



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Date: September 14, 2020
By: Tyler Larson, Analyst
Re: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

OREGON RACING COMMISSION

The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Oregon Racing Commission subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Appointees

Jolene Thomson of Albany; New Appointment

Term

October 1, 2020 – May 24, 2022

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 462.210 \(2019\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Required.

Statutory Requirements³

The commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate (CONDE; O'HAGAN; PALMER; **THOMSON**; WILLIAMSON).⁴ Members must be citizens, residents, and electors of this state. Members serve four-year terms, until a successor is appointed, and may be removed by the Governor for cause.⁵ Each member must take and subscribe to an oath of office of the same form as that prescribed by law for the elective state offices.⁶ The commission must organize by electing one of its members chairperson and one vice chairperson.⁷

No member, employee, or appointee of the Oregon Racing Commission, or the immediate family member of such a person, may:⁸

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2019\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2019\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2019\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2019\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 462.210 \(2019\)](#).

⁵ [ORS 462.210 and 462.230 \(2019\)](#).

⁶ [ORS 462.240 \(2019\)](#).

⁷ [ORS 462.250 \(2019\)](#).

⁸ [ORS 462.273 \(2019\)](#).

- own or have any other financial interest in any animal participating in any race meet in Oregon;
- own or have any other financial interest in any race meet, public training track or race course in Oregon; or
- bet or wager, in any manner, on any race meet held under the license and supervision of the commission if such individual acts in an official capacity in connection with that race meet.

Duties and Authority

The commission regulates all aspects of the pari-mutuel industry in Oregon including racing, on- and off-track wagering, and multi-jurisdictional account wagering hubs, for the good of the horses, the horsemen and women, the bettors, the licensees and the citizenry.⁹

The commission must:¹⁰

- license, regulate, and supervise all race meets held in this state;
- cause the various places where race meets are to be held to be visited and inspected at least once each fiscal year;
- administer a state mutuel wagering system including allowable activities;
- appoint an executive director, who may be a member of the commission or an employee of the commission in another capacity, a chief state steward and other employees in the performance of the commission's duties;
- appoint for each race meet stewards, deputy stewards, stewards' reporters, auditors, judges, inspectors, security personnel, chemists, veterinarians, plate inspectors, and other officials as are necessary for the proper conduct of the race meet;
- appoint a board of stewards for each race meet that acts under the supervision and direction of the commission to enforce the regulations administered by the commission;
- adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the commission's statutory duties;
- prepare, publish, and submit to the Governor and members of the legislature an annual report on the activities of the commission;
- appoint enforcement agents with authority to serve and execute warrants of arrest and search warrants; and
- administer a state exchange wagering program which allows licensed operators to operate on- and off-track wagering and multi-jurisdiction account wagering.

The commission may:¹¹

- adopt licensing fees for regulated persons;
- revoke, suspend, or refuse to issue or renew the license of any licensee or applicant under specified circumstances;
- exclude from any and all race courses any person whom the commission deems detrimental to the best interest of racing or any person who willfully violates any

⁹ Oregon Racing Commission, *About Us*, <https://www.oregon.gov/racing/Pages/About-Us.aspx> (last visited July 31, 2020).

¹⁰ [ORS 462.020 to 462.740 \(2019\)](#).

¹¹ [ORS 462.070 to 462.740 \(2019\)](#).

provision of this chapter or any rule or order issued by the commission or any person who has been found guilty of violating any laws of this state, another state, or the United States related to gambling or wagering or which adversely reflects on the person's honesty;

- allow specified race meet operators to conduct mutuel wagering at the licensee's race course on horse races previously held under specified conditions;
- require that chemical analysis be made of the urine, saliva, blood, or other body substances of animals participating in race meets or persons regulated by the commission;
- issue subpoenas, administer oaths, take or cause to be taken depositions;
- cooperate with the racing commissions or boards of other jurisdictions and with racing organizations in enforcing laws regulating racing, in exchanging information relating to racing, in studying and detecting drugs, and in carrying out programs for the betterment of racing;
- establish a library of materials relating to racing, and for that purpose accept gifts of books, periodicals, and library equipment; and
- enter into contracts or agreements with other governmental or private agencies or associations and to perform all other acts necessary to comply with the Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978.

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Racing Commission, Oregon

Agency: None
Authorization: ORS 462.210
Members: Min: 5 Max: 5
Term Length: 4 years Limit: None
Senate confirmation required? Yes

Policy Area: Public Safety

Board Contact:

Jack McGrail
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Portland, OR 97232
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Current Appointments:

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Diego Conde

Position Number: 4

Term(s): 06-01-2017 - 05-31-2021
09-26-2016 - 05-31-2017

Steve O'Hagan

Position Number: 2

Term(s): 05-15-2019 - 09-24-2021

Jan L Palmer, DVM

Position Number: 3

Term(s): 07-01-2015 - 06-30-2019
07-01-2011 - 06-30-2015

Jolene M Thomson

Public Member

Position Number: 1

Term(s): 10-01-2020 - 05-24-2022

Charles R Williamson

Position Number: 5

Term(s): 09-18-2011 - 09-17-2015
09-18-2007 - 09-17-2011