

Racing Committee Minutes
July 2, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Barrett, A. Johnson, Richardson, Wood and Yepsen; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst.

Chairman Veitch called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Ms. Yepsen, seconded by Mr. Richardson the minutes of the June 6, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Discussions took place about the Casino Gambling bill as follows: Mr. Veitch said the county's position would be to support the bill, but to not do any resolution at this time. He said we definitely want Casino Gambling in Saratoga County rather than in a neighboring county, and if it is in Saratoga County we want it to be at the Racino and we will continue to support that position moving forward.

Mr. Veitch said this puts the Racino's in not an ideal position to compete for the designation, as there is some up-front money that would be needed for the competition.

Mr. Moore said that piece originally called for \$50 million to be invested up front to even be considered. That particular language was taken out and replaced with many factors that the Board could consider in the process. One requirement of the initial investment will be a hotel and other amenities. Some of the other factors that the Board can consider include investments in land, investments in infrastructure, previous private and capital investments, etc.

Mr. Veitch said there are still some things in the bill that the county likes, such as host community and regional benefits that give the county some control over veto power over the bids that come in. He said what he didn't like about it was that they took away the language that required local approval.

Mr. Moore said if the referendum in November passes, then the entities that want to complete will submit their bids, and they will seek out local approvals. The approval process is 70% economic impact, 20% local impact and 10% workforce enhancement. The local piece doesn't say that you must pass a local law; it states that it may include a local law. Mr. Moore said when the VLT's were first supported; it was a requirement that they had to have a local law.

Mr. Moore said a positive about the bill is that it seems as though the farms and breeding funds are taken care of. There is language that states if there is a facility that already has a VLT license and receives a full Casino, then payments have to be maintained at their 2013 dollar level plus consumer pricing index. If a facility does not have a VLT license and receives a Casino it has to make payments to the surrounding breeders and track purses that will ensure that those tracks and breeders will stay where they were in 2013.

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Barrett the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom