# Illinois HBPA

## Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2021 12:00pm CST.

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| Next meeting: TBA |

1. Announcements

We have a new board member, Jackie King. She replaces Dan Ohallaron who recently vacated the seat.   
  
If there are any issues to be addressed, please contact me (Jim Watkins) via phone. General public complaints online or otherwise are not always seen and cannot be addressed if not taken to the proper channels. Thank You

1. Discussion

Casino Plans – FanDuel Management has been keeping Jim Watkins updated on the casino developments as things progress. The casino trust ‘CQ Holdings’ is planning on moving forward with building the casino in phases. First adding machines in the building, Next adding on to the existing building, and finally adding a hotel. We understand that this is planned to start at the end of our 2021 meet.

Off-Season Stabling – Many horsemen would like to see an agreement made earlier than last year. Each year this is requested, and all agreements are made as early as possible due to many varying conditions regarding the track and management. We found last year’s winter fees to be fair enough that the board of directors voted almost unanimously to stay.

Purse Account – In June we were 708k overpaid. At this rate we will be at about 2.2million at the end of the meet. The ‘Horsemen’s Fund’ in the State of Illinois was agreed to be dispersed to the horsemen’s groups’ purse accounts. We will receive 50% of the entire fund divided by the three horsemen’s groups. This is a great legislative win for the horsemen’s groups and keeping the fund.

Our Lobbyist has been busy not only making sure the horsemen’s fund dispersant stays with the horsemen in Illinois, but he also has a few bills to potentially increase the purse income from other avenues.

Du Quion Fair will be bigger and better this year. The Dept of Agriculture money will be increased, and we expect to see another great turnout like last year.

Tim Hughes: We now receive 33% of the 708/709 money. The first year I was sent up to the meeting, we were receiving 11%. The new lobbyist and Dept of Ag people assisted in getting us up to 33% of the pie. Looking at 1.6 million this next fiscal year. Half of the total monies will be dispersed until the IRB knows whether Arlington will be putting in for dates. If Arlington does not put in for dates, the rest of the money will be divided by the existing tracks. We have the potential to raise purses with our portion of the funds if Arlington does not request dates for 2022. Roughly 230k will be split between FD & Hawthorne if Arlington does not request 2022 dates.