In the Matter Of:

INDIANA HORSE RACING COMMISSION MEETING

IHRC Meeting

September 14, 2016

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6	INDIANA HORSE RACING COMMISSION
7	MEETING
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12	Held on September 14, 2016
13	10:10 a.m.
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16	Indiana Grand Racing & Casino
17	4300 North Michigan Road Second Floor, Grandstand Clubhouse
18	Shelbyville, Indiana
19	
20	Taken by
21	Michele K. Gustafson, CRR-RPR
22	Notary Public
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1	APPEARANCES
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3	Tom Weatherwax, Chairman Greg Schenkel
4	Susie Lightle William D. McCarty
5	Michael Smith, Executive Director Deena Pitman, Assistant Executive Director
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7	Lea Ellingwood, Esq. Holly Newell, Esq.
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1	AGENDA
2	I. Call to Order
3	II. Approval of minutes of the June 15, 2016 meeting.
4	III. Agenda
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6	1. Consideration of ALJ's Recommended Order Dismissing Appeal in the Matter of Jockey Albin Jimenez.
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8	2. Review of commission rulings June 1, 2016 - August 30, 2016.
9	3. Consideration of Petition of
10	Centaur Holdings, LLC, New Centaur, LLC and Hoosier Park, LLC, Requesting Commission Approval for
11	the Construction of an Administration Building and Gate House at Hoosier Park.
12	4. Harness Horse Youth Foundation
13	presentation by Executive Director, Ellen Taylor.
14	IV. Old Business
15	V. New Business
16	VI. Adjournment
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CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I want to welcome
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     everyone to our meeting. At this point, as you
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     well know, each and every one of our meetings are
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     recorded by a court reporter. So at this time I'd
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     like to have our court reporter, Michele, raise
     your right hand. Please repeat after me.
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          (Court reporter was sworn in at this time)
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX:
                                Thank you. We thank you
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     for your patience and being with us, Michele.
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          Meeting is officially called to order. First
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     thing I'd like to do is have my Commissioners look
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     at, review, and approve the minutes of our last
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     meeting, which some of you have seen and I'm sure
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     it's been on the Web.
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          Do I have a motion to accept?
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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY: I move for approval of
     the minutes of the June 15, 2016, meeting.
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          COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL:
                                  Second.
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          COMMISSIONER LIGHTLE: Second.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: All those in favor, say
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     aye.
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          THE COMMISSION: "Aye".
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Aye.
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          Okay. Our agenda, first thing we have here,
     Lea, I think is you. Consideration of the ALJ's
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1 Recommended Order Dismissing Appeal in the Matter 2 of Jockey Albin Jimenez. Go ahead. 4 MS. ELLINGWOOD: Thank you, Chairman. On 5 June 18 of this year, the stewards determined that Mr. Jimenez violated the Commission's 6 administrative rules by failing to give his best 7 effort in easing up in a race. Based thereon, they 8 9 suspended his license for five days and fined him 10 \$1,000. Mr. Jimenez appealed, but subsequent to 11 filing his appeal he failed to show up for any of 12 the conferences, anything like that. As a result, 13 the ALJ issued an order dismissing his appeal. 14 The dismissal order is what's before you today 15 for approval. 16 All right. So we're CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: 17 supposed to take this and vote upon to confirm the 18 dismissal? 19 MS. ELLINGWOOD: Yes. Staff would respectfully request that you approve the ALJ's 20 order, making it a final order. 21 2.2 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Very good. Do we have 23 any questions from the Commissioners? 24 Do I entertain a motion? 25 COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Move approval.

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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY: Second.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: We have a motion to
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     approve and second. All those in favor, say aye.
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          THE COMMISSION: "Aye".
          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Aye.
          Holly, the next item is, I guess, the rulings
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     that have taken place from June 1 to August 30.
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          MS. NEWELL: Yes. Commissioners, in front of
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     you you have your set of rulings. These are
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     rulings from the height of racing season, so you'll
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     see a variety in there. If you have any questions
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     on any of them, I'm happy to take them.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Well, is this just about
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     the normal number because we're in the height of
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     the whole season?
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          MS. NEWELL: Yes. This isn't a particular
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     spike or . . .
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Okay. Any questions
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     from the committee on those? They're all listed.
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     This is just simply a review?
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          MS. NEWELL: Yes.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: We don't have to vote on
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     that?
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          MS. NEWELL: No. Just for your information.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Okay. The third item on
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the agenda is Rick Moore. Rick, looks like you're going to give us some pretty exciting building construction projects that you guys are putting forth?

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MR. MOORE: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, and thank you for allowing me to be here this morning, members of the Commission, Staff. Rick Moore, vice president and general manager of racing, Hoosier Park. We come before you today to get your approval for what we think is going to be a very, very exciting new racing administration building. In fact, I've got a picture here that I'd like to pass out to you.

As you can see, this is going to be a beautiful building, and there's a lot of thought that has gone into this and we've worked closely with Commission Staff and the ISA to make sure this building satisfies all the needs of the occupants. To give you an idea what will be inside the building -- you can see the outside, which is a pretty beautiful rendering -- we'll have basically three entities that will be housed in the building. That will be the IHRC, our racing office personnel, and ISA. We'll have judges' offices, offices for the licensing personnel, offices for the ISA

security folks, offices for Mike and Deena. Our race administration side, we'll have racing secretary's office, assistant racing secretary, our entry personnel, horsemen's bookkeeper, our own security, a conference room, ISA offices, chaplain's office, ISA medical facilities.

We've really thought this out long and hard. We're very proud to present this to you today. We think this is another way of, I might say, upping the ante of horse racing here in Indiana and showing Centaur's commitment to horse racing, particularly harness racing in this case.

I would point out on the picture that I've shown you there's a bronze sculpture of a horse in front of the building. We envision that being a likeness of Dan Patch, but we will not have that sculpture ready when the building opens next August 1. We're still looking for an acceptable manufacturer at an acceptable price.

