

**IOWA RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 15, 2026**

The Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission (IRGC) met on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at Lakeside Hotel Casino in Osceola, Iowa. Commission members present were Amy Burkhart, Chair; Daryl Olsen, Vice Chair; and members Alan Ostergren and Michael Boal.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** Chair Burkhart called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Chair Burkhart stated that there was an error on the October 2, 2025 Commission meeting minutes that were approved at the November meeting that needed to be corrected. The error was one of the dates regarding the 2026 race meet. Chair Burkhart said the date has been corrected and requested a motion to approve the corrected minutes from the October 2, 2025 Commission meeting. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the corrected minutes as printed. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried with three votes. Commissioner Boal abstained as he was not on the Commission for the October 2, 2025 meeting.

Chair Burkhart requested a motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2025 Commission meeting. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the minutes as printed. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**WELCOME:** David Monroe, General Manager of Lakeside Hotel Casino, said they were happy to host the Commission meeting as they have had a lot of improvements to the facility, mostly to the casino floor, since the last Commission meeting that was held there. He said they are currently working on renovation plans for the hotel and event center. He said in 2025 they had a 5% growth in revenue and a 6% growth in admissions and 2026 is starting off even stronger. Mr. Monroe said on January 1<sup>st</sup> they celebrated their 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary and they are fortunate to have their QSO partner with them for that entire time. He said their QSO partner does amazing work in the community and Lakeside is proud to support their efforts. He then introduced Andrew Clark, Executive Director of Clarke County Development Corporation.

Mr. Clark said this is his first full year as the executive director and he is honored and blessed to be a part of this. He showed a video showing the different areas in the community that the Clarke County Development Corporation has been able to help in. He said in the past 25 years they have been able to contribute almost \$24.8 million back to the community. Mr. Clark discussed the many different organizations they are able to provide grants to due to their partnership with Lakeside Casino. He said none of this would be possible without that partnership and for that he is thankful.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Tina Eick, Administrator, announced that there is no February Commission meeting. She said the next Commission meeting is being held on March 5, 2026 at Prairie Meadows in Altoona, Iowa. Ms. Eick said this is the 99F annual renewal meeting and the

submission deadline is Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. The April meeting, which is the annual financial audit review meeting, will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be hosted by Horseshoe Casino at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs.

Ms. Eick took a minute to recognize and thank the Commission staff, Hilary Brown from Lakeside Casino and Dan Thurman from Wild Rose Jefferson. She said these staff members are the Commission's eyes and ears at the facilities and they accomplish many different tasks such as licensing, investigations, slot work, and more. She said we could not do it without them and she appreciates their hard work.

**DIAMOND JO, LLC:** John Sanchez, Finance Director, presented a request for remodeling of their Filament area. He said this project will convert their old buffet space into a new restaurant, Bell Street Eatery. The new restaurant is set to open mid-February. He said the Filament area will no longer serve food and will instead be used as gaming floor. Mr. Sanchez said the bar will stay open there and serve that side of the floor.

Chair Burkhart asked for the hours of the Bell Street Eatery. Mr. Sanchez said that if he remembers correctly it would open at 8:00 AM daily. During the week it would close earlier but, on the weekends, it would stay open until 11:00 PM or 12:00 AM.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion on the remodel request as submitted by Diamond Jo, LLC. Commissioner Boal moved to approve. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**SCE PARTNERS, LLC:** Andrew Silver, Senior Counsel, presented their shelf application for Commission approval. He said this was previously approved by the Commission in March of 2023 and was approved for three years, which is the maximum allowed. He said they are seeking approval for the same shelf amount and the same financing rate for an additional three years.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the shelf application as presented by SCE Partners, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**BALLY'S CORPORATION:** Ed Winkofsky, attorney with Greenberg Traurig, presented Bally's request for approval of financing. He said all of the information regarding this was provided in the Commissioner's packets ahead of time.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Boal moved to approve the financing as presented by Bally's Corporation. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**CASINO QUEEN MARQUETTE, INC.:**

Request for Approval of the Fourth Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Master Lease with GLP Capital, L.P.: Mr. Winkofsky presented the fourth amendment to the third amended and restated master lease for Commission approval. He said this was a simple amendment to change the outside date for the completion of the landside facility. Commissioner Olsen asked if the date was the only change and Mr. Winkofsky answered in the affirmative.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the fourth amendment to the third amended and restated master lease with GLP Capital, L.P. as presented by Casino Queen Marquette, LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Update on Remodel and Move to Landside Facility: Robin Corbeil, General Manager, said they are very excited to say that they are within weeks of opening the landside facility. She said they will have a soft opening of the first floor the week of February 27<sup>th</sup>. The following week they will open the second floor and they will be fully open by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Corbeil showed some of the pictures that she took that week to show the progress. She discussed the different hours for the coffee shop and the grill. Ms. Corbeil said currently they might not have the staff to have both open at the same time and might need to split the hours. If that is the case, they will open the coffee shop in the mornings and the grill for lunch and dinner and then open the coffee shop back up for the remainder of the day.

