

**Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**June 16, 2020**  
**Boutin's Resturant**  
**Carencro, LA**  
**1:00 P.M.**

**Directors Present:**

Jay Adcock  
Brett Brinkman  
Carrol Castile  
Charlotte Clavier  
Jake Delhomme  
Tom Early  
Danny Guidry  
Warren Harang III  
Michele LaVoice  
Neal McFadden  
Val Murrell  
Michele Rodriguez

**Directors Absent:**

Jim Montgomery

**Others Present**

Therese Arroyo  
Harry Benoit  
Alex Bonin  
Roger Heitzmann  
Sonny Moss  
Mary McFadden  
David Tillson

Warren Harang III called the meeting to order about 15 minutes early, as Greg Romig, representative of LaPort, APAC, was ready on a Zoom call to present the 2019 Audit and 990 Tax Return for the Association. Warren asked Roger Heitzmann to call the roll. Jim Montgomery was the only member absent. A quorum was present and the meeting was ready to proceed with business.

Greg then presented a draft of the audited financial statements for the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association (LTBA) for the year ended December 31, 2019. He stated that this year's audit presented some challenges due to the fact that we were working under some restraints of the Corona Pandemic. He commended staff on the diligence and patience required to complete the work this year and to do so in a timely manner with no hesitation. He referred to staff as an incredible team. LaPorte audited the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis of the LTBA, a non-profit organization, as of December 31, 2019, and related statements of revenues and expenses – modified cash basis, and changes in net assets – modified cash basis, for the year then ended, and related notes to the financial statements. Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with modified-cash basis of accounting. The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on their audit.

The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, as issued by the Comptroller of the United States.

Mr. Romig states, in the audit report that in LaPorte's opinion the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets of Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association as of December 31, 2019 and its related revenues and expenses and changes in net assets for the year then ended, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in note one of the audit (modified cash basis).

Mr. Romig pointed out that they did not find any material weakness.

Mr. Romig called the Directors attention to the functional classification of expenses. Financial accounting standards require disclosure of expenses between the functional classification of program and support. For the year ended December 31, 2019, 88% of the Association's expenditures were for program services (all award and purse supplementation programs). Approximately 12% of all expenses were for supporting activities.

Greg presented a draft of the 990, the informational return LTBA is required to file annually with the IRS.

Greg Romig completed his presentation and opened the floor for questions. After brief discussion about the solidity of the Association during this Corona Pandemic moving forward, and accepting the answers from Greg that the Association was in good posture, Tom Early made a motion to accept the Audit and 990 Tax Return as presented. This motion was seconded by Carrol Castille, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Warren then moved to the top of the agenda and asked Jake Delhomme to deliver the prayer.

Following the prayer Warren asked if there were any questions in regards to the minutes of the April 7, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting, which was held by teleconference. Hearing no objections he asked for a motion to accept. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. This motion was seconded by Brett Brinkman, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Roger Heitzmann asked the Board to ratify that they were aware and participated, if capable, in the previous meetings which were held by teleconference. These meetings were the meeting held on March 20, 2020 and April 7, 2020. All were in agreement that these meetings were held and they were notified and attended if possible.

Next on the agenda was a request for any changes to the Conflict Policies of the members of the board. Hearing none, Warren moved on with the meeting.

Warren the recognized our guest at the meeting, Mrs. Mary McFadden, Mr. Sonny Moss, Mr. David Tillson, and Mr. Harry Benoit.

A discussion on Louisiana Cup Day was the next item on the agenda. Roger Heitzmann asked the board for permission, if needed, to use some monies from operating if needed to assist Louisiana Downs in having Louisiana Cup Day. Roger notified the board that he has been working with Ed Fenasci and David Heitzmann on the monies as well as time and date. He notified the board that it's an ongoing project, but one that is needed to keep black-type races for Louisiana Breds. Roger also noted that it would be a great gesture to assist with this as Louisiana Downs was very instrumental in bringing back racing sooner than later. After discussion, a motion was made by Carrol Castille that the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association earmark \$100,000, whether from OTB funds or operating funds, or a combination of the two, to be used to help support purses at Louisiana Cup Day, if Louisiana Downs is capable of hosting the event with purses at a black-type level. This motion was seconded by Brett Brinkman, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **By-Law: Val Murrell – Chairman**

Val Murrell had no report for this meeting.