That's what we come before you today to seek your approval to go forward with this magnificent building.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I think that's outstanding, Rick. This is at Hoosier Park?

25 MR. MOORE: Yes, sir.

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CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: And this is kind of where the main entrance there on the backside is?

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MR. MOORE: Yes. If you think about as you drive in, if you look off to the left, it will be before the current building. If you look off to the left, you'll see that will be the new race administration building.

With that we're also building a new guard house. Again, everything's going to be state of the art, the best in technology. We'll be getting another lane of ingress, so that we'll have a lane for trailers and then a lane for cars so we don't get the backup of cars and trailers.

So pretty exciting stuff. We look to break ground in the next thirty days and our timeline and completion date is August 1 of 2017, well before our hosting the Breeders Crown event in October.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I think this is fabulous because this would showcase our state of Indiana standardbred, especially for that national, worldwide event. What's the price tag on all this? That's why we're here to approve this, I think, because you have to have our approval.

MR. MOORE: It's several million dollars.

Again, that's a commitment that Centaur, Rod and

1 Jim, have made. 2 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Well, I think it's 3 noteworthy to tell the public this is such a big 4 commitment for all that you've already done. 5 every racing commission in our country is doing This is a big positive step for the future 6 7 of our racing community, and so I just want to thank you and Centaur for this major commitment. 8 9 Ouestions from the Commission? 10 COMMISSIONER McCARTY: I do. 11 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Sure. 12 COMMISSIONER McCARTY: Rick, I am looking at 13 the first picture we have in our documents for 14 today and the aerial. It seems to be at the north 15 end of the track; right? 16 MR. MOORE: That is correct. 17 COMMISSIONER McCARTY: And the closest street is 53rd Street, I think, off further to the 18 19 north; is that right? 20 MR. MOORE: 53rd is to the south. 21 COMMISSIONER McCARTY: I'm sorry. I mean 2.2 38th. 23 MR. MOORE: That's correct, yes, sir. 24 COMMISSIONER McCARTY: Does this have any 25 impact on traffic flow and so forth there?

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                           It will not increase traffic.
          MR. MOORE:
                      No.
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     It'll be the same amount of traffic we currently
 3
     have.
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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY:
                                 I'm just curious.
                                                     Do
 5
     you have to go before any local zoning or planning?
          MR. MOORE:
                      I should have mentioned that.
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     Yes, we will. We've received all the permits, both
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     state, local, and city, that we need to move
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 9
     forward.
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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY: Have been accomplished?
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          MR. MOORE: Yes, sir.
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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY: Okay. Very good.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Yes, Mike. Go ahead.
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          MR. SMITH:
                      I would just like to add.
     really appreciate their working with Deena and our
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     folks to make sure there are accommodations for our
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     Commission people, even though they aren't going to
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     give us the granite countertops, marble bathroom
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                They've been very accommodating in
     fixtures.
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     making sure that the layout works well for us.
                                                      Ι
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     just wanted to thank you.
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          MR. MOORE: Mike, that goes both ways.
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     appreciate all the time that particularly Deena has
     put into this. We are spending a lot of money on
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We want to make sure that we're doing it

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this.

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right and, again, as I said when we started, that
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     we're satisfying the needs and making it as user
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     friendly as possible.
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          MR. SMITH:
                      Appreciate it.
          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Very good, Mike.
          Any other questions? I guess to me, if you've
 6
     ever been on the backside, it's really a major
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     improvement, because now you have little offices
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 9
     here and you got to go there. This is where you do
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     all the pictures and the licensing and the
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     fingerprinting and the whole schmear?
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          MS. PITMAN: And the entries to the races.
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     Spend a lot of time . . .
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          MR. MOORE:
                      Busy building.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: It's a major building.
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     Very good.
          All right. Well, for us now as the
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     Commissioners, we are to look at this and grant
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     this permission and approval. So that's an item
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     that we need to vote on.
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          COMMISSIONER McCARTY:
                                 I move to approve the
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     petition for our approval of this construction to
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     go forward. I'm not doing that to end the
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     discussion if there's more discussion, but to put
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it on the table and get it considered. I move for

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the approval of the petition. 1 2 COMMISSIONER LIGHTLE: I second the motion. CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: We have a motion, 4 second. This is a petition to do both the administrative building and the gate house. All 6 those in favor, say aye. 7 THE COMMISSION: "Aye". 8 9 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Approved. 10 MR. MOORE: Thank you so much. 11 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Thank you so much for 12 your commitment. 13 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Chairman. CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Now, Harness Horse Youth 14 15 Foundation presented by Ellen Taylor. Welcome. 16 MS. TAYLOR: Thank you. It's always a 17 pleasure to share the good news of Harness Horse Youth Foundation with new faces. Thank you for 18 19 inviting me this morning. 20 As you can see on the screen, we have a mission statement. We have been in existence for 21 2.2 forty years this year. We had a 40th celebration 23 in Goshen, New York. Our stable star, Sweet Karen,

came right into the hall of fame and joined a crowd

of 120 people of all ages. We had from six to

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sixty-six present in the audience. It was a wonderful day of enthusiasm, celebrating both our past but our future.

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For those of you who have never heard of
Harness Horse Youth Foundation, we provide hands-on
experiences for kids in harness racing. We do it
for ages eleven and up. Our primary age is for
twelve to fourteen. And the picture you see is
from this year's Hamiltonian, Montrell Teague,
assisting this assistant driver, and he taught her
how to do the fist bump in less than an eighth of a
mile.

This picture is significant because the little girl that's sitting in that jog cart had never been around a horse before in her life. She went to a five-day event, which is a requirement to be invited to the Hamiltonian, and through that week she, as well as hundreds and hundreds of other kids that we had, she progressed from stark-raving fear and timidity to confidence, and, more importantly, she developed life skills that she will take with her for the rest of her life. Not trying to single her out, but in this particular instance she had never been in a hotel before. So there are many, many back stories through the pictures. This one

was one for the record books.

