

LGCB Meeting, , (Pages 1:1 to 152:24)

1:1 LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

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6 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022

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11 LaSALLE BUILDING

12 LaBELLE HEARING ROOM

13 617 NORTH 3RD STREET

14 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

15

16

17

18 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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23

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25

2

1 APPEARANCES

2 RONNIE S. JOHNS, CHAIRMAN

(At-Large)

3 June 30, 2025

4 JULIE BERRY, VICE-CHAIRMAN

(CPA)

5 Third Congressional District

June 30, 2024

6

HARRY AVANT

7 (At-Large)

Fourth Congressional District

8 June 30, 2024

9 CLAUDE D. JACKSON

(At-Large)

10 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2027

11

O. LAMAR POOLE, JR.

12 (Economic/Community Planner)

Sixth Congressional District

13 June 30, 2025

14 JULIE A. LEWIS

(Investigative and Law Enforcement)

15 Fifth Congressional District

June 30, 2024

16

FRANCESCA HAMILTON-ACKER

17 (Attorney)

Third Congressional District

18 June 30, 2026

19 RONALD J. SHOLES  
(Public/Business Administration)

20 Second Congressional District

June 30, 2026

21

22

23

24

25

3

1 APPEARANCES (CONTINUED)

2 NATALIE THURMAN

Principal Assistant

3

HEATHER TEMPLET

4 Department of Revenue

5 MAJOR CHUCK McNEAL

Louisiana State Police

6

REPORTED BY:

7

KARLA H. MAYERS, CCR

8 U.S. Legal Support

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12 Travel Plaza & Casino - Patterson -  
No. 5100518100

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15 the following sports wagering  
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17

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7

1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Good morning, everyone. Happy

4 tax day to you, so . . . I see a lot of frowns

5 out there in the audience this morning, so . . .

6 Good morning. And I hope everyone had a great

7 Easter. I would like to call the April 18, 2022,

8 meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board to

9 order. Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll,

10 please?

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 Chairman Johns?

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:



14 Here.

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Mr. Avant?

17 MR. AVANT:

18 Here.

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 Ms. Berry?

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Here.

23 MS. THURMAN:

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

8

1 Here.

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Ms. Lewis?

4 MS. LEWIS:

5 Here.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE:

9 Here.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

12 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

13 Here.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Mr. Sholes?

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 Here.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Ms. Traylor?

20 (NO RESPONSE)

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Colonel Davis?

23 MAJOR McNEAL:

24 Major McNeal for Colonel Davis.

25 MS. THURMAN:

9

1 Secretary Richard?

2 MS. TEMPLET:

3 Heather Templet for Secretary

4 Richard.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 We have a quorum.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. We do have a

9 quorum.

10 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 And next on the agenda will be our

13 public comments. If anyone in the audience today

14 has any public comments to any item that is

15 actually on the agenda, now is the time to come

16 forward and make those comments. Is there any --

17 anyone who has comments this morning?

18 (NO RESPONSE)

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Seeing none, we will move on.

21 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Approval of our minutes. We have  
24 before you the minutes of March 14, 2022.  
25 Members, it was in your packet. Are there any

10

1 questions on the minutes? If not, I'll entertain  
2 a motion to waive the reading and approve the  
3 minutes of March 14, 2022.

4 MS. BERRY:

5 (Indicating)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Motion by Ms. Berry.

8 MR. SHOLES:

9 Second.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Second by Judge Sholes. Is there any  
12 objection to that motion?

13 (NO RESPONSE)

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Hearing none, that motion carries.

16 Ladies and gentlemen, it's actually not on the  
17 agenda today, but before we get into the meat of  
18 our meeting today, I just want to give you a very  
19 brief update on the DiamondJacks issue. We've  
20 gotten a lot of calls about it, particularly from  
21 the news media and interested parties.

22 Approximately 60 days ago, we -- we

23 passed a resolution by this board giving  
24 DiamondJacks, P2E, 60 days to file a Petition for  
25 Transfer of Ownership of that property up in

11

1 Bossier City. DiamondJacks did file the petition  
2 timely. It's in good order. We're very pleased  
3 with the work that they have put forward to it.

4 As you know, it's been public  
5 knowledge that they are attempting to sell their  
6 property to Foundation Gaming based out of  
7 Mississippi. I'm not, at this time, able to  
8 discuss the petition that they did file this week,  
9 but I will tell you that it's -- it's absolutely  
10 in order, and it's exactly what the board asked  
11 them to do.

12 So at this point, we will move  
13 forward with suitability and background checks, et  
14 cetera, of Foundation Gaming, and at the  
15 appropriate time, it will come back before the  
16 board with a formal presentation and then formal  
17 action to be taken on -- on that issue. So just  
18 wanted to give you a report. So thank you very  
19 much.

#### 20 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Ms. Jackson, you want to come  
23 forward and give us some -- some good news?

24 MS. JACKSON:

25 Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board

1 Members. My name is Donna Jackson with Louisiana  
2 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

3 In March, the 13 operating riverboats  
4 generated adjusted gross receipts of \$167,428,364.  
5 The State collected fees totaling \$35,997,098.  
6 Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal year 2022 to  
7 date are \$1 billion 338 million, an increase of  
8 over \$228 million, or 21 percent, from fiscal year  
9 2021. As of March 31, 2022, the State collected  
10 \$287.8 million in fees for fiscal year 2022.

11 Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue  
12 broken down by regional market. The overall  
13 increase from February was \$15.8 million, or 10.4  
14 percent. Compared to last March, this month's  
15 revenues represent a decrease of \$800,000, or .5  
16 percent.

17 Next is a summary of the March 2022  
18 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans, found on  
19 page 3. Harrah's generated \$22,829,269 in gross  
20 gaming revenue. These revenues represent an  
21 increase from last month of \$2.6 million, or 13  
22 percent, and a slight increase of 1.7 percent from  
23 the same month last year. During March, the State  
24 received \$5,095,890 in minimum daily payments.

25 Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal

1 year 2022 to date are \$159.5 million, an increase  
2 of \$22.8 million, or 17 percent, from fiscal year

3 2021. As of March 31, 2022, the State collected  
4 approximately \$45 million in fees for fiscal year  
5 2022.

6           Next, I will present the revenues for  
7 slots at the racetracks. During March, the four  
8 racetrack facilities combined generated adjusted  
9 gross receipts of \$31,199,662, an increase of  
10 approximately \$6 million, or 23.8 percent, from  
11 February but a decrease of \$3.2 million, or 9  
12 percent, when compared to the same month last  
13 year. During March, the State collected \$4.7  
14 million in fees.

15           Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal  
16 year 2022 to date are \$242.4 million, an increase  
17 of \$20 million, or 9 percent, from fiscal year  
18 2021. As of March 31, 2022, the State has  
19 collected \$36.8 million in fees for fiscal year  
20 2022.

21           I will now move to the video gaming  
22 information. There are 12,121 video gaming  
23 devices activated at 1,438 locations. Net device  
24 revenue for March 2022 was \$80,977,800, an  
25 increase of \$10 million, or 14 percent, when

14

1 compared to February but a decrease of \$3.7  
2 million, or 4.4 percent, when compared to last  
3 March. Total franchise fees for March 2022  
4 totaled \$24.5 million, an increase of \$3 million  
5 when compared to February but a decrease of \$1.2

6 million when compared to March 2021.

7 Net device revenue for fiscal year

8 2022 to date is \$621 million, an increase of

9 \$89 million, or 16.8 percent, when compared to

10 fiscal year 2021. Total franchise fees collected

11 for fiscal year 2022 to date are \$188 million, an

12 increase of \$26 million, or 16 percent, when

13 compared to last fiscal year.

14 Next, I will present the March

15 revenue for sportsbook. Hollywood and Louisiana

16 Downs commenced operations during March. So the

17 15 operating retail sportsbooks accepted

18 \$26,984,384 in sports wagers, resulting in net

19 proceeds of \$1.7 million and \$227,621 in state

20 taxes. The seven mobile sportsbook operators

21 accepted \$205,745,956 in sports wagers, resulting

22 in net proceeds of \$28.4 million and \$3,185,000 in

23 taxes paid to the State.

24 Finally, for daily fantasy sports,

25 gross revenues for March were \$1.1 million, with a

15

1 net revenue of approximately \$116,785 and taxes of

2 \$9,342. For the fiscal year to date, fantasy has

3 generated \$1.9 million net revenue and \$153,000 in

4 state taxes.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Thank you, Ms. Jackson. One thing I

7 do want to note is, on sports betting, while the

8 numbers are down a little bit from the month of

9 February, if I'm not correct -- if I'm not  
10 mistaken, Ms. Jackson, --

11 MS. JACKSON:

12 Correct.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 -- the actual revenue to the State is  
15 up about a million dollars, or close to a million  
16 dollars. And I think that has to do with the fact  
17 that the promotional -- promotional play  
18 exemptions have, more or less, played out in most  
19 parts.

20 MS. JACKSON:

21 Right.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 So I'm sure my former colleagues over  
24 at the big -- the big building will be happy to  
25 see those numbers. So any questions from the

16

1 board on the revenue? Any questions?

2 (NO RESPONSE)

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Okay, Ms. Jackson. Thank you so  
5 much. Very -- very well done. Appreciate it.

6 V. CONSIDERATION OF PROBLEM GAMING HOTLINE

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay. Okay, Members. We're going to  
9 move on to Item No. VI on the agenda this morning,  
10 and that is the consideration of problem -- of the  
11 problem gaming hotline. We have a petition by



12 Penn Sports Interactive to use the 1-800-GAMBLER  
13 number in their advertisements. So good morning,  
14 everyone and . . .

15 MS. LONEY:

16 Good morning, Board Members. Rhea  
17 Loney, VP of Compliance and Regulatory Affairs for  
18 Penn Sports Interactive. Penn Sports Interactive  
19 is the digital and online arm of Penn National  
20 Gaming operating the Barstool Sportsbook platform  
21 in Louisiana and in other states.

22 On the agenda this morning, Commissioner,  
23 is a request to use the 1-800-GAMBLER hotline on  
24 our platform and advertisements within the state.  
25 In conversations with Executive Director Miller at

17

1 Louisiana Association for Compulsive Gamblers, we  
2 would like to table this request to a future  
3 meeting to give us some additional time just to  
4 make sure we have all the answers for you around  
5 some of the inner workings of the number. I  
6 believe the AG's Office is in agreement with that,  
7 yes.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Would you like to add something or --

10 MS. LONEY:

11 Yeah, we're in agreement.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Ms. Miller, good morning.

14 MS. MILLER:

15 Good morning. Good morning, Board.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Members, I would like to introduce  
18 you to Ms. Janet Miller. Janet is the Executive  
19 Director of the Louisiana Association of  
20 Compulsive Gambling, and I've known Janet for a  
21 number of years. We've worked together very  
22 closely, and I'm just happy to see you here. She  
23 said it's been a couple of years since you've been  
24 before the board, so . . .

25 MS. MILLER:

18

1 It is. It is, since the pandemic.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Yeah.

4 MS. MILLER:

5 And I wish y'all well. In fact, it  
6 was nice to see some of the same faces. So we  
7 weathered through it.

8 And so some of the work that -- I  
9 just wanted to announce to the board that the  
10 National Council on Problem Gambling and our  
11 affiliate is the Louisiana affiliate to that  
12 branch. We have been working towards a  
13 combination of having a one-number use for problem  
14 gambling or responsible gambling help.

15 And so along with Rhea and her team  
16 and other corporations and other entities that are  
17 bringing gaming into Louisiana, what we would like

18 to do, instead of having multiple numbers, is  
19 we're looking at having a nationwide, one number  
20 for people to call, similar to when we put out  
21 911.

22 And coming this summer, we have 988  
23 for suicide crisis prevention. It won't be a  
24 three-digit number, but we are looking at -- to  
25 make it much easier for the customer, or the

19

1 patients that we serve, is to have one number.  
2 It's also, we believe, easier for the industry and  
3 everybody involved to do this. So that's why  
4 we'll come back to and present some information  
5 that has some of the -- the schematics worked out  
6 for you.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 So would you like to go on the agenda  
9 for next month?

10 MS. LONEY:

11 That would be -- that would be our  
12 request, Chairman, please.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay. That -- that would be great.  
15 So thank you for your work on this. Ms. Miller,  
16 thank you for your incredible work.

17 MS. MILLER:

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 We -- we greatly appreciate it, and

21 we -- we want to work very closely with you. And  
22 we recognize the need for your program, and we  
23 want -- I know as Chairman, and I know how the  
24 members of this board feel, we take this issue  
25 very, very seriously, and --

20

1 MS. MILLER:

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 And we want to continue to see your  
5 program grow and -- well, I shouldn't say "grow."

6 Okay?

7 MS. MILLER:

8 Yeah, I know.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 That's a bad way to put it -- bad way  
11 to say it.

12 MS. MILLER:

13 It's like, are you busy? Yes. Is  
14 that good?

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Right.

17 MS. MILLER:

18 I don't know.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 I know.

21 MS. MILLER:

22 So . . .

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24           Anyway, we look forward to -- to  
25 working very closely --

21

1           MS. MILLER:

2           Thank you.

3           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4           -- with you, so . . .

5           MS. MILLER:

6           Thank you.

7           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8           Anybody have any questions for -- for  
9 the ladies at the table, or Ms. Miller in  
10 particular while she's here today, on compulsive  
11 gambling?

12           (NO RESPONSE)

13           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14           Okay. Thank y'all very much.

15           MS. MILLER:

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18           And we'll see you next month.

19           MS. LONEY:

20           Thank you, Board.

21 VI. VIDEO GAMING ISSUES

22           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23           Okay. We will move on to Item No.

24 VII, consideration of the approval of a truckstop

25 application of Patterson Ventures, LLC, doing

22

1 business as Silvers Travel Plaza & Casino -

2 Patterson. Good morning, Gentlemen.

3 MR. PITRE:

4 Good morning, Chairman and Board

5 Members.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Good morning.

8 MR. VERRETT:

9 Good morning, sir.

10 MR. PITRE:

11 I'm Assistant Attorney General Earl

12 Pitre, Jr., appearing before the board in the

13 matter of the original application of Patterson

14 Ventures, LLC, doing business as Silvers Travel

15 Plaza & Casino - Patterson applying for approval

16 of a Type 5 video draw poker license. The

17 establishment is located in St. Mary Parish.

18 On July 30, 2021, the following

19 transactions occurred: Riverbend Truckstops &

20 Palace Casino, Incorporated, doing business as

21 Patterson Truckstop & Casino, who previously held

22 a video gaming license for the truck stop, sold

23 the business and business assets to the applicant.

24 And Redman Gaming of Louisiana, LLC, sold all of

25 its rights, title, and interest in the immovable

23

1 property and improvements of the truck stop

2 facility to the applicant. Gregory J. Barro is

3 the sole member of the applicant, and Devin B.

4 Carriere manages the applicant.  
5 Criminal Investigator Glenn Verrett  
6 conducted the suitability investigations of the  
7 relevant persons associated with the applicant of  
8 the application and conducted an on-site  
9 inspection of the truck stop facility. He is here  
10 this morning to report the Office of State  
11 Police's findings to the board.

12 MR. VERRETT:

13 Good morning, Mr. Chairman --

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Good morning, sir.

16 MR. VERRETT:

17 -- and Board Members. I'm  
18 Investigator Glenn Verrett with the Gaming  
19 Enforcement Division. I conducted an updated  
20 suitability check on Gregory J. Barro and Devin B.  
21 Carriere, who previously met suitability under  
22 various video gaming licenses. I found no  
23 information that would preclude them from  
24 continuing to participate in the gaming industry.

25 An on-site inspection was conducted,

24

1 and it was determined that the establishment meets  
2 all criteria set forth in video gaming law as a  
3 qualified truck stop facility. All required  
4 licenses and permits were posted and valid at the  
5 time of inspection. The establishment consists of  
6 5.5269 contiguous acres.

7 Patterson Ventures purchased the  
8 facility. It was originally licensed on  
9 September 14, 2004; therefore, they are not  
10 subject to the rule that they must be one mile  
11 from a school, church, playground, synagogue,  
12 public library, residence and buildings on the  
13 National Historic Registry. I found no  
14 information that would preclude the issuance of a  
15 Type 5 license to Patterson Ventures, LLC, doing  
16 business as Silvers Travel Plaza & Casino -  
17 Patterson.