**Finance & Audit: Tom Early – Chairman**

Tom turned over the floor to Therese Arroyo who first asked if everyone had received their financial statements ending March 31, 2020. Everyone acknowledged that they had, so she moved forward. She asked if everyone had a chance to read the letter which accompanied the report that explains the variances in numbers as compared to last year at this time. The letter expressed how most of the differences are based on timing and when we were able to collect monies owed to us by others who had furloughed employees due to the virus pandemic.

**Government Affairs: Jake Delhomme – Chairman**

Jake Delhomme asked Harry Benoit, lobbyist for the LTBA, to give a report. Harry informed the board of the happenings of the legislature this year including the bill the Association proposed allowing three members of the Racing Commission to have ownership in horses that race in Louisiana. He informed the board on the passage of that bill and how other bills pertaining to gaming were doing.

**Grievance: Michele LaVoice – Chairperson**

Michelle had no report at this meeting.

**Inspection: Brett Brinkman – Chairman**

Brett Brinkman had no report for this meeting.

**LTBA/HBPA Liaison Committee: Val Murrell – Chairman**

Val had no report for this meeting.

**LTBA/LSRC: Jake Delhomme – Chairman**

Jake had no report for this meeting.

**Membership & Nominating Committee: Charlotte Clavier – Chairperson**

Charlotte informed the board Roger asked that the board address the affidavit that members are asked to sign before running for the board. Roger informed the board that the signing of the form was put into place about seven years ago, however members of the board question it every year. Roger asked that if the current board was fine with it, to please vote to do away with the procedure. Carrol made a motion to eliminate the affidavit as well as its signing. Danny Guidry seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Charlotte informed the board that the ballots were currently in the hands of the association members as we are about halfway through the month of voting. She reminded everyone that ballots will be counted on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, so get your votes in early.

**PAC Committee: Michele Rodriguez – Chairperson**

Michele has no report for this meeting.

**Salary & Benefits: Tom Early – Chairman**

Tom had no report for this meeting

**New Business:** Michele Rodriguez asked the board if it would consider delaying the payments of the Louisiana Futurity until a later date due to the pandemic. She expressed this might be an aid for some people pressed for funds. This was discussed openly and it was determined that no change would take place.

Michele asked that Stallion Awards be paid at an earlier date than usual in order to help out those who might need the funds. Roger informed the Board that stallion awards are always paid as quickly as possible and that is usually in the first week in August. Trying to force it to be sooner would only create a check run that may be incomplete or incorrect. Roger explained that it's a time consuming and tedious job that needs not to be rushed or sent out incorrectly. After discussion, the board was satisfied with the time in which they are paid.

Michele gave a report on the Equine Sales Company and the upcoming Yearling Sale followed by a two-year session. We were told that entries look good and it is to proceed as planned.

Michele then reported that the Equine Sales Company is looking into a mixed sale. Some details were being worked out with members of that organization with the hope that a mixed sale is held.

Charlotte passed around a copy of the handle currently posted by Louisiana Downs and Evangeline Downs showing how handle is higher on compared days from last year.

Jake made a motion for an Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Brett, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Jake made a motion to exit Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Carrol, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

No action was taken after Executive Session

**Old Business:**

No Old Business reported.

**Date, Time and Place of Next Board of Directors Meeting**

August 18, 2020 at 6:00 pm at a site to be determined

Warren asked for a motion to adjourn.

Jake made the motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Tom, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger A. Heitzmann III