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The pictures that I've selected just show a variety of our hands-on activities. We have one-, two-, and five-day camps. This happens to be one of our graduates that has come back to the leadership program, which we developed for the older kids. They wanted more. This young lady is remarkable, in that she also had no harness racing experience whatsoever and now seems to want at least to know if she does or doesn't want a career.

The other remarkable thing about this summer was not one day -- and I was going from June the 11th until August the 11th -- not one day did I not have someone under the age of twenty in the backseat of the truck traveling with us more than 5,000 miles because they had been to a program and they wanted more information, more knowledge, more exposure to the horses, more exposure to harness racing.

As you can see, we use the little trottingbreds. This is very, very successful for us because when you're twelve years old, or fifty-three in my case, and not very tall, you need something short enough and less intimidating.

That's the reason. They trot and they pace, and

they have very much horse mannerisms, use the same equipment. The important thing that I feel in the program is that we run it like a real stable. The kids learn from the bottom up, cleaning water buckets, cleaning stalls, they learn the basic parts of the equipment, and we progress from there.

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As you can see, bathing is a big activity.

The only thing I have never successfully done is taught a kid to give a bucket bath, you have to get wet. If you don't get wet, the horse isn't clean.

Thus, the reason it takes four people to bathe a horse.

We also teach fundamentals of leg care and general horse care. Obviously teamwork is encouraged. And because we are so blessed with the older kids that want to help, I mostly put them to use as junior leaders.

This is just a silly picture at Vernon Downs. We do have a lot of fun. This is just before the exhibition races that happen at the end of the five-day program. I never allow more than five horses on a racetrack at the same time and usually it's four, but this group happened to be eleven kids and so they're racing three, three, and four.

The locations that we visit are everywhere

from Ohio east. This year we happened to go to 1 2. New York twice, we went to New Jersey, Maryland. 3 Ahoskie, North Carolina for a one-day program, which was extremely satisfying because that program 4 was for inner-city kids. It was a very depressed agricultural rural community, and we were invited 6 to the Chamber of Commerce to speak to I wasn't 7 exactly sure what, but at the end of the meeting 8 they couldn't believe that an organization like 10 ours would travel that far to help that community. 11 So we are making a difference in our forty years.

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In addition, the Harness Horse Youth
Foundation offers scholarships. Since 1978,
because we didn't give scholarships the first
two years of our organization, we've awarded
\$650,000 of our own money. That being said, the
Harness Horse Youth Foundation is a public charity.
We are funded by individuals. We receive very few
grants, if you will. I call them quasi-grants
because they may be grants within the industry but
they're not government grants by any means.

We also go to awareness events. This weekend we're dividing and conquering. Open Space Pace in Freehold, New Jersey, is an event with a parade and a festival. This is from last year. Our two

students, littlest ones, were invited to carry the opening banner for the parade. I personally will be going to Morrisville, New York, to work in cooperation with the college-level kids. So although there's only one paid employee in the organization, we have lots of great volunteers and sponsors to allow us to do more and more awareness events.

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Former graduates of HHYF, the list can go on and on. I just grabbed five pictures for the presentation. You'll recognize some as very local, some very national, some that are scholarship winners, some have been through the camp program, but it is amazing to me as I walk through racetracks all over the country, it's very rare that there's not a graduate that's still working in the industry somewhere. My record is I walked through a racetrack once and had eight hugs from former graduates, so it's significant.

Next up, in cooperation with Hoosier Park -- and it's next Wednesday and Thursday, as a matter of fact -- we are going to be hosting 650 Madison County fourth graders. It's going to be wild and woolly, but I'm sure we can accomplish it with great partnership with Hoosier. It's a part

of the Bicentennial Legacy Project.

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This is the kind of thing that I think the Harness Horse Youth Foundation should get more involved in, is willing to get more involved in. We may not have the biggest staff, but we have a great deal of energy to promote harness racing wherever there are kids to be in the audience.

At this point that's the end of my PowerPoint presentation. Questions?

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I have a question, because this looks very good. How do you get to be picked to be one of these participants? Who gives you those kids or tells you?

MS. TAYLOR: We have an application process that is open from about March to the middle of May, and you apply. Some camps fill very quickly, some camps we struggle to get the applicants. Like I say, the one-days are for ages eleven and up, because it's a little less intense, but the five-day programs are for twelve to fourteen. This year we had several waiting lists, especially for the leadership program.

It breaks my heart to ever have to turn down kids, but in order to keep safety where I think the standard should be, we do sometimes do that. But

we'll coordinate it, okay, so you didn't come to the five-day this year but why don't you come to the one-day at such and such.

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CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: So is this where the parents have to sort of stand back and let the kids experience things or are the parents off on the side?

MS. TAYLOR: I keep the parents as far away as possible.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: That's probably where you get the most learning experience.

MS. TAYLOR: We have family days.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: But do the parents drop these kids off and then take off?

MS. TAYLOR: Yes. Although a lot of parents get upset because the kids are so tired at the end of the day they don't get them called. I field a lot of texts in the evening from parents that are what's Johnny doing, well, Johnny is sleeping.

We are very emphatic that everybody can learn but it's just you have to learn according to the safety requirements.

COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: You mentioned someplace -- I didn't catch the city or the community where you did it -- about oriented it

toward the inner city. 1 2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Has that ever occurred in Indianapolis or in Indiana in that vein? 4 MS. TAYLOR: No. With due respect, Indiana doesn't have the same environment where we have 6 been getting our feet wet. It's a totally 7 different environment. 8 9 COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: In what way, if you 10 I mean, are you saying that --11 MS. TAYLOR: This is a very good example. 12 This will typify it. I have a rule that there's no 13 cell phones allowed when you're working with 14 horses. Everybody is required to put their cell 15 phones in the cell phone bucket. I received a 16 great deal of resistance this year at this 17 location. They did not want to put their cell 18 phones in the bucket. They do it. At the end of 19 the day the bus comes to pick them up, everybody 20 gets on the bus, I'm saying good-bye, see you next 21 They all forgot their cell phones. They had 2.2 to come back and get their cell phones. 23 So the mentality of outdoor, green space, 24 Indiana takes a lot for granted, if you will. And

because I am a student of agriculture and believe

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- that even if you can only teach a kid about green grass and open space, then you're making a difference, we made a difference in that way, because they put their technology down for
 - COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: I guess I'm not sure that answered my question. I'm trying to figure out if there is an opportunity that may exist, for instance, in Indianapolis or Fort Wayne or someplace. We have inner-city kids who have never seen a farm, never been that close to an animal, so forth like that. Are there outreach efforts there or are there ways that people might be able to assist you there or do you not want to go there? I guess that's my question.
 - MS. TAYLOR: Well, we will go where we are wanted. That's the nice thing about Harness Horse Youth Foundation. I will say that we are not staffed well enough to pursue such venues, but that does not mean if I were approached with, okay, I have this group and maybe it's the YMCA.
 - COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: So it's a chicken/egg type.
- MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

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eight hours.

25 | COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: I guess my second

question then: Not all of these positions that you're talking about and all these careers related to harness racing require a college degree. At the other end of that spectrum, do you do any outreach to Ivy Tech or even to Purdue and so forth in terms of where they're keeping this in mind as they're developing curriculum, planning things? Is there any effort to communicate with those folks on that end?

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MS. TAYLOR: To some degree. As a national organization we have struggled a little bit with direct contact. I will say that, for instance, when I'm looking for my summer interns, we connect with any agricultural university, because you don't necessarily have to have it.

COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: I'm not asking it to be critical.

MS. TAYLOR: No, no. I get it. You're right. The more we can partner and the more that we connect with people who know people, the better off we are.

COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Very good. Did you have someone else as part of your presentation today?

MS. TAYLOR: No.

1 COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Well, thank you so much. I think this is truly a great way to encourage more participation in the horse racing business and the responsibility. For a lot of those kids that have never been on a farm, this has got to be a very good learning experience. So we thank you for all you're doing.

MS. TAYLOR: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Appreciate it. And thank you to Centaur for allowing this to happen. I guess you had to pick the date, time, and place? Rick, is it a block out of time or how do you fit this into your schedule? Is it in the daytime?

MR. MOORE: Yes. As Ellen said, it's part of

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: So this is part of that route where the torch comes around?

MR. MOORE: That's correct.

the bicentennial celebration in Anderson.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I'm a torch bearer for my county. So when the torch bearers come, this is a part of what they're going to do?

MR. MOORE: That's absolutely correct, yes.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Very good. Well, thank you.

Now, we have old business, Lea. I don't know if we have any old business?

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MS. ELLINGWOOD: None that I'm aware of, sir. Lots of new business.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Okay. New business, we have Jon Schuster and Jim Brown will do a presentation regarding improvement at Indiana Grand. So we welcome you and look forward to hearing what you're doing.

MR. BROWN: Good morning, Chairman,
Commissioners, IHRC Staff, and Engineer Smitty.
Thank you for allowing us a few minutes today to
talk about the current meet at Indiana Grand.

Several months ago I had the pleasure with Rick of discussing the 2016 Hoosier Park meet, and we talked about the fact that Hoosier Park is now arguably one of the top three harness tracks and top standardbred programs in the United States. That's borne out by three horses that you see almost every weekend, Freaky Feet Pete and Wiggle It Jiggleit and Always B Miki, racing for \$200,000 or \$300,000, and last weekend was one of the most exciting finishes. And we're starting to get ready for the 2017 Breeders Crown races.

Today it's a pleasure to talk about

Indiana Grand. We're so proud of our partnerships with our horsemen, the Indiana Grand team, the IHRC, the HBPA, the QHRAI, our racing organizations, ITOBA, our legislators, and all that's been collectively done for Indiana racing in general, the industry, and today Indiana Grand.

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There are various measures of success. One might be your handle and one might be the beauty of your facility, the quality of your horses, the purses that they race for, the relationships that people have; and having been a part of racing in Indiana now for almost a decade, it's been just one of the best experiences in my life and many others that I know to be a part of that. Just we'd like to take you through and for our audience today a few things that have occurred over the last several years at Indiana Grand and this year.

Starting with handle. We had our first one-breed-per-track meet in 2013 and we moved thoroughbred and quarter horse racing exclusively to Indiana Grand, and during that year handle was up at Indiana Grand for thoroughbred and quarter horse racing as compared to the full meet the year before by 6 percent, but more importantly commission was up by 17 percent as

Churchill Network took over our sales and purchases
of signals. And that year -- and the reason I
mention this is -- Hoosier Park handle was up

percent that year and commission was up

percent. This is back in our first
one-breed-per-track meet.

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In 2014 our handle was flat, but we were experimenting with the racing program at Indiana Grand. We wanted our customers to get a full experience at Indiana Grand, particularly during busy business periods, so our meet was two or three days a week and on Friday and Saturday it was a night program. What we found was especially our export customers were very confused about when we were going to be there. When they went to the daytime, we were at night and vice versa.

We sat down during the off-season and said this needs to get straightened out, and determined that the program would be day racing with an always-turned-on party atmosphere on Saturday night. That helped us tremendously with our audience and understanding where we'd be and when we'd be there, and last year Indiana Grand handle was up 22 percent. And that's versus national handle being essentially flat.

This year, over the first ninety days of racing, national handle is up 1 percent through August and Indiana Grand is up 13 percent. So if you look at a measure of success of people having interest and betting on racing, last year we were up 22 percent and this year meet to date up 13 percent.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: That's a lot.

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MR. BROWN: It is. And it's something that we should all be proud to be a part of all of it.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Well, is this because you had to coordinate your signal with all the tracks in this country?

MR. BROWN: Well, that was a part of it. We needed our audience to know where to find us. But it's the horsemen, the horses being put on the track, the level of competition, the quality of the races, the quality of the export program, the commentator team. It's a collaboration of many folks that starts with the horsemen and what our folks get an opportunity to watch or bet on throughout the nation and actually throughout the world.

