

**LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES – January 27, 2020 Meeting**

As transcribed by Julia D. Harper, Certified Court Reporter

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bob F. Wright, *Chairman*
Judy W. Wagner, *First Vice Chairperson*
Dr. Patrick Bernard
Donald "Don" Cravins
R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.
Mike R. McHalfey
Louis Reine
Kenneth "Kenu" Romero
Mike Shelton

ABSENT

Thomas B. Calvert
Eric G. Johnson

APPROVED

At the Commission Meeting of

6-12-2020

(Date)



Executive Director

Louisiana State Racing Commission

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) was called to order by the Chairman on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 9:06 AM in the Riverview Room of the Monteleone Hotel, 214 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve the meeting minutes from the October 28, 2019 meeting; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS

A. BOYD RACING, LLC d/b/a DELTA DOWNS RACETRACK, CASINO & HOTEL

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren, Director of Racing*. Mr. Warren informs that Delta Downs' 84-day 2019-2020 Thoroughbred Meet started on October 8, 2019 and the handle is nearly flat. He states that Delta Downs has its process and equipment in place for digital horse identification. He says that Premier Night on February 7, 2020 will feature Louisiana-bred horses, a handicapping contest with free t-shirts for contestants, and a guaranteed All-Stakes Pick-4 wager. He invites the Commissioners to attend Premier Night.

Commissioner Wagner asks if any of the concerns with identification microchips installed in the back of horses' necks have been addressed. Dr. Larry Finley, Member of the Racing Council of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), responds that putting the microchip in the lip would be a more stable alternative than inserting them in the back of the neck, which could migrate in the horse's body. He says that they are trying to convince the AQHA to make lip microchips that standard.

B. THE OLD EVANGELINE DOWNS, LLC

d/b/a EVANGELINE DOWNS RACETRACK & CASINO

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren, Director of Racing*. Mr. Warren informs that Evangeline Downs' 46-day 2019 Quarter Horse Meet ended on December 14, 2019. He says that splitting up the LQHBA Louisiana Million Futurity and the Evangeline Downs Futurity into separate race nights was not successful and lost the good impact they'd usually have with the one big final stakes night. He states that handle was down slightly. He informs that Delta Downs' 2020 84-day Thoroughbred Meet will run from April 8, 2020 until August 29, 2020. He says that they are working on the backside. He states that Legends Night will be on May 30, 2020. He informs that Evangeline Downs will have a new Duralock inner turf rail installed in April that will allow the rail to be moved more often and look good for their simulcasting.

Dr. Bernard asks what days Evangeline Downs is open for workouts and how much are the horsemen charged for workouts. Mr. Warren responds that they open every other Saturday for workouts and that the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA), which runs the workouts in agreement with Evangeline Downs, charges \$20 per horse. He says that they don't get enough horses to open for workouts more than once every two weeks.

Commissioner Reine asks if the new turf rail is considered a safety rail for the benefit of horses and riders. Mr. Warren responds that the turf rail has been used in European racetracks and that the rail collapses if hit with a full horse's weight for the safety of the horse and rider.

C. CHURCHILL DOWNS LOUISIANA HORSERACING COMPANY, LLC

d/b/a FAIR GROUNDS RACE COURSE & SLOTS

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Jason Boulet, Senior Director of Racing*. Mr. Boulet informs that Fair Grounds 80-day 2019-2020 Thoroughbred Meet is up 12% on-track handle and down 4% all-source handle through its 39 race days so far. He says that weather issues have led to them racing off the turf for 12 of its first 39 race days. He states that Lecomte Day had record-breaking handle and was a big success. He says that the January 25, 2020 race day featured exotic racing, which brought a big crowd and may have helped reach record-breaking handle for that day. He informs that major racing is coming up on Risen Star Day, February 15, 2020, and Louisiana Derby Day, March 21, 2020.

