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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS
2260 JIMMY DURANTE BOULEVARD
DEL MAR, CALIFORNIA 92014

(TELECONFERENCE)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

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Transcribed by:
QuickCaption, Inc.
3457 Arlington Avenue, Ste.
104
Riverside, CA 92506

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IN ATTENDANCE

22ND DAA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS PRESENT:

SAM NEJABAT, CHAIR

LISA BARKETT, VICE CHAIR

MARK ARABO, DIRECTOR

DONNA DEBERRY, DIRECTOR

MICHAEL GELFAND, DIRECTOR

KATHLYN MEAD, DIRECTOR

JOYCE ROWLAND, DIRECTOR

FREDERICK SCHENK, DIRECTOR

22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION STAFF:

CARLENE MOORE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

HENRY RIVERA, PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

MOLLY ARNOLD, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION COUNSEL

JOSHUA CAPLAN, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

(VIA ZOOM)

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

JANE CARTMILL

CARLA ECHOLS-HAYES

1 MR. RIVERA: The room is live.
2 Check, check, check, check, one, two.
3 The room is live.
4 CHAIR NEJABAT: Okay.
5 All right.
6 Good morning.
7 Today is Wednesday, January 14th, and the time
8 is 9:35 a.m.
9 I now call this meeting of the 22nd DAA Board of
10 Directors to order.
11 May we please get the roll.
12 MS. ARNOLD: Chair Nejabat.
13 CHAIR NEJABAT: Here.
14 MS. ARNOLD: Vice Chair Barkett.
15 MS. BARKETT: Here.
16 MS. ARNOLD: Director Arabo.
17 MR. ARABO: Here.
18 MS. ARNOLD: Director DeBerry.
19 MR. GELFAND: DeBerry, are you here?
20 MS. DeBERRY: Here.
21 Sorry.
22 MR. GELFAND: Is this a public meeting?
23 MS. ARNOLD: Director Gelfand.
24 CHAIR NEJABAT: Public comment and closed

1 session.

2 MR. SCHENK: Michael, you're up.

3 MR. GELFAND: I'm here, sorry.

4 MR. SCHENK: The questions get tougher.

5 MS. ARNOLD: Director Mead.

6 MS. MEAD: Here.

7 MS. ARNOLD: Director Rowland.

8 MS. ROWLAND: Here.

9 MS. ARNOLD: Director Schenk.

10 MR. SCHENK: Here.

11 MS. ARNOLD: Director Blair is absent.

12 CHAIR NEJABAT: All right, we have a quorum.

13 Now moving on to public comment.

14 We have no speakers in the room.

15 We do have two speakers online.

16 As a reminder, you have two minutes.

17 We'll go ahead and start with Jane Cartmill.

18 JANE CARTMILL: The following necropsy details
19 were obtained from the California Horse Racing Board
20 through a public records act request.

21 [indiscernible] September 29, 2024, Del Mar.

22 Arrived at hospital September 7 with
23 hemorrhagic diarrhea, endotoxemia, and severe
24 dehydration.

September 9 hemorrhagic diarrhea returned with severe GI pain.

Final diagnosis necrohemorrhagic typhlocolitis with thrombosis, hemorrhages in diaphragm, costal musculature, pericardial adipose, heart, lung, spleen, kidney, adrenal glands, and ventral aspect of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae.

The necropsy also noted [indiscernible] quote, sunken eyes.

How this poor horse must have suffered.

Just four years old.

[indiscernible] November 2, 2024.

Del Mar Racing Breeders' Cup.

Horse pulled up, become ataxic, collapsed and died spontaneously, cause not determined.

Findings include osteochondral disease in three limbs, history of lameness, moderate lumbar stomach ulcers.

Horse was three years old.

Elector, November 16, 2024, Del Mar training.

Catastrophic right front fetlock failure.

Multiple complete displaced fractures.

Multiple torn ligaments.

Joint capsule completely torn, osteochondral

1 disease both front limbs.

2 Elector was six years old.

3 Tammy, September 3, 2024.

4 Del Mar pony horse.

5 Horse was covered in full body sweat,

6 aggressively trying to lay down.

7 After meds, became actively painful again.

8 Euthanized due to intestinal incarceration,

9 strangulation associated with [indiscernible].

10 Tammy was five years old.

11 How these horses suffered.

12 CHAIR NEJABAT: Thank you, Jane.

13 Carla Echols-Hayes.

14 CARLA ECHOLS-HAYES: Hi, can you hear me?

15 CHAIR NEJABAT: Yes.

16 CARLA ECHOLS-HAYES: Hi, everybody.

17 Happy new year.

18 It is the year of the horse, however, at Del

19 Mar Horse Park, where no horse actually gets to have

20 strangles or anything else because they are very,

21 very closely vetted.

22 That being said, did I -- I sent all of you a

23 list of the 28 events plus there's Christmas trees,

24 at the Del Mar Horse Park this year.

1 And I wanted to share with you, because some of
2 you like to go to these shows, just kind of at a
3 glance, this is what's going on.

4 What I really like up the lineup this year is
5 the attention to young people, youth training clinic
6 at, for instance, the February 19th.

7 That's going to be really cool because it's
8 Olympic riders who have been there, done that.

9 Gunther Seidel who is a local [indiscernible]
10 who is in Los Angeles they are going to be training
11 these really young people in how to get to the
12 Olympics, which is wonderful.

13 In the hunter jumper world you can see there's
14 lots and lots of shows.

15 The two big, big shows are the FEI2s in April
16 and in -- oh, gosh, there are so many of them, guys,
17 in August.

18 But what is really, really important here, I
19 think, is again, the focus on youth.

20 Every single SCHC hunter jumper show, those are
21 less expensive, they have less fancy horses.

22 You don't have Karl Cook in these shows.

23 What you have are young people and youth riders
24 who are trying to hone their skills and really

1 become the next Karl Cooks.

2 The Arabian show is fabulous.

3 If you like to see lots of different venues,
4 disciplines like western all the way to dressage and
5 carriage horses, that's it.

6 Anyway, thank you.

7 And it's going to be--

8 CHAIR NEJABAT: With that, that concludes public
9 comment.

10 The board will now move on to our closed
11 executive session to discuss matters described under
12 item 4 on the agenda.

13 We anticipate returning to open session around
14 11:30 a.m.

15 The current time is 9:40 a.m.

16 And pursuant to the authority of Government
17 Code Section 11126A, B, and E, the Board of
18 Directors will now meet in closed executive session
19 on items described on today's agenda.

20 Thank you.

21

22 [The board has recessed to closed executive
23 session at 9:40 a.m.]

24

1 MR. RIVERA: The room is live again.

2 CHAIR NEJABAT: All right.

3 The time is 11:52 a.m.

4 and we've returned from closed session.

5 The 22nd DAA Board of Directors met in closed
6 session to evaluate the performance of the CEO,
7 consistent with the Government Code, and we have
8 nothing further to report.

9 With that, and seeing no other business before
10 the board, the time is 11:52 a.m., and this meeting
11 is now adjourned.

12 Thank you.

13

14 [Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Antha A. Ward, do hereby certify that the 22nd District Agricultural Association Board of Directors Meeting was transcribed from audio by me; that said digital audio recording of said proceedings are a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; that I am neither a member for, related to, nor employed by the district in which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of any member or staff employed by the district hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

Antha A. Ward

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