As Jon will talk about, we haven't been in Las Vegas in their sports books for I can't

remember with Indiana Grand or Indiana Downs. 1 And 2 a number of folks spent a lot of time working on this with the coalition in Las Vegas that 3 4 determines what tracks they're going to take, and it's one size fits all. This coalition determines 5 which ones and then they get sent out to the 6 7 various sports books. We were successful in getting Indiana Grand back into the Las Vegas race 8 9 book programs every race day and subsequently 10 Hoosier Park into the race book programs in the 11 Las Vegas casinos three days a week. They'll look 12 at those numbers and see where they go from here.

Jon has a lot more on our outreach and the relationships that we formed and the efforts that we've been collaboratively making to get additional exposure for Indiana racing today in the thoroughbred and quarter horse areas.

This year's Indiana Derby, I think handle was up by, Jon?

MR. SCHUSTER: It was a record. It was 3.1 million versus 1.9 the year prior.

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MR. BROWN: So we are being noticed and the quality of our program is being noticed, and a lot of exciting things have happened during that time. If you look back, the new tote board and jumbotron

The track got stripped down to the 1 2. sub-base and over \$1 million was spent putting in 3 an entirely new race surface. We have a great track and backside maintenance team that works very 4 5 hard to keep the track in top condition. equipment is working the track, water trucks, 6 mowers, Gators, other vehicles that will be 7 8 finishing up that three-year program. Next year we 9 have four beautiful new thoroughbred barns that you 10 can see out there and a new quarter horse barn that 11 just opened this meet (indicating). We started 12 with, I think, 660 stalls and we're at about 1,000 13 right now.

MR. SCHUSTER: Little over 1,000, yes.

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MR. BROWN: Our simulcast center, if you've been downstairs, we renovated this year. It wasn't a complete redo, but looks a lot cleaner, crisper. Changes to the clubhouse. Couple years ago the Winner's Circle, which has been a home run, off the casino floor has a top simulcast outlet. Trakus, one of the few tracks in the country that has Trakus, and we have Trakus at both of our tracks now. Ongoing backside improvements. If you haven't had a chance to go to the backside at either track lately, they're very clean, they're

very well maintained, and worked hard with.

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I even understand we have great breakfasts in our cafe over there. That's on this side of the gate, so you don't need a racing license to get in and you can watch horses work in the morning over an omelet or some bacon and eggs.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Our executive director knows this well.

MR. SMITH: French toast.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: French toast is out of the world, okay.

MR. BROWN: We started a VIP owner's club program this year. Every year there's a racing symposium out in Tucson, and we send a group of people out each year for big items, small items, fun items. This was something to help attract live audiences, and it's a red carpet rolled out for owners that gives them premium seating, gives them other amenities, discounts, programs, things like that, to help get them to the track for races, and we have that at both tracks this year. We have a fractional ownership program. It's more lab experiment at Hoosier Park this year and it's called First Turn Stables, and we have 50 owners of a racehorse.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I can tell you by personal experience that that's exciting because I think they're making money. I think this Friday they're supposed to get the accountant's report to exactly know how much they've lost or won. But they get the full experience of being an owner. Of course, the biggest part that my friend shared with me on this contract -- and Rick showed me the contract -- there's a question-and-answer thing and the question is what can go wrong and the answer is anything and everything. Which is typical of the racing business.

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If you're going to be racing, it tells these people . . . And the goal here, as we remember, is to try to get more people involved, get the excitement, learn what the program is. I think it's been a success. I don't know if you're going to do it over here, but you're doing it at Hoosier Park.

MR. BROWN: Our plan is to work the bugs out at Hoosier Park and bring it to Indiana Grand next year. As you know, it took us a long time to develop it from scratch because it's not a true fractional ownership program where those owners assume a lot of risk. Once they put their \$250 in,

that's all that they were on the hook for. And I
wish I had that stable because I think right now
we've had three firsts, two seconds, and two out of
the monies in seven starts.

MR. BROWN: That's correct.

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CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: And they've all been claimed, which means they have the money.

MR. BROWN: Also they've gone through the experience three times of having their horse claimed. And I think two out of three or three out of three, the horse was claimed for a higher price than they purchased.

MR. MOORE: That's correct.

MR. BROWN: So they probably got at least a 200, 300 percent return on their investment. What was the last time? Over 30 show up for the race?

MR. MOORE: Yes. You couldn't get them all in the win picture, yeah.

MR. BROWN: It's been great, exciting, and the plan is to bring it to Indiana Grand next year.

I want to bring Jon Schuster up. He has a few things to say about this year's meet. He's going to start with the last item I had, which is our commentator team.

MR. SCHUSTER: Thanks, Jim. Thank you for

entertaining us today to talk about some of these success stories.

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I'll take a ten-second digression, if I can, and just let you know that two of my daughters went through Ellen's program, and ten years later we still talk, laugh, and giggle about it. To show you how sick it is, my wife follows Sweet Karen on Facebook. Just go ahead and throw that out for public knowledge.

Our commentator team, very national.

Peter Lurie from L.A. and from TVG fame is sort of our anchor for that; Nancy Holthus, who hails primarily from Arkansas but is also a TVG star, is on our team; along with our very own

Rachel McLaughlin, who was at Hoosier Park for several years and came down here; and Bill Downes, our announcer and a handicapper extraordinaire, who actually has earned a seat into the national handicapping contest this year. He takes it very seriously. That team has really done a lot to elevate this program.

Last Thursday Peter and I went down to the Clarksville OTB, and they don't get a lot of touches or a lot of attention from us. They're an OTB and it's run well. Boy, let me tell you, when

that guy walks in there, there's 30 people all
around him wanting to shake his hand and touch him.

We had a great time giving away some wagering
vouchers if you could beat the expert and so forth.

We had a lot of fun. We do that in the

Winner's Circle also. We've been going up to

New Haven. He's here on track and has a great rapport with everybody. Everybody gets a big kick out of that.