Chair Burkhart asked if she knew when they would be closing the existing facility. Ms. Corbeil said they are actually looking at closing that on February 26<sup>th</sup> and then opening the new facility on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Chair Burkhart said that is a significant improvement from the 10-day window they originally planned between closing the boat and opening the landside facility. She said it looks like they still have a lot to accomplish and she hopes that by the March Commission meeting they are open and things are going well.

Request for Approval of Revised Security Plan: Ms. Corbeil presented the revised security plan for Commission approval. Chair Burkhart clarified that this revised plan would take effect once they have moved to their new landside facility and that the current security plan is still in effect until then. Ms. Corbeil confirmed that is correct.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the revised security plan as presented by Casino Queen Marquette, LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**HARVEYS IOWA MANAGEMENT COMPANY LLC:** Thomas Roberts, General Manager, presented the online market access agreement with Smarkets Iowa Op Co. He said this is a new skin for their sportsbook. He said about two years ago one of their skins went out of business so they have been down to just one. This will give them more opportunities to get more exposure in their sportsbook, which will give them more money for their property and their QSO.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the Online Market Access Agreement with Smarkets Iowa Op Co. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**CONTRACTS:**

Harveys Iowa Management Company LLC: Mr. Roberts, presented a contract with Ulster Carpet Mills, Inc. for carpet repair and replacement. Mr. Roberts stated this was a contract with an out-of-state vendor from Ireland that supplies all of the Caesar's property carpet. They do have plans to use an Iowa vendor for the install but they do not yet have bids for that. They will likely use the same company that did the install at Horseshoe.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contract as submitted by Harveys Iowa Management Company LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Casino Queen Marquette, LLC: Ms. Corbeil, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Cintas Corporation – Uniforms and Work Apparel, Facility Services – Mop and Towel Rental
- Marq. Hotel LLC d.b.a Comfort Inn and Suite – Hotel Rooms- Bookings and Rentals
- TPI – The Printer Inc. – Direct Mail – Printing and Mailing

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Casino Queen Marquette, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC: Kim Pang, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Anderson-Bogert Engineers & Surveyors, Inc. – Engineering and Land Survey Services
- Terracon Consultants, Inc. – Geotechnical Engineering Services (3rd Party Testing and Quality Control)

Mr. Pang also gave a quick update on the construction. He said drywall and tape is complete in the back of house. He said construction is moving along and on schedule. He noted that they are not ahead of schedule as the media has portrayed.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the contracts as presented by Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Grand Falls Casino Resort, LLC: Damon John, General Manager for Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, LLC, presented a contract with Carrier Access IT, LLC for technology solutions including hardware, software, and support services on Sharon Haselhoff's behalf for Commission approval.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Boal moved to approve the contract as submitted by Grand Falls Casino Resort, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Dubuque Racing Association, Ltd.: Brian Rakestraw, Chief Operating and Financial Officer, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- City of Dubuque – Iowa Amphitheater Site Demolition
- Guest Supply – In-Room Guest Supplies per Hilton Brand Specifications for HGI & Key (OSV)
- Metlife C/O C&B Insurance – Employee Dental, Vision, Long-Term Disability, Short-Term Disability, Employee Life
- The Lamar Companies – Outdoor Billboard Advertising
- The Printer, Inc. – Direct Mail and Printing Services
- Wired Production Group – Entertainment Production

Mr. Rakestraw also announced that their new Key Hotel opened on December 29, 2025 and on January 6<sup>th</sup> they held a ribbon cutting ceremony that was very well attended by the community. He said next week they are opening the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel and later this year they will open the 6<sup>th</sup> floor which is where their new rooftop restaurant will be located.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as presented by Dubuque Racing Association, Ltd. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, LLC: Mr. John presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Cummins Allison – Freight, Sales Tax and Maintenance Contract
- Woodruff Construction – Hotel Guestroom Refresh

Commissioner Olsen said it looks like they have a great project going on. Mr. John said they are still waiting on furniture and working on timelines, but this is the biggest step.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as presented by Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Diamond Jo, LLC: Mr. Sanchez presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- 7G Distributing – Beer Distributor
- ANZ Solutions Iowa, LLC – Marketing Gift Giveaways
- Conlon Construction – Filament Conversion
- Holiday Inn – Hotel Rooms for Casino Guests
- Keg 1 Iowa – Beverage Purveyor
- Lamar Advertising – Billboard Advertising
- Lime Rock Springs Co – Pepsi Products Provider
- RG Hospitality LLC – Lodging at the Grand Harbor Resort & Waterpark
- USA Entertainment Agency – Entertainment Booking

