
8 adopt the State Race Track Leasing Commission event ticket
9 policy.

10 The adoption date being September 5th, 2025.

11 The policy will be posted in a prominent place on the 22nd
12 DAA's website.

13 Both the policy as well as the identification of any
14 tickets that are provided within 30 days will be available on
15 that website.

16 We are going to amend the policy as part of this motion to
17 further clarify sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.10 around the use of
18 tickets for immediate family or a guest.

19 So we will make those changes.

20 It looks like also section 4.2 falls under that 5.2.

21 So what I'm actually going to just say is we will amend
22 the policy under this motion to adjust that language in
23 anywhere it appears within the current draft.

24 And then, we will also be amending the motion and the

1 draft to include the identification that the commission's
2 ticket administrator will be Commissioner Mead.

3 And then we will also lastly, be adding a section 8.0,
4 that will be used to clarify the distribution percentages or
5 amounts of tickets to not overweight them to one commissioner
6 or other over another.

7 Did I capture all of the amendments per the commission's
8 will?

9 MS. LASSO: Yes, that was great.

10 CHAIR PERRAULT: Okay.

11 Okay, then with that, is there a motion to pass the
12 amended item for the ticket policy?

13 MS. LASSO: Motion to approve.

14 CHAIR PERRAULT: Motion by Commissioner Lasso.

15 Is there a second?

16 MR. FLORES: Second.

17 CHAIR PERRAULT: Second by Commissioner Flores.

18 Can we have -- oh, okay.

19 I don't need to public comment.

20 We already did that.

21 Okay.

22 All right, can I please have a roll call.

23 MS. ARNOLD: Chair Perrault.

24 CHAIR PERRAULT: Aye.

1 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Flores.

2 MR. FLORES: Aye.

3 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Lasso.

4 ANNA LASSO: Aye.

5 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Arabo.

6 MR. ARABO: Aye.

7 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Barkett.

8 MS. BARKETT: Aye.

9 MS. ARNOLD: Commissioner Mead.

10 MS. MEAD: Aye.

11 CHAIR PERRAULT: Thank you so much.

12 That motion carries.

13 And we, that also concludes, that was a lot of work.

14 Thank you, all, appreciate that.

15 That concludes item number 7, which is our general

16 business.

17 We now have no other business before the State Race Track

18 Leasing Commission today.

19 The time is 2:52 on September 5th, 2025, and the meeting

20 of the State Race Track Leasing Commission is hereby

21 adjourned.

22 Thank you, all.

23 I appreciate it.

24 [Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.]

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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