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Nancy does a great job down in our paddock. She is from a, I think, third or fourth generation horse family. So she can talk how the horses look and how they're acting and responding down in the paddock and so forth. It's just a great team.

Talking a little bit about some of our marketing and promotional operational outreach things, a lot of the things that Jim talked about. All the improvements here on track are great for our horses, our riders, our horsemen, and the local group, but as you know, about 90-plus percent of our wagering dollars come from around the country. I'm going to talk a little bit more about some of those things that come in from out and around.

One of the great things that we have on a local basis but away from the track was we doubled

our partnership with WISH-TV this year. Last year was the first year we had them involved in our Indiana Derby and Dan Patch up at Hoosier Park, and we had a one-hour show and it was very well received. I heard comments from people I hadn't talked to in a long time that saw that. This year we went for a two-hour segment, and it was just crazy the amount of . . . In fact, I just had somebody call me just last week and talk to me about that.

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Along with that, WISH-TV has partnered with us on some promotional things that the IHRC has done with us in our breeding programs, and we've done a few shows with them which have also received quite a bit of attention. So we're very proud of our partnership with WISH-TV.

Jim talked about the Indiana Derby. We have turned that into a bit of a festival here the last few years and it's a three-day festival. On Thursday we have a Knight in Arms program, which is a fundraiser and a celebration of our wounded and fallen soldiers, as well as wounded and fallen first responders. We have a special day. We bring a lot of special folks from the community, Indianapolis police officers, State Police,

military heros and patriots come in. We get them in the Winner's Circle for special pictures and special presentations, and it's very well received.

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We also introduced this year an Indiana Derby queen pageant. We did that, we had a lot of fun with that, and got more notoriety than I would have thought. Of course, I'm just an old horse racing guy, so I wouldn't really think about the beauty queen thing. It was very fun, we had a lot of fun with it, and it brought some additional notoriety to what we're doing out here. Racing's just one of our four pillars. We've got entertainment, a lot of other things that go on here, gaming and dining, and racing as well.

We alluded to the record handle, the 3.1 million. I want to put that in context just a little bit. It was up 1.9 million the year prior. We had an unbelievable race card. Our director of racing, Kevin Greely, put together an unbelievable program. We got a great take on it.

Nationally-acclaimed horsemen, horses, jockeys, it was an unbelievable night that way. When we talk about 3.1 to 1.9, that's crazy -- I mean, that's an insane thing -- but you have to put it in context of being on a Saturday night.

Jim alluded to this, when we went day racing and we kept it always turned on for Saturday nights. Saturday night is our weakest handle day of the week. The other three days, or four when we're running Thursdays, generally run north of \$1 million in handle. On Saturdays we're usually in the \$700,000 to \$800,000 range. Few successes above that and beyond that. So when you look at the \$3.1 million, you really can compare it to the \$800,000 on the normal Saturday evening as well. Certainly Indiana Derby's different. So the 3.1 to 1.9 is a valid comparison, but big difference in what we normally do.

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Target advertising, we did a little change in course this year. We started advertising in Louisville area. Louisville has a lot of folks that are interested in our program. A lot of our horsemen are from Kentucky. But we also have the Clarksville OTB down there, and we saw this as a good opportunity to layer in some notoriety for them. Along with our effort to upgrade Clarksville, which I'll talk about in a minute.

We have been able to increase our handle down there in an OTB environment nationally that is not doing well. OTBs are closing all over. We've lost

Evansville in this state and Merrillville in this state because the model really is very difficult. So we're very proud that we're still profitable there, and enhancing the program and that marketing in the Louisville area is a piece of that.

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Our TVG partnership, we've spent a lot of time and effort working with TVG. Our horsemen partner with us on this on the expense side of it. It's good for all of us to get the exposure for Indiana racing. It gives us a chance to be on the national stage on a near-daily basis, and we're doing a lot of different things. One of the things that just recently happened, instead of our commentators and our team calling in, we figured out a way to Skype in so they can get a visual with it as well. So there's a lot of things that are positive and progressive in the TVG partnership arena.

We enhanced our special day coverage this year for things like our Indiana Derby, Dan Patch, our Centaur Stakes day, which was also a huge success, and we feel like that relationship is great. We really appreciate our partnership with the horsemen on that, as both groups participate heavily in that. It's a big expense for us to share.

Sirius XM radio, we started a partnership with

this year. On Saturday mornings two of our commentators, Peter Lurie and Bill Downs, will call in on about a ten-minute radio segment called Down the Stretch. Now, Sirius radio's horse racing programming is for the serious player. This is where we want folks that can really speak to the minutia of horse racing, the fractional times, the class drops, and the type of horsemen that are moving around and coming in. So this is a huge benefit to serious players, and to have ourselves on that national stage is a real coup for us. It's not terribly expensive, but we've gotten a lot of feedback from that, very positive.

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TwinSpires is one of the ADW wagering formats, and we've always done a lot with them. We enhanced that a little bit this year and did a little more with them. We get a great deal of handle from them, and that handle has improved this year as a result of heightened efforts with them.

We've gotten involved with the Paulick Report racing diary series. Ray Paulick is a nationally-renowned racing writer primarily, reporter, journalist -- was with the Blood Horse for years and has gone out on his own now -- and within about ten minutes of the last one airing, I

got a call from my good friend who's the director
of racing down in New Mexico at Sunland Park. He
called up and he raved and raved and raved about
how we pulled this off, and the primary concern
that he had was how well we'd done with our
partnership with horsemen and the
Racing Commission.

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These diaries are video interviews essentially with several of our folks -- horsemen, accidentally I was in one, some of our racing folks and so forth -- just talking, answering questions about what kind of improvements we've done here and about Indiana racing. He called up and was completely jealous. And they've got a nice program down there -- they have racinos and good purses -- but they have a lot of other issues that we do not have here in Indiana. So very proud of that.

National handicapping contest, we hosted our first one of those here at Indiana Grand.