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Diamond Jo, LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

SCE Partners, LLC: Doug Fisher, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Sports Information Services Limited – Sports Book Platform Fees (OSV)
- Sysco Corporation – Food Supplier
- Vestis Services, LLC – Laundry Services

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by SCE Partners, LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PRAIRIE MEADOWS RACETRACK AND CASINO, INC:**

Request for Approval of New Race Dates for the 2026 Race Meet: Brian Ohorilko, President and CEO, said he felt embarrassed but excited to make a request for approval of new race dates for the 2026 race meet. He said most of what he is going to summarize will address both items A and B of the agenda. He said what they are proposing for 2026 will be part of a three-year deal. Mr. Ohorilko said he knows how hard the Commission and all of the parties have worked to work through some of the differences on the racing dates and without all that work they would not have gotten to this three-year deal. He said they felt like there was a window of opportunity shortly after the first of the year to meet with the interested parties. They weren't sure if 2026 was even an option but they felt it was important to look at this opportunity.

Mr. Ohorilko said before the Commissions is a 76-day proposal. It is technically 75 days with a bonus day, but it is 76 days on the calendar. They added Kentucky Derby Day which is an important day because it is critical to have live racing on the biggest day of racing in the country. He said this calendar provides for three-day race weeks in half of August and all of September except for Labor Day. He said this will help them address some of the field problems that they are

seeing in the industry. Prairie Meadows has also agreed to seek to build a barn to be available prior to the 2027 race meet. Mr. Ohorilko said they still need to seek approval from their board and from the county but through some of the preliminary conversations they believe those are favorable. This should all be worked out prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Ohorilko stated they wanted a five-year deal. He said with all of the things they are doing at Prairie Meadows they hope to continue to build trust with the industry and get a longer-term deal, hopefully prior to the expiration of this three-year deal. He said he believes the fewer race dates, the ability to run three days a week during times they don't have as many horses, and the addition of another barn, will certainly stabilize any decline in field size.

Chair Burkhart said to summarize, the parties were previously unable to agree on a schedule by the specified date and the Commission therefore set the race dates, so this is a reopening of an agenda item that was previously closed. She also stated that Tom Lepic was unable to be at the meeting but he has expressed his support of this proposal. She said previously the Commission had three proposals in front of them. Prairie Meadows and the Quarter Horse Association were similar and the Thoroughbreds had a different proposal, but now all three parties have come to an agreement that the Commissioners have signed before them.

Commissioner Olsen said he is excited to see this because the last thing they wanted to do was set the race dates. He said he is however a little disappointed that it is not a longer-term contract with more stability. He encouraged the parties to try to work for a longer deal.

Commissioner Ostergren said he also appreciates that the parties were able to go back to the table and come together on this agreement. He said his only reluctance here is that he doesn't want this to be interpreted by the industry that our deadlines don't matter. He stated that at the end of the three-year plan, if this were to happen again, he would be extremely reluctant to reopen this. He said he is supportive of it with everyone's understanding that this is a one-time thing.

Commissioner Boal said a voluntary agreement is always better than the alternative and should be encouraged when it's appropriate and possible. He thanked them for working together.

Chair Burkhart said there's a real enthusiasm related to racing and that she believes now that all of the parties are working together and moving in the same direction, they will be able to make that plan a reality. She said it's an exciting moment for the industry. She said she did go back and read the study to understand the goals outlined and a few of the recommendations are met with this agreement but several are not. She said she felt they were really lofty goals for an industry that was somewhat at war with itself so she believes this is a step in the right direction. She said she hopes this is just the first step and she encouraged the industry to continue to have those discussions as a whole.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve new race dates for the 2026 race season, as submitted jointly by Prairie Meadows, Iowa HBPA and the Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Enterprise, to replace the race dates

and season previously approved in October 2025. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Request for Approval of Racing Contract(s) with Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse Associations: Mr. Ohorilko said they respectfully request approval of the racing contract with both breeds. He said this is the three-year contract previously discussed.

Chair Burkhart asked how and when the post times will be decided. Mr. Ohorilko said the 45-day plan will need to be brought back at the March Commission meeting. He said the plan is to maintain the same post times and the same format as the 2025 meet. The Quarter Horses will run first in 2026 and the Thoroughbreds will run second. All parties agree and have committed to that. It was also agreed that at that point they will take a step back for 2027 and 2028 and have Prairie Meadows conduct an analysis and do what's best for the business.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the racing contracts with the Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse Associations as presented by Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, Inc. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Request for Approval of the 45-Day Plan for the 2026 Thoroughbred Meet: Chair Burkhart said they do have these plans in front of them, but the plans will not apply to the current race dates. She said they will not take action on either of these agenda items and plan to see Prairie Meadows back before the Commission in March with a new 45-day plan.