Commissioner Guilbeau commends Fair Grounds for Lecomte Day and asks if Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort's opening has decreased Fair Grounds' horse population. Mr. Boulet responds that Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort and Sam Houston Race Park have both competitively drawn horses away from their population.

2. **THOROUGHBRED SAFETY COALITION**

- a. **Discussion** of Thoroughbred Safety Coalition's goals for implementing reforms in the racing industry presented by Mike Ziegler, Executive Director of Racing for Churchill Downs Inc.

Mr. Ziegler informs that the horseracing industry is facing high scrutiny and failing with the court of public opinion around the country. He introduces Dr. William Farmer, Equine Medical Director for Churchill Downs Inc., who is visiting all of their racetrack properties to help develop initiatives for horse safety.

He states that Churchill Downs Inc. has joined with other leading industry stakeholder organizations to form the Thoroughbred Safety Coalition to advocate for safety and integrity reforms. He says that they will come to the Commission to take up safety, integrity, and operational rule changes geared toward making the sport safer and leveling the playing field for the participants, including extending the withdrawal time for Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs from 24 hours to 48 hours, extending the standdown time on corticosteroids to 14 days and eliminate their stacking, eliminating the use of bisphosphonates in racing, adding a voided claim rule, and eliminating the use of Lasix on race day for two-year-olds.

He informs that Fair Grounds had its NTRA accreditation formally revoked due to deficiencies that need to be fixed and some circumstances out of their control. He says that he will attend a hearing on House Bill 1757, the Horseracing Integrity Act, tomorrow morning in Washington, D.C. He states that the bill has support from more than half of the House of Representatives and that it would transfer all oversight of medication in horseracing to an independent outside commission that would be controlled by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

Commissioner Reine asks if their proposal will include a rule change involving claimed horses getting time off to come back protected from a claim in their first race afterward. Mr. Ziegler responds that it isn't but is a great suggestion to add to their reforms.

3. SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION

- a. **Consideration** of Joint Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement and to transfer to District Court regarding John Soileau, et al. v. Churchill Downs Louisiana Horseracing Company, L.L.C., and Churchill Downs Louisiana Video Poker Company, L.L.C. et al.; Civil District Court, Orleans Parish; Docket No. 2014-3873; Div. "G".

Attorneys –

Plaintiffs:

William L. Townsend, III, Esq.
Chris Guillot, Esq.

Defendants:

David Waguespack, Esq., for Churchill Downs Louisiana Horseracing Co. LLC.
John L. Duvieilh, Esq., for LaHBPA

Mr. Townsend informs that he and his co-counsel, Mr. Chris Guillet, no longer represent three of the named plaintiffs. He files with the Commission a motion to withdraw as counsel of record for Mr. Alvin Brossett, Mr. Joseph Manucy, and Mr. Donald Watson. Commissioner Reine requests copies of Mr. Townsend's notifications of withdrawal as counsel of record to those plaintiffs. Mr. Townsend agrees.

Mr. Townsend informs that those three unrepresented plaintiffs were not provided notice of the hearing today. He requests a continuance of the Joint Motion to Approve the Settlement Agreement and to set an expedited hearing date no later than February 17, 2020 to occur before a tentative hearing date with Judge Robin Giarrusso in Civil District Court.

Mr. Waguespack and Mr. Duveilh state that they are trying to expedite these hearings with the Commission and District Court so that they can have a settlement agreement opt-out period of 45 days for plaintiffs that would end prior to the Legislative Session concluding in order to allow the Legislature to hear the issue and possibly amend the statute this year.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve the Plaintiff Counsel's Motion to Withdraw as Counsel of Record for Mr. Alvin Brossett, Mr. Joseph Manucy, and Mr. Donald Watson; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

2019-2020 THOROUGHBRED MEET

4. RACES

- a. **Ratification** of designated races for the 2019-2020 thoroughbred meet as provided in Agenda

Commissioner Cravins motions to approve; Commissioner Bernard seconds; motion carries.

5. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

- a. **Ratification** of *Heriberto (Eddie) Arroyo to serve as Association Steward for 2019-2020 thoroughbred meet. **new official*

Commissioners motion to approve; Commissioners second; motion carries.

- b. **Ratification** of *Jere Smith, Jr. to serve as Clocker for 2019-2020 thoroughbred meet. **new official*

Commissioner Reine motions to approve; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

**D. HARRAH'S BOSSIER CITY INVESTMENT COMPANY, LLC
d/b/a HARRAH'S LOUISIANA DOWNS**

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by Mr. Eric Halstrom, *Vice President of Operations*. Mr. Halstrom informs that Louisiana Downs' 46-day 2019 Quarter Horse Meet started on January 4, 2020. He states that on-track handle is down 8% but simulcasting handle is up 2%. He says they have 6.5 starters per race with 300 quarter horses on-site that can race in January and February and 500 2-year-olds who cannot race until March. He says that between 225 to 250 thoroughbreds are currently on-site training but they lost about 100 prospective horses to Sam Houston Race Park. He informs that Lone Star will be a huge competitor to Louisiana Downs in the Summer due to their purse increases. He states that their TV production has improved to high-definition broadcasting with cleaner graphics due to their investment and will continue to improve for the thoroughbred meet. He says that they have added 200 new TVs around the building.

Commissioner Davis asks who Louisiana Downs competes with from January through March. Mr. Halstrom responds that most jurisdictions don't allow quarter horse racing until 2-year-olds can run in March and that January and February are unsuccessful months. Commissioner McHalfey asks at what date can 2-year-olds run. Mr. Halstrom responds that 2-year-olds can start running on February 26, 2020 with the exception of the Mardi Gras Futurity Trials in earlier February.

Commissioner Cravins says that a comprehensive discussion of fixing Louisiana horseracing's various issues needs to occur. Mr. Halstrom requests the Commission to organize a meeting for that comprehensive discussion. Commissioner McHalfey states that every association was supposed to bring a plan after prior industry discussion meetings but only Mr. Halstrom complied. Commissioner Bernard suggests that there needs to be a reduction of race days in Louisiana because horses are not getting enough of a break. Commissioner Shelton states that the LaHBPA would have to be involved in the discussions as well. Commissioner Davis says that Texas' purse supplement tax model and others like it should be discussed for Louisiana to be competitive.

2. MERGER APPROVAL

a. Approval of Eldorado Resorts, Inc. Merger Agreement relating to Caesars Entertainment Corporation.

Mr. Jeff Barbin, Counsel for Eldorado Resorts, introduces himself, Mr. Barron Fuller, Senior Vice President of Regional Operations for Eldorado Resorts, and Mr. Ed Quatmann, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for Eldorado Resorts.

Mr. Fuller informs that Eldorado Resorts has been licensed and operating in Louisiana since 2005 when it acquired Hollywood Casino in Shreveport. He states that Eldorado Resorts acquired Isle of Capri in Lake Charles in 2017 and recently committed to a \$110,000,000 land-based renovation that will bring Isle of Capri's riverboat off the river. He says that Eldorado Resorts acquired Belle of Baton Rouge 2018 and will continue to grow in Louisiana with this merger.

Mr. Quatmann informs that Caesars Entertainment Corporation will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Eldorado Resorts with a leadership team consisting of six Eldorado Resorts Board Members and five Caesars Entertainment Board Members. He says that Eldorado will change its name to Caesars Entertainment, Inc. He states that they are in the process of obtaining all necessary gaming, racing, and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) approvals.

Mr. Fuller informs that they plan to maintain the existing racing structure and systems at Louisiana Downs and honor any existing contracts and agreements. He says that the local operational team will run the property and Eldorado Resorts will survey the property to offer any improvements that they can provide.