18 MR. PITRE:

19 The Office of the Attorney General  
20 has reviewed the file compiled as a result of the  
21 investigation conducted by the Office of State  
22 Police. Our review indicates that no information  
23 has been found to preclude approval.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Okay. Thank you, gentlemen.

25

1 Members, any questions for the gentlemen at the  
2 table?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Hearing none, I would entertain a  
6 motion that we approve this application.

7 MR. AVANT:

8 So moved.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:



10 Mr. Avant has moved that we approve  
11 this application.

12 MS. BERRY:

13 (Indicating)

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Seconded by Ms. Berry. Is there any  
16 discussion on the motion?

17 (NO RESPONSE)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Is there any opposition to the  
20 motion?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Hearing none, this motion carries.

24 Gentlemen, thank you very much.

25 MR. PITRE:

26

1 Thank you, sir.

2 VII. SPORTS WAGERING ISSUES

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Okay. Moving on to Item No. VIII,  
5 the fun part of the meeting today. So we have  
6 before us, Members, a number of presentations  
7 today on the sports wagering license applications.  
8 We have representation from a number of our  
9 properties that will kind of give us a very good  
10 clue -- an idea of what -- of what they're getting  
11 ready to do in their facility. And I've  
12 personally visited a lot of -- a lot of these

13 properties, have seen it firsthand.

14 Gentlemen at the table, I visited a  
15 couple weeks ago and very impressed with what  
16 y'all --

17 MR. MOWAD:

18 Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 -- are getting ready to do there.

21 It's already started, as I understand, so . . .

22 MR. MOWAD:

23 Yes, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 So first on the agenda today will be

27

1 Caesars Entertainment. So good morning.

2 MS. MURRAY-BROWN:

3 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
4 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
5 Alonna Murray-Brown, appearing today with  
6 Ms. Patricia Bell with Louisiana State Police,  
7 Gaming Audit Division, and Trooper Perkins with  
8 the Gaming Enforcement Division. We are here in  
9 the matter of the consideration of the sports  
10 wagering license application of Jazz Casino  
11 Company, LLC, doing business as Harrah's New  
12 Orleans.

13 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute  
14 27:601, the board is charged with issuing or  
15 denying applications for sports wagering licenses.

16 The applicant is eligible to apply for a sports  
17 wagering license due to its contract to operate  
18 the official gaming establishment in Orleans  
19 Parish. This board issued a temporary certificate  
20 of authority to Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing  
21 business as Harrah's New Orleans to conduct  
22 business as a sports wagering licensee, with an  
23 effective date of October 31, 2021. The TCOA will  
24 expire on April 30, 2022.

25 State Police's Gaming Division has

28

1 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
2 now report its findings to the board, and the  
3 applicant will also provide a brief presentation  
4 to the board following State Police.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Thank you, Ms. Murray. Gentlemen,  
7 good morning.

8 MR. BARBIN:

9 Good morning. Jeff Barbin from  
10 Phelps Dunbar, representing Caesars Entertainment,  
11 and to my right is Samir Mowad, who is the General  
12 Manager at Harrah's New Orleans, and Rob Brown,  
13 who is the VP of Operations. We also have in the  
14 audience Cara Hall, who is the VP and Chief  
15 Counsel of Regional Operations for Harrah's, and  
16 Valerie Montiere, who is Director of Compliance.  
17 And we'll be making a presentation, I believe,  
18 after the State Police finishes their -- their

19 presentation.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Good morning.

22 MS. BELL:

23 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
24 Board Members. My name is Patricia Bell with  
25 Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit Section.

29

1 The Audit Section has reviewed the financial  
2 information submitted by Harrah's New Orleans and  
3 Caesars Entertainment, Inc., for a sports wagering  
4 license.

5 In August 2021, Caesars launched their  
6 Caesars Sportsbook app on their owned and  
7 integrated Liberty Technology platform.

8 Caesars Digital includes Caesars'  
9 operations for retail and mobile sports betting,  
10 online casino, and online poker. Caesars Digital  
11 sports betting handle, iGaming handle, and net  
12 revenues increased significantly for the year  
13 ended December 31, 2021, compared to the same  
14 prior year period due to acquisitions and -- and  
15 the recent marketing launch of the new sportsbook.

16 Consolidated revenues increased for  
17 the year ended December 31, 2021, primarily due to  
18 recent acquisitions, including the  
19 Eldorado/Caesars merger in July 2020, the William  
20 Hill acquisition in April 2021, and the  
21 consolidation of Horseshoe Baltimore in August

22 2021, offset by the divestiture of certain  
23 properties.

24 It is our assessment, based on the  
25 information reviewed, that Harrah's New Orleans

30

1 possesses the financial ability to develop,  
2 correct, operate, and maintain its retail  
3 sportsbook. No financial issues came to the Audit  
4 Section's attention that were of such a nature as  
5 to preclude the board from approving the sports  
6 wagering license for Harrah's New Orleans.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay. Thank you very much. Good  
9 morning.

10 MR. PERKINS:

11 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
12 Members of the Board. I'm Criminal Investigator  
13 Rodney Perkins with Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
14 Enforcement Division.

15 On August 23, 2021, Louisiana State  
16 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division, received a  
17 sports wagering license application submitted on  
18 behalf of Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business  
19 as Harrah's New Orleans. In accordance with the  
20 rules and regulations of the Gaming Enforcement  
21 Division, a background investigation was conducted  
22 on Jazz Casino Company, LLC, its shareholders,  
23 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
24 with five percent or more ownership or economic

25 interest in the license.