Hoosier Park had some back in the day. We've never had one here. We made the commitment to try and get some more national awareness for what we're doing, and we spent the money to guarantee three of these seats to the national handicapping final, which will be in Las Vegas. I mentioned a little

earlier Bill Downes has already qualified for that, 1 2. one of our commentators, but we had 95 folks from 3 all around the country come right here, they had to be here physically on the property -- Canada, 4 5 New Mexico, Texas, California, Ohio, Kentucky, New Jersey -- we had people from all over that 6 physically came here, got to see what we do here. 7 And the blogosphere went wild. They love what we 8 9 have here. They love our location. They like the 10 way our folks handled them and treated them and 11 they had a good time. We got a lot of bang for our 12 buck out of the small amount of money we spent. It. 13 once again helped elevate our program.

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Finally, the last notable thing would be our increased exposure with Daily Racing Form.

Fortunately Jim has allowed us to make a much larger commitment to our marketing and promotional efforts with all of these entities that I've outlined here for you today, and it's not cheap.

And we're privileged to have our horsemen share in some of this with us so we can do a little bit more.

When we get a little up with TVG, now we can go out to Daily Racing Form, we go to Sirius radio, and we can make a lot of things happen and the

- 1 octopus has at least a full eight tentacles.
- 2 | Instead of being a guppy, we can be a whale. The
- 3 | racing form exposure on our big days, I believe, on
- 4 | Centaur day and Indiana Derby day were huge. They
- 5 | had special layouts in the racing form, which is
- 6 | the Bible for horse racing players around the
- 7 | country, on the thoroughbred side in particular.
- 8 | Very proud of those efforts.
- 9 The last thing I'll talk about as a little bit
- 10 more of a local thing is our Clarksville OTB.
- 11 | Couple years ago we did a major renovation down
- 12 there. We got rid of all of our old tube TVs and
- we have modern technology that you see in here
- 14 | today and down in our simulcast center downstairs.
- 15 But we needed to go beyond that.
- 16 Clarksville is a high-traffic area. And just
- 17 | to be frank about it, it's a little bit of a
- 18 rougher crowd than we're used to as far as the
- 19 | facility goes. They're good, old-time
- 20 | sophisticated racing public. When you walk around
- 21 | here of a day in Shelbyville, you'll see a few
- 22 | tickets on the floor. You go to Clarksville, it's
- 23 | almost like confetti. It's just a different
- 24 | environment. They're good players.
- 25 And I don't mean anything disparaging by that

at all. As a kid who grew up going to River Downs and Churchill Downs, that's how I kind of grew up in it, so it's kind of fun to see a little bit of that old-time way of going.

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Currently we're involved in about a \$250,000 renovation. Prior to the acquisition Clarksville hadn't really been touched in ten years. We weren't in a situation to do that. Since then they're getting a lot of attention and it's showing up. As I mentioned earlier, our handle is up in an OTB environment that's very difficult. That is a real success story.

You name it. We're redoing all the restrooms, which take a lot of traffic, just like the club does. The lighting. We've given a whole re-paint job. We've worked the floors through. We're reworking everything, including the food and beverage options and everything. We're very proud of what we're doing down there. We're proud of our staff.

It is another one of the things that elevates us. And when folks come over from Louisville and they're Churchill fans or they're folks that go to Churchill and they get to come to our place, we're changing a lot of minds and that's good. That's

where you're seeing the growth. So we're very proud of that.

With that, I will turn it back over to Jim.

MR. BROWN: We don't need to take up too much of the Commission and our guests' time. Want to briefly mention a very important project and the status of this project.

Where's our slide master?

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MR. SCHARTON: It's slowly going.

MR. BROWN: And by the way, Sirius is serious. I heard that from the row behind me. We were talking about Sirius radio for the serious horse player.

Willie Reed, the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine Dean, said when this \$9 million project started, the Centaur Equine Specialty Hospital, This center will house the most technologically advanced medical equipment to diagnose and treat equine patients, while also facilitating groundbreaking research and vital educational opportunities for students preparing for careers as equine specialists.

You can see some of the construction photos.

And you go on the internet and if you Google

Centaur Equine Specialty Hospital or Purdue

associated with that, you'll see about a dozen photos of the progress, and you can drive down the street and see where they're at. We broke ground in October of 2015. They're hopeful to get the facility completed by the end of the year. I'm hearing more January/February, but we know that the Equine Hospital is going to be open by the time our race meets start next year. Tours can be arranged for anyone that's interested. There's not much to see other than driving by right now, but soon we'll be able to take a peek inside.

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To finish up, I started my conversation with the measure of success in a racing program. You look at the track and the horsemen and the quality of the horses that we have and the way that we continue to grow, and an interesting statistic I found in reading about the, I think, 19 fatalities at Del Mar this year and I think Saratoga had about the same amount and they were saying, well, that's kind of typical, Indiana Grand Race Course last year, as they rate the safety of tracks, particularly thoroughbred tracks, was sixth safest in the country of every thoroughbred track by the number of fatalities per thousand starts. So that says something about the safety of the track, the

quality of the horses that are on the track.

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And bring into that where we're headed with our handle, with our ongoing partnerships, with all of our collective constituents, the beauty we have around us to be able to look out at the turf course and the main track and the backside this morning, and it's just great to be a part of it for all of us at Centaur. We have a great racing team here, from the front side to the backside, led by Jon. Thank you for giving us some time this morning to toot our horn.

COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER LIGHTLE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Thank you, Jim. There's some tremendous progress that you're making, and we thank you totally for this commitment.

Next, John, I think you have something that you need us to approve in the way of contracts?

MR. KEELER: Yes, sir. Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, my name is John Keeler with Centaur Gaming. Thank you for allowing me to present with regard to two potential new items of business.