Commissioner Shelton asks what capital improvement plan Eldorado Resorts has for Louisiana Downs. Mr. Fuller responds that, after the merger is complete, they will identify a strategic capital plan for Louisiana Downs. Mr. Quatmann states that they are limited by the FTC in their involvement and exposure to Louisiana Downs since they are currently competitors and awaiting approvals.

Commissioners Cravins and Shelton say that having no plan for Louisiana Downs is harmful considering the competition from expansion of land-based casinos in Louisiana and purse expansions for Texas horseracing and having no plan for Louisiana Downs improvements is disappointing.

Commissioner Reine asks if Eldorado Resorts has considered ways to make Louisiana Downs' purse structure competitive. Mr. Fuller responds that they are looking to grow revenues to increase purse sizes.

Commissioner Shelton asks if Eldorado Resorts owns any other racetracks and land-based casinos near them. Mr. Fuller responds that they own Scioto Downs in Ohio, which has competition from Penn National Gaming, and Isle Casino Racing Pompano Park in Florida, which has competition from a few land-based casinos.

Commissioner Reine asks if one of the merger agreement conditions Eldorado Resorts has agreed to is that they can't transfer or sell the license for Louisiana Downs without approval of the Commission. Mr. Quatmann responds that they have agreed to that condition.

A 15-minute recess is taken.

Mr. Brett Bonin, counsel for LSRC, reads into the record an LSRC resolution regarding the merger agreement.

Commissioner Shelton asks if Louisiana Downs' property was sold to the Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) formed by Caesars and if there was a carve-out provision in that sale. Mr. Quatmann responds that the property was sold to the REIT but that he is not sure if there was a carve-out provision included. Commissioner Shelton requests to get clarification from them if there was a carve-out provision. Mr. Quatmann agrees.

Commissioner Cravins asks how long will it take for the merger to be approved and complete. Mr. Quatmann responds that they expect to get all necessary approvals within the first half of 2020.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve the merger agreement as presented with conditions set by the LSRC's resolution; Commissioner Reine seconds; Chairman Wright calls for a poll vote in which yea means to vote for the motion and nay means to vote against the motion; Poll Vote: 8-yea; 2-nay; motion carries.

2020 QUARTER HORSE MEET

3. RACES

- a. **Ratification** of first condition book for 2020 quarter horse meet.
 - b. **Ratification** of designated races for 2020 quarter horse meet as provided in Agenda.
- Commissioner Reine motions to approve; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

4. STEWARDS, OFFICIALS & MANAGEMENT

- a. **Ratification** of officials for 2020 quarter horse meet as provided in Agenda.
- Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

II. BREEDER UPDATES

A. LOUISIANA THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LTBA)

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Roger Heitzmann, Secretary-Treasurer*. Mr. Heitzmann informs that he has no report at this time.

B. LOUISIANA QUARTER HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LQHBA)

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Bruce Salard, Executive Director*. Mr. Salard informs that LQHBA received \$935,000 from video poker state funds to use for purse supplements and LQHBA allotted \$600,000 of that to Louisiana Downs' purses. He thanks the Equine Medical Surveillance Laboratory (EMSL) at Louisiana State University (LSU) for presenting the test results for the Futurity Trials in a timely manner. He says that the SEC Championship game between LSU and University of Georgia caused less interest and turnout for the LQHBA Louisiana Million Futurity. He states that their Fall Mixed Sale had fewer yearlings because of interest in yearlings at their Annual Yearling Sale.

Mr. Salard says that the nominations for the Lee Berwick Futurity are up over 10% and the 2020 Mardi Gras Futurity is on track to be the largest it has ever been, despite the shortage of horse population. He informs that the LQHBA board have stopped paying 25% breeders awards payouts to fourth and fifth places due to budget deficits that cause and only give first through third places payouts. He states that the LQHBA Louisiana Million Futurity will continue to pay breeder awards on first through tenth places.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. MEDICATION COMMITTEE**, by *Committee Chairperson Judy W. Wagner*

Commissioner Wagner asks Dr. Dirikolu if the previously open three positions at EMSL have been filled. Dr. Dirikolu responds that two of the positions are filled with applicants who have PhDs in analytical chemistry as of January 6, 2020 and that the remaining position has been reopened with interviews pending.