31

1 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
2 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct an  
3 investigation and determination if any information  
4 would deem Jazz Casino Company, LLC, its  
5 shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
6 background investigations consisted of inquiries  
7 to federal, state, local law enforcement agencies,  
8 civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies,  
9 and the Louisiana Department of Revenue.  
10 Inquiries were also made through Computerized  
11 Criminal History Databases. Based on this  
12 information, there is no information that was  
13 found which would preclude the board from  
14 approving Jazz Casino Company, LLC, a sports  
15 wagering license.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Okay. Thank you very much.

18 Mr. Mowad, good morning.

19 MR. MOWAD:

20 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board  
21 Members. We -- on behalf of Caesars  
22 Entertainment, we appreciate the opportunity at  
23 both Harrah's New Orleans and at the Horseshoe in  
24 Bossier City, and, hopefully soon, the Horseshoe  
25 in Lake Charles, to participate in sports

32

1 wagering. And we -- we understand the -- the

2 privilege of it, and we've set out to do it the  
3 right way.  
4           And so we're just going to run  
5 through a quick presentation of not only where  
6 we're at now but where we hope to be headed in --  
7 in the very near future and to -- to touch on  
8 Chairman Johns' comment about we've already gotten  
9 started. We've actually -- we started  
10 construction of our permanent sportsbook literally  
11 the day after the Final Four ended in New Orleans.

12           So if you look -- I know the  
13 projector was down; so, hopefully, everyone has a  
14 presentation. Okay. So if you look at the first  
15 page, it really just lays out -- in the bottom  
16 right-hand corner in the blue is where we set up  
17 our original temporary sportsbook. The one thing  
18 I would tell you about it is we were lucky in that  
19 we didn't have to try to shove a square peg into a  
20 round hole. The area that was there, which was an  
21 area that had been nonactivated since COVID had  
22 began, was really a great fit for us. And the  
23 green space that you see up top is where we've  
24 started construction of our permanent  
25 sportsbook.

33

1           On the next page, just, you know,  
2 some highlights of the view of our book, the  
3 way -- as I mentioned, it was a good fit. The --  
4 the area allowed for excellent viewing angles and

5 setting up a pretty robust AV system for what is,  
6 quote/unquote, a temporary sportsbook. That being  
7 said, you know, we're proud of that space, and  
8 if the -- it's as nice as a lot of permanent  
9 sportsbooks that you'll see with different  
10 operators really across the country.

11           And it was something that we put  
12 together quickly in order to -- to try to -- to  
13 take as much advantage, if we could, of the  
14 ability to operate sports betting. And so it was  
15 about a three-week build-out, where we spent  
16 625,000 in capital to -- to get it up and running.

17           And we had a nice opening event.  
18 Bobby Hebert, the Saints -- the former Saints  
19 quarterback, who has still quite a good reputation  
20 in the city, participates in the radio for the  
21 Saints. So he came out and really helped us  
22 create a little bit of hoopla around the launch of  
23 the sportsbook and made a first bet for charity on  
24 behalf of -- of himself. And -- and it was an  
25 excellent thing, where it really just showed how

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1 there's that commitment to the community as we  
2 launched our sportsbook.

3           And so, you know, it's been an  
4 overall success. You can see the number of bets  
5 we've taken. The best part is, is it's allowed us  
6 to reach what I'm going to call a new customer, a  
7 customer that we don't see every -- every day



8 previously. And as we've gotten this infusion of  
9 a -- of a new -- a new guest base, a new customer  
10 base, it's a lot -- we've seen that there's a lot  
11 of crossover between what we were doing previously  
12 and then where the business is headed, both from a  
13 sports betting and overall hospitality centric  
14 place.

15           And so as we look forward and you go  
16 to the next page, our real goal is, if you think  
17 about the history of Caesars Entertainment and  
18 Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, and that's a  
19 sportsbook that has been mentioned for years as a  
20 leader in the space, that's really where we're  
21 trying to go with it as a part of our overall, you  
22 know, renovation that we're doing as a function of  
23 extending our lease and making a minimum  
24 \$325 million capital commitment.

25           And so you can see the renderings,

35

1 but what we're most proud of is we're going to  
2 have this huge video screen that's going to be  
3 almost 20-feet-high-by-70-feet-long, and it's  
4 going to wrap around an area where the ceilings  
5 are even more elevated than where we created the  
6 temporary sportsbook.

7           And we've done stuff such as  
8 measuring viewing angles, making sure that, from  
9 several areas across the casino, you're going to  
10 be able to see the space. And -- and really our

11 goal is to be a best-in-class sportsbook, that  
12 whether it's sitting in -- in Las Vegas or  
13 Atlantic City or anywhere, we can -- we can say  
14 that we're putting forth the best possible.

15           And that's where the overall  
16 project -- that's what our project in transforming  
17 Harrah New Orleans to Caesars New Orleans is all  
18 about, and that's what -- our same mindset for the  
19 sportsbook, and -- and that's going to culminate  
20 in an overall \$12.2 million capital spend. We're  
21 going to position the new sportsbook just adjacent  
22 to our poker room. There's a lot of synergies  
23 there, as we have found, not only locally but also  
24 across our enterprise.

25           And, then, just the next couple of

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1 pages are some -- some nice renderings, which, if  
2 you've been in Harrah's New Orleans lately, you  
3 get a flavor for not only how nice this -- this  
4 sportsbook poker room area is going to be but also  
5 how transformative it will be, because the spaces  
6 that you're looking at now are spaces that  
7 currently exist at Harrah's New Orleans, and they  
8 don't -- they don't really look exactly like this.  
9 This is a transformative, exciting project that  
10 we're undertaking.