Request for Approval of the 45-Day Plan for the 2026 Quarter Horse Meet: Chair Burkhart said they do have these plans in front of them, but the plans will not apply to the current race dates. She said they will not take action on either of these agenda items and plan to see Prairie Meadows back before the Commission in March with a new 45-day plan.

### **HEARINGS:**

Diamond Jo Worth, LLC.: Ms. Eick presented the Stipulated Agreement with Diamond Jo Worth, LLC for a violation of Iowa Code § 99F.9(5). This incident involved an underage patron.

Scott Peterson, Director of Security and Safety, apologized for Diamond Jo Worth being in this position and said they take full responsibility. He said their property standard is to card all guests under the age of 35 using their Veridocs identification system to ensure compliance. He said unfortunately when this incident occurred the Veridocs system was temporarily down and proper backup procedures were not followed. Mr. Peterson said upon learning of this incident the team was retrained to ensure full understanding and future compliance of the rules. He said the retraining included backup procedures in case the system is down.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the Stipulated Agreement with an administrative penalty of \$20,000. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Churchill Downs Technology Initiative Company: Ms. Eick presented the Stipulated Agreement with Churchill Downs Technology Initiative Company for a violation of Iowa Code § 99D.7(23). This incident involved a self-excluded person.

Mr. Silver said he is disappointed to be in front of the Commission for this matter and assured the Commissioners that as soon as the account was discovered it was disabled. He said the system configuration was corrected shortly after and this situation won't re-present itself.

Commissioner Boal asked for clarification on the account registration process now that the system was reconfigured. Mr. Silver said now it is done in a manner in which the account would be checked right away and would not be able to be created if it was a self-excluded individual.

Commissioner Olsen asked how many states they operate in. Mr. Silver said a couple dozen. Commissioner Olsen asked if all the states had different regulations. Mr. Silver said it varies from state to state. He said that only a few states have a statewide self-exclusion database that they check against. He said they also have an internal exclusion process by which customers in any state can elect to exclude themselves or implement limits.

Commissioner Ostergren said although this is a violation he can see how this happened and the fact that the issue was detected 24 hours later is quite mitigating.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the Stipulated Agreement with an administrative penalty of \$5,000. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Olsen said his only concern was that the process was in place prior to a lot of accounts being set up. Chair Burkhart also noted that this licensee does not have any other violations in front of the Commission that have occurred in the last 24 months.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.

**IOWA GAMING ASSOCIATION:** Mary Earnhardt, President and CEO, presented the commissioners with a handout showing the impact of gaming revenue in the State of Iowa. She said in the state fiscal year 2025, Iowa casinos generated approximately \$354.6 million in gaming tax revenue that was distributed across the state. The handout highlights the tourism draw, charitable reinvestment and economic impact the gaming industry provides. She said it is something they distribute to the legislators and stakeholders to clearly show the scope and distribution of gaming tax revenues and the broader impact Iowa's casino industry has across the state.

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

Notice of Iowa Race Horse Aftercare Fund: Ms. Eick presented the notice of the request for proposals of the fiscal year 2026 for the Iowa Race Horse Aftercare Fund. She stated the fund had approximately \$33,115 in it and the deadline for submissions is February 13, 2026 by 3:30 PM via email to [IRGC@Iowa.gov](mailto:IRGC@Iowa.gov).

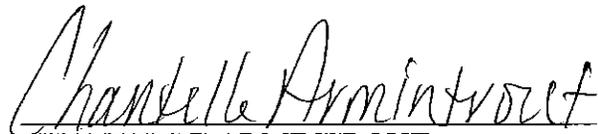
Administrative Rules Update: David Ranscht, General Counsel, stated that four rule packages from the Commission went before the Administrative Rules Review Committee this past Monday. The four rule packages included: Chapter 1, regarding the application fee for new gambling structures; Chapter 7, which is greyhound racing, which we are proposing to get rid of entirely; Chapter 8, which involved advanced deposit wagering and simulcasting; and Chapter 10, which is the racing chapter. He said they fielded one question from the committee on Chapter 10.

Mr. Ranscht said that staff have received several comments from stakeholders in the industry on these chapters and they are working to address those. He said there have been a lot of good comments and it is an indication that the rule making process is working exactly as designed.

Mr. Ranscht said the rules are on track for final adoption in the next couple of weeks or months so they would take effect in early May. He said then the rest of the chapters will begin the executive order 10 review process. He mentioned that staff has already begun working on this and will move forward publishing some regulatory analysis and the rule review reports in the late spring, early summer.

**ADJOURN:** Chair Burkhart requested a motion to adjourn at 9:30 AM. Commissioner Olsen moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

  
CHANTELLE ARMINTROUT