Commissioner Wagner asks where EMSL is at in acquiring RMTC accreditation. Dr. Dirikolu responds that they haven't started the RMTC accreditation process yet due to needing to catch up with work after the A2LA accreditation and training the new hires. Commissioner Wagner says that the EMSL needs to obtain RMTC accreditation quickly, especially in light of the hearings tomorrow for the Horse Racing Integrity Act and the growing negative public perception for the horse racing industry.

Commissioner Reine thanks Dr. Dirikolu for EMSL's work in producing test results for futurity trials in a timely manner to give horsemen who followed the rules a fair opportunity to race in the futurity.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if 10 nanograms per milliliter (ng/mL) is a good threshold for methamphetamine to take contamination into account. Dr. Dirikolu responds that there are not enough research studies to scientifically support any threshold for methamphetamine. Commissioner McHalfey says that the low levels in methamphetamine positives have to be due to environmental contamination.

Commissioner Reine asks if that methamphetamine threshold would be adequate to indicate that there would be no enhanced performance or possible danger to the horses or jockeys. Dr. Dirikolu responds that he is not sure due to the lack of research findings. Commissioner Guilbeau says that there should be a scientifically rational basis for setting a threshold and that the Commission should get Dr. Dirikolu's recommendation prior to setting a methamphetamine threshold.

Dr. Dirikolu informs that the North American Veterinary Association recommends 15 ng/mL threshold for methamphetamine to account for contamination but that the Association of Racing Commissioners International has not approved any methamphetamine threshold. Mr. Charles Gardiner III, Executive Director of LSRC, states that Washington is the only state with a methamphetamine threshold set at 10 ng/mL.

Commissioner McHalfey informs that certain articles have stated that there has been methamphetamine contamination in feed mills, hay, people picking up hay, and stalls from grooms and backside employees. Commissioner Davis says that there should be a research study conducted on a national basis prior to setting a threshold. Commissioner Wagner states that she will lead an information-gathering survey to look both nationally and internationally for information to support a methamphetamine threshold by the next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Reine says that, with the possibility of hemp becoming a major food supplement that may cause marijuana positives, the Commission has to set a standard for these types of contaminations so as not to take away the horsemen's livelihoods due to circumstances out of their control, especially if their horses' performances are not affected. Commissioner McHalfey motions to set the methamphetamine threshold at 10 ng/mL in urine; Commissioners Bernard and Shelton second; motion carries with opposition from Commissioners Wagner and Guilbeau.

B. RULES COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis

No Report.

C. LEGAL COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.

Commissioner Guilbeau informs that the committee had conducted some initial research on a possible change to the claiming rule related to voiding a claim based upon the condition of a horse if and when the horse finishes a race. He says that the committee will wait to receive Churchill Downs' proposal for claiming rule changes and then make decisions for moving forward with rule actions.

D. SECURITY COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Kenneth "Kenu" Romero

No Report.

E. RACETRACK/HBPA LIAISON COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Donald "Don" Cravins

No Report.

F. FINANCE COMMITTEE, by Committee Chairman Louis Reine

No Report.

IV. OTHER

A. PURSE TRANSFER

1. Request by LaHBPA to discuss purse transfer via January 10, 2020 letter.

Mr. Gardiner informs that the LaHBPA has rescinded their request to discuss the purse transfer issue.

B. APPRENTICE JOCKEY EXTENSION

1. **Approval** of 142-day Extension of Apprentice Allowance for Jockey Charles Roberts III. (Injured 8/20/19 at Louisiana Downs; physically disabled and unable to ride through 1/9/20) Amend expiration of apprenticeship from 8/15/20 to 1/4/21.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

V. RULE**A. FORMAL ADOPTION OF RULE:**

1. **60-Day Stewards List Penalty for Quarter Horses with Clenbuterol Positive**
LAC 35: I Chapter 15 – Permitted Medications
§1506. Permitted Medications in Quarter Horses [amend]

- Scheduled to be effective on February 20, 2020 pending Commission Approval.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to approve for formal adoption; Commissioner Wagner seconds; motion carries.

VI. LICENSE APPROVAL**A. REQUEST FOR LICENSE APPROVAL (LA. REV. STAT. 4:150(B))**

1. **Tyler J. Faul, Groom.** Convicted felon.

Commissioners motion to approve Mr. Faul for licensure as a Groom; Commissioners second; motion carries.

VII. ADJUDICATIONS**A. CARELESS RIDING APPEAL (LA. REV. STAT. 4:154)**

1. **Devin H. Magnon, Jockey.**
Ruling#DD23717 of 11/13/19 – *Careless Riding.*

Commissioner Wagner motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; motion does not carry.

Commissioner Reine makes a substitute motion to overturn the Stewards' ruling and rescind the suspension of 7 calendar days; Commissioner Cravins seconds; Chairman Wright calls for a poll vote in which yea means to vote for the substitute motion and nay means to vote against the substitute motion; Poll Vote: 6-yea; 4-nay; motion carries.

B. VIOLATIONS OF LAC 35:I.1797 (Equine Positives)

1. **Jose U. Lopez, Jr., Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)
Ruling#ED23700 of 10/26/19 – *Diclofenac (ARCI Category IV; Gross Violation)*

Mr. Lopez is not present for hearing.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling, fine Mr. Lopez an additional \$500 (total fine \$1,500), and redistribute the purse; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

2. **Jose A. Garcia, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Appealed*)
Ruling#DD23671 of 10/17/19 – *Clenbuterol (ARCI Category III)*

Appeal Withdrawn. Mr. Garcia is not present for hearing.

Commissioner Reine motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling, suspend Mr. Garcia for 60 days effective 1/27/20 through 3/26/20, and redistribute the purse. Mr. Garcia will be denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioner Guilbeau seconds; motion carries.

3. **Alvin J. Romero, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)
Ruling#LD23552 of 07/15/19 – *Ketamine (ARCI Category II)*

Commissioner Romero recuses himself from hearing this case due to his relationship to Mr. Romero.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion does not carry.

Commissioner Cravins makes a substitute motion to uphold the Stewards' ruling, rescind the \$1,000 fine, and redistribute the purse; Commissioner Shelton seconds; motion carries.

4. **Carl J. Deville, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)
Ruling#ED23653 of 10/09/19 – *Mepivacaine (ARCI Category II)*

Attorney – John L. Duvieilh, Esq.

Commissioner Guilbeau motions to uphold the Stewards' ruling, fine Mr. Deville \$1,000, and redistribute the purse; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

5. **Jorge L. Gonzales, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)
Ruling#ED23701 of 10/30/19 – *Pyrrolidinovalerophenone (ARCI Category I)*

Case continued.

C. ATTORNEY REQUEST

1. **Request** by Arthur A. Morrell to address the Commission via January 22, 2020 letter.

Mr. Morrell requests that the Commission grant a hearing as soon as possible for the appeal filed by his clients, Thomas Sam and Keith Sam. Mr. Gardiner states that the Commission can hear the appeal at either the Special Commission Meeting on February 12, 2020 or the statutorily-mandated Commission Meeting to take place in April 2020.

Commissioner Reine requests that the next Commission Meeting be held in Opelousas to hear Thomas Sam and Keith Sam's appeal and that Mr. Gardiner notify Mr. Morell when the appeal hearing will take place once it is official.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Romero motions to adjourn; Commissioner Shelton seconds; Chairman Wright adjourns the meeting.



Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director