11           So, again, we appreciate the  
12 privilege to participate in the space from a  
13 regulatory perspective. We've tried to make sure

14 we have had our t's crossed and our i's dotted  
15 along the way. And I'm open to answer any  
16 questions that you might have.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Well, thank you, Mr. Mowad. And, as  
19 I mentioned earlier, I got to personally view this  
20 area inside the casino. It started on one -- on  
21 one end of the casino, and I think it went to the  
22 other end, it looked like. So in the whole  
23 footprint of your very, very large facility, this  
24 is going to be a big footprint of -- inside your  
25 operation, Mr. Mowad. And we -- I can tell you

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1 this is exactly what I think everybody envisioned  
2 for sportsbook as -- as it passed and as we've  
3 moved forward with it. So we're excited about  
4 this.

5 Real quickly, on the hotel that  
6 you're building -- and I know --

7 MR. MOWAD:

8 Yes, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 -- it doesn't have anything to do  
11 with us, but how many rooms is going to be in the  
12 new hotel?

13 MR. MOWAD:

14 It's -- it's going to be an  
15 additional 340 rooms. Our current hotel tower is  
16 currently 450 hotel rooms.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Right. What's your timeline on that?

19 MR. MOWAD:

20 It's approximately two years from  
21 now, maybe a little bit less than that. Our  
22 original goal was to be ready for the February  
23 2024 Super Bowl. Obviously, because of the  
24 conflict with Mardi Gras, that's been pushed back  
25 a year. And we may end up being happy about that,

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1 because we're currently on a slight delay, as the  
2 Mighty Mississippi isn't cooperating currently.  
3 It's slightly above 11 feet. We're hoping by,  
4 actually, later this week that we can resume the  
5 foundation work for the hotel, and we're pretty  
6 close on that.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Great. Wonderful. So any questions,  
9 Members?

10 MR. SHOLES:

11 I realize that the area some -- gets  
12 congested.

13 MR. MOWAD:

14 Yes, sir.

15 MR. SHOLES:

16 What are y'all doing about parking?  
17 Because the current parking garage really, some  
18 days, has some challenges. What do you  
19 anticipate? Do you anticipate any increased

20 parking problems or not, or, I mean, are you  
21 addressing it?

22 MR. MOWAD:

23 So, ultimately, I mean, there is no  
24 question that in the past, parking has been a  
25 challenge in Downtown New Orleans overall.

39

1 Ironically, since COVID, it hasn't been on our  
2 radar at all, and even unfor -- while the  
3 restrictions and everything are relaxed right now,  
4 we haven't even reached a point at this time where  
5 we're having to send -- we have an overflow lot  
6 that we got into a long-term relationship with so  
7 that we could put our employees there to -- to  
8 have dedicated the two garages that we own just  
9 for our -- our guests.

10 You know, the biggest thing we're  
11 thinking about right now in terms of sportsbook is  
12 more around the ease of getting in and out of the  
13 property. And if we can have -- I don't know --  
14 some sort of a -- we don't have a final answer on  
15 this yet as we work with the City to try to --  
16 there's a lot of things going on with parking and  
17 traffic flows as we do this project, but some sort  
18 of an easy in/easy out, particularly for folks  
19 trying to take advantage of sports betting. Even  
20 with mobile, we see folks who are coming in just  
21 to do it in person.

22 And so it's something we're aware of,

23 and we have a -- you know, while we technically  
24 may meet the criteria for how many spots we need  
25 based on our square footage and all that stuff,

40

1 it's something that's top of mind, and as it  
2 evolves post-COVID, we'll -- we'll continue to  
3 monitor and update you as -- as we have  
4 significant changes.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. Any -- any further questions?

7 (NO RESPONSE)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Okay. Gentlemen, before you, we have  
10 the resolution to -- to adopt. Could I have a  
11 motion to approve that resolution?

12 MR. SHOLES:

13 So moved.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Judge Sholes has moved that we  
16 approve the adopt -- excuse me -- adopt the  
17 resolution.

18 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

19 (Indicating)

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 And Ms. Hamilton-Acker has seconded  
22 that motion. And, Ms. Thurman, would you please  
23 read the resolution?

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 On the 18th day of April 2022, the

1 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
2 noticed public meeting, consider the sports  
3 wagering license application of Jazz Casino  
4 Company, LLC, d/b/a Harrah's New Orleans, and upon  
5 motion duly made and seconded, the board adopted  
6 the following resolution:

7 Be it resolved that Jazz Casino  
8 Company, LLC, d/b/a Harrah's New Orleans, be  
9 approved for a sports wagering license for a term  
10 of five years, commencing October 31, 2022 -- '21.

11 I'm sorry.

12 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge  
13 Louisiana this 18th day of April 2022.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. We do have a  
16 motion to adopt the resolution, and it's been  
17 seconded. And, Ms. Thurman, would you please call  
18 the roll?

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 Mr. Avant?

21 MR. AVANT:

22 Yes.

23 MS. THURMAN:

24 Ms. Berry?

25 MS. BERRY:

1 Yes.

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Mr. Jackson?

4 MR. JACKSON:

5 Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Ms. Lewis?

8 MS. LEWIS:

9 Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Mr. Poole?

12 MR. POOLE:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

16 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Mr. Sholes?

20 MR. SHOLES:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Chairman Johns?

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Yes.

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1 MS. THURMAN:

2 It's unanimous.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 By unanimous vote, that resolution is

5 hereby adopted. Congratulations to you, and thank



6 you for your commitment to the -- to the state of  
7 Louisiana.

8 MR. MOWAD:

9 Yes, sir. Thanks to the board and to  
10 you, Chairman Johns. We appreciate your support  
11 and guidance.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Thank you so much. Okay. Moving  
14 along. Horseshoe Entertainment doing business as  
15 Horseshoe Bossier City Casino & Hotel. I see  
16 Mr. Urand is here this morning.

17 MR. URLAND:

18 Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay, Ms. Murray. Good morning  
21 again.

22 MS. MURRAY-BROWN:

23 Good morning. Assistant Attorney  
24 General Alonna Murray-Brown, appearing with  
25 Ms. Patricia Bell with Louisiana State Police,

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1 Gaming Audit Division, and Trooper Perkins with  
2 the Gaming Enforcement Division. We are here in  
3 the matter of the consideration of the sports  
4 wagering license application of Horseshoe  
5 Entertainment, LP, doing business as Horseshoe  
6 Bossier City.

7 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute  
8 27:601, the board is charged with issuing or

9 denying applications for sports wagering licenses.  
10 The applicant is eligible to apply for a sports  
11 wagering license due to its licensure as a  
12 riverboat gaming licensee.

13 This board issued a temporary  
14 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
15 conduct business as a sports wagering license with  
16 an effective date of October 31, 2021. The TCOA  
17 will expire on April 30, 2022.

18 State Police's Gaming Division has  
19 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
20 now report its findings to the board, and the --  
21 the applicant will also provide a brief  
22 presentation to the board following State Police.

23 MS. BELL:

24 Good morning, Chairman and Board  
25 Members. My name is Patricia Bell with Louisiana

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1 State Police's Gaming Audit Section.

2 The Audit Section has reviewed the  
3 financial information submitted by Horseshoe  
4 Bossier City and Caesars Entertainment, Inc., for  
5 a sports wagering license. In addition to the  
6 retail and one mobile sportsbook operated by  
7 American Wagering, Inc., the platform provider,  
8 Horseshoe Bossier has a contract for a second  
9 mobile sportsbook operated by WSI US, LLC, under  
10 the Wynn brand through an online market access  
11 agreement that grants Wynn the right to operate

12 the skin at Horseshoe Bossier.

13 Caesars' performance was priorly  
14 stated in Harrah's property and is also applicable  
15 to the Horseshoe Bossier property.

16 It is our assessment, based on the  
17 information reviewed, that Horseshoe Bossier City  
18 possesses the financial ability to develop,  
19 construct, operate, and maintain its retail and  
20 mobile sportsbook. No financial issues came to  
21 the Audit Section's attention that were of such a  
22 nature as to preclude the board from approving the  
23 sports wagering license for Horseshoe Bossier.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Thank you.

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1 MR. PERKINS:

2 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
3 Members of the Board. I'm Criminal Investigator  
4 Rodney Perkins with Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
5 Enforcement Division.

6 On August 23, 2021, Louisiana State  
7 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division, received a  
8 sports wagering license application submitted on  
9 behalf of Horseshoe Entertainment, LP, doing  
10 business as Horseshoe Bossier City. And according  
11 with the rules and regulations of the Gaming  
12 Enforcement Division, a background investigation  
13 was conducted on Horseshoe Entertainment, LP, its  
14 shareholders, subsidiaries, officers, directors,

15 and persons with five percent or more ownership or  
16 economic interest in the license.

17 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
18 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
19 investigation and determine if any information  
20 would deem Horseshoe Entertainment, LP, its  
21 shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
22 background investigation consisted of inquiries to  
23 federal, state, and local law enforcement  
24 agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory  
25 agencies, and the Louisiana Department of Revenue.

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1 Inquiries were also made through the Computerized  
2 Criminal History Database. Based on this  
3 investigation, there is no information that was  
4 found which would preclude the board from  
5 approving Horseshoe Entertainment, LP, a sports  
6 wagering license.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Thank you, sir.

9 MR. BARBIN:

10 Good morning, Mr. Chairman, --

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Good morning, Jeff.

13 MR. BARBIN:

14 -- Board Members. I'm Jeff Barbin,  
15 again, representing Caesars Entertainment. I'm  
16 joined by Robert Umland to my right, who is the  
17 General Manager of Horseshoe Casino in Bossier

18 City, Whitney Willingham, who is the Regional  
19 Vice President of Finance, and behind me is Dylan  
20 James, the VP of Player Development and Marketing.  
21 Robert has a brief presentation, and you all  
22 should have a package.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Good morning, Mr. Urland.

25 MR. URLAND:

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1 Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board  
2 Members. Thank you very much for allowing us to  
3 be here. Like Jeff said, with us today -- it's a  
4 little bit of a long journey from Northwest  
5 Louisiana. So to break up the drive, I had our  
6 two most senior executives, who is Dylan James,  
7 and he's our Vice President of Marketing -- Casino  
8 Marketing, Player Development -- him and his team  
9 are a big reason of why we have done over.  
10 4 million a month in handle. Our first bet out of  
11 the trap was \$50,000, our -- the largest online  
12 player in Louisiana, who lives in Louisiana, comes  
13 from our market, and who develops his team. To  
14 the right of me is our Regional Vice President of  
15 Finance, Whitney Willingham, and she's been with  
16 Horseshoe Bossier for eight years. So I thought  
17 it would be good to have two of my most senior  
18 executives come down here with me in case there  
19 was anything applicable from the board.

20 So, you know, again, this is just

21 another example of what we're doing up in  
22 Northwest Louisiana at the Horseshoe, of really  
23 what the new Caesars Entertainment is. You heard  
24 Samir's presentation. We all know what we're  
25 doing over in Lake Charles, and we've -- we're

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1 spending a lot of capital up at the Horseshoe and  
2 refreshing the property and adding amenities. And  
3 it was very important, Mr. Chairman, when you came  
4 up and visited last month for you just to have an  
5 opportunity to see what the Horseshoe has done and  
6 what we're continuing to do.

