



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.  
C-1

For the meeting of: December 6, 2016

Date: November 16, 2016  
To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Supervisor Rex Bohn  
Subject: Letter to the California State Horse Racing Board Concerning the Future of Horse Racing at the Humboldt County Fair

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors ratify authorization for the Chair to sign the letter.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: The Humboldt County Fair Association is requesting support from the community and the Board of Supervisors during their efforts to secure horse racing dates in 2017 and beyond.

The Humboldt County Fair is very dependent upon the revenues generated by horse racing. Many of the agricultural events and youth services programs are funded through fair receipts. Also, of great importance is Humboldt County's readiness for flood disasters. The fairgrounds provide safe haven for Eel Valley residents and livestock during winter floods. Fair revenues are essential for maintenance, utilities and other disaster preparations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter to the California State Horse Racing Board.

Prepared by Kathy Hayes Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEW: Auditor \_\_\_\_\_ County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel \_\_\_\_\_ Risk Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ITEM:  
 Consent  
 Departmental  
 Public Hearing  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**  
Upon motion of Supervisor Fennell Seconded by Supervisor Bass  
Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Lorelace, Bohn, Bass  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstain \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

1 Dated: Dec. 6, 2016  
By: [Signature]  
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7289

November 16, 2016

Chuck Winner, Chairman  
California State Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite #300  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chairman Winner and Members of the California Horse Racing Board:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to respectfully urge your adoption of California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) 2017 Race Dates Proposal (Scenario B), Humboldt County Fair: August 16 – August 27, 2016.

As you know, Humboldt County continues to be concerned about the Humboldt County horse racing overlap days during our annual Humboldt County Fair. Our fair is a major contributor to the economy and racing provides a significant portion of the income. Our fair and the associated grounds and buildings are operated mainly with funding derived from racing.

In addition, our fairgrounds are very close to the Eel River. The Eel is known for its periodic flooding and the fairgrounds act as staging and evacuation area which services a huge geographic area. The loss of racing revenues could easily impact our disaster readiness.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that you adopt CARF's Race Dates Proposal (Scenario B). Thank you in advance for considering this very important request.

Sincerely,

Mark Lovelace, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

ML:kh

cc: Richard Conway, General Manager  
Humboldt County Fair Association