If I may just make a brief announcement. Or October 17 at the Columbia Club at 5:30 is the

- 1 | Indiana Horse Racing Hall of Fame. This will be
- 2 the third annual event. Everyone is invited. The
- 3 | honorees this year are Mari Hulman George,
- 4 | Harold Barnes, Dr. and Former Senator Bob Jackman,
- 5 | and the late Don Myers. So should be a good time.
- 6 | Hope everyone can come.
- 7 Mr. Chairman, there are two items of new
- 8 | business, both of which I'm requesting respectfully
- 9 that the Commission grant authority to the
- 10 | Executive Director to approve in the interim before
- 11 | you meet again.
- One has to do with approving amendments to the
- 13 horsemen's contracts between the track and the
- 14 registered horsemen's associations. As you'll
- 15 recall, the Commission approves those annually, and
- 16 | you have done so for the 2016 meet. Since you
- 17 | approved those, one item has come up with regard to
- 18 TVG and our contract with it. As originally
- 19 envisioned, we thought that TVG would deduct its
- 20 | fees from the gross amount of the commissions that
- 21 | we're entitled to and then they would come to us
- 22 and we'd divide them with the horsemen. It turns
- 23 out that from a technical point of view they're not
- 24 | able to do that, so we're going to have to bring in
- 25 | the gross amount, write them a check for their

costs, and then split the money net with the horsemen. So that will require an amendment to all three contracts, and we would request that you authorize the Executive Director to approve those amended contracts.

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The other item has to do with mandatory In 2013 the Indiana General Assembly take-out. amended the horse racing law to allow, on the request of a horsemen's association, the Commission to reduce the take-out. The take-out is the commission that comes out of the betting pool. believe and in consultation with the horsemen have been working on an experimental prototype program where we'll identify certain races for the rest of this meet -- again, on just a pilot basis -- to try and reduce the take-out to increase overall betting, handle, and interest in a race, and then try and take a look at that after the meet is over and see whether it was successful or not. That's not been negotiated with the horsemen yet. Hope to have that done in the interim before you meet again, and would ask that the Executive Director have authority to approve that agreement.

CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: What breed does this involve? Or is it everybody?

1 MR. KEELER: I don't believe it involves 2. quarter horses, but it would involve the 3 standardbred horses as well as thoroughbreds. 4 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: So you've spelled all 5 these things out to our Staff? MR. KEELER: So just to clarify, Mr. Chairman. 6 On the take-out issue that does just involve the 7 standardbred and the thoroughbreds, and the TVG 8 issue involves all three breeds. 10 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Understand. Okay, John. 11 Well, then both of these are business to be changed 12 or for us to approve so you can operate basically 13 between now and before we finalize next year's 14 contracts? 15 MR. KEELER: Yes, sir. CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Also, I think the 16 17 quarter horse have been so successful, they've run out of their money for some of their awards. 18 19 That's not to be mixed up with any of this? 20 MR. KEELER: That's correct. Separate issue. 21 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: All right. So we have 2.2 these as a consolidated motion or do we have two 23 separate? 24 MS. ELLINGWOOD: Will be two separate motions. CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: The first one will be 25

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approval to split the authorization with TVG to go
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     from the gross that you get their costs out and
     then you split the remaining?
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          MR. KEELER: Yes, sir.
          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: With that summarized,
     somebody has got to write that up in a more proper
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     manner.
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                          Yes. We would call that
          MS. ELLINGWOOD:
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     Commission delegation of authority to the
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     Executive Director to approve changes to the
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     horsemen's contract specifically related to the TVG
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     issue that Mr. Keeler has raised.
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          COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: I would move that.
          COMMISSIONER LIGHTLE: I'll second.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: And I will second that.
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     All those in favor, say aye.
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          THE COMMISSION:
                          "Aye".
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Aye.
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          Okay. Now, the second part of your question
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     deals with the take-out on certain races, again,
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     the Executive Director would have the authority to
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     reduce.
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          MR. KEELER: Yes, sir, after the track and
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     horsemen have agreed.
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          CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: After they've agreed,
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1 okay. 2 Do I have a motion to accept that? COMMISSIONER McCARTY: I move to authorize the 4 Executive Director to approve the agreements if 5 they are reached and that we authorize our Executive Director to approve. 6 COMMISSIONER SCHENKEL: Second. CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Motion and a second. 8 9 All those in favor, say aye. 10 THE COMMISSION: "Aye". 11 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Aye. 12 Thank you, John. 13 MR. KEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members 14 of the Commission. 15 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: Now, do we have any 16 other items to come before this Commission before 17 we adjourn? 18 MS. ELLINGWOOD: No, sir. 19 CHAIRMAN WEATHERWAX: I thank everyone here. 20 Just for the public's information, Ed Martin is with us today. Of course, this will be the next 21 2.2 phase of what we're doing here today. Ed Martin, 23 please stand up. He's the president of 24 Racing Commissioners International. This will be a 25 public meeting for input, this time dealing with

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thoroughbreds. Yesterday we had a very good
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     meeting up at Hoosier Park on standardbred. Ed, we
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     welcome you to the next part of our program.
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          For right now this Commission meeting is
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     adjourned.
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          (The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. on
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     September 14, 2016.)
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1	STATE OF INDIANA
2	COUNTY OF MARION
3	I, Michele K. Gustafson, CRR-RPR, a
4	Notary Public in and for said county and state, do
5	hereby certify that the witnesses herein were by the
б	Chairman duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole
7	truth, and nothing but the truth in the aforementioned
8	matter;
9	That said meeting/hearing was taken down in
LO	stenograph notes and afterwards reduced to typewriting
L1	under my direction; and that the typewritten
L2	transcript is a true record of the testimony given by
L3	said deponents;
L4	That said meeting/hearing complies with all
L5	applicable rules;
L6	I do further certify that I am a disinterested
L7	person in this cause of action; that I am not a
L8	relative of the attorneys for any of the parties.
L9	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
20	hand and affixed my notarial seal this 23rd day of
21	September, 2016.
22	Welli K. Gustofson
23	Michele K. Gustafoon NOTARY PUBLIC S.FALL STATE OF HIDDANA My Commission expires Aug. 31, 2077
24 25	My Commission expires: August 20, 2017 Job No. 111289

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