7 We've seen a lot of competition for  
8 many, many years from the travel casinos up in  
9 Oklahoma, as well as from -- this year especially,  
10 up at Oaklawn Park in Arkansas. So what we have  
11 done and what you'll see in the first few pages is  
12 really our commitment to digging in and trying to  
13 fight to get this business back and not just being  
14 satisfied from -- with the property we have. And  
15 we're just going to have to see how it goes.

16 So what we have done in the last 18  
17 months, we've brought a seafood restaurant in.  
18 We've completely remodeled our entertainment  
19 lounge, the 1931 Lounge, and that is to honor the  
20 year that Mr. Carano, who was the founder of the  
21 Eldorado, was born. Our High Limit Slot Lounge,  
22 we're about to open that, and that's for our top  
23 players, or top Seven Star and up players.

24 It's -- it's a beautiful lounge; the Red Star  
25 Room, which is a plush VIP ultra lounge; the

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1 Carano VIP Room, which is for our high-limit  
2 players, the Asian lounge, our mini bac lounge,  
3 and then the Jack Binion VIP Room.

4 So those have been done in the last  
5 12 months. We've been going fast and furious, and  
6 what's nice is when you have a general contractor  
7 who runs your facilities department. We have the  
8 latitude to full throttle and get these things  
9 done in -- in a quick manner. And, as you see,  
10 they really go in line with what you would expect  
11 from a Caesars property, especially a Horseshoe  
12 property.

13 We're in the process right now, a few  
14 weeks away, of opening a hot dog and nacho bar on  
15 the third floor of our casino, the Roman Room,  
16 which is kind of a very quiet, no TV, no music,  
17 slot room that's enclosed. We're hoping by  
18 July 4 we'll have a wine and cheese bar open,  
19 which was formerly an Asian restaurant, and then  
20 Dunkin' Donuts, and we're expecting that in the  
21 fall.

22 So, again, we are bringing high  
23 amenities, first-class amenities, to our property  
24 to help attract -- thirty-two percent of our  
25 business comes from -- revenues comes from the DFW

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1 area, and we understand, with that competition  
2 that's been up in -- in Oklahoma, that's something  
3 that we had to dig in and decide to make a  
4 decision that we needed first-class and some new,  
5 fresh amenities, and big-name amenities, to  
6 attract that business to bring gaming revenue to,  
7 obviously, help the state, which is 25 percent of  
8 our partners.

9           So as we shift to the sports bar and  
10 the sportsbook, we're really excited, because this  
11 is going to be an absolute stunning area. The AV  
12 people that have already been building and pulling  
13 wires said they think this is the one of the  
14 nicest AV projects that's going on currently in  
15 Louisiana. It's going to be 6600 square feet.  
16 It's going to have 128 total seats, 30 -- 30 of  
17 those seats is a 30-person bar, 15 self-service  
18 betting kiosks, 3 live ticket writer windows, a  
19 full-service restaurant, 56 TVs, 9-TV video wall,  
20 and then two 12-TV/video display walls. In  
21 addition to that, -- we're very proud of this --  
22 we're going to have to hire 30 new, additional  
23 employees.

24           So when you put this all together,  
25 this just helps, again -- it just makes us just

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1 the premier gaming destination in Northwest  
2 Louisiana. And with sports betting, we were very  
3 excited. Like I said, since January, we've done



4 over 4 million in handle every month. Again, with  
5 the online betting, we had our largest player open  
6 a million dollar account. So it's been very  
7 advantageous to us. It's really helped add  
8 another great amenity to help us combat our  
9 competition that we all suffer up in Northwest  
10 Louisiana.

11 So that's our presentation. If  
12 there's any questions, I would love to answer  
13 them.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Well, thank you very much, and I did  
16 enjoy my visit up to your property. And while I  
17 know you've got a number of new projects coming --  
18 new amenities coming in, I was really impressed  
19 with the upgrading of your existing amenities  
20 that -- that you've done, also. So it's --

21 MR. URLAND:

22 Yes, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 It's a first-class property. We  
25 greatly appreciate y'all's commitment. You know,

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1 the one thing that stood out that weekend when I  
2 met with you is that you shared with me, with the  
3 competition from Oklahoma and Arkansas, that, I  
4 guess, the easy thing to do is just sit there and  
5 whine about it and -- and, you know, not do -- not  
6 do a whole lot about it. But y'all -- y'all have

7 taken a real proactive approach in saying, "We  
8 can't just sit here and let them," you know,  
9 "continue to take our business. We're going  
10 to" -- "we're going to fight for it."

11 MR. URLAND:

12 Yes, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 So I greatly appreciate that.

15 That -- that really hit home with me, so . . .

16 So, anyway, Members, I -- I did visit  
17 the -- the sportsbook project that they're doing.

18 It's a huge room. It's going to be really  
19 special, and I -- I know it's going to be first  
20 class with what you're doing, so . . .

21 Any -- any questions? Anybody have  
22 any questions, any comments?

23 MR. JACKSON:

24 Mr. Chairman, motion to approve the  
25 resolution.

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. Mr. Jackson has moved that we  
3 adopt the resolution to approve this -- this  
4 license. Do I have a second?

5 MR. POOLE:

6 (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 And Mr. Poole has seconded that  
9 motion. And so, Ms. Thurman, would you read the

10 resolution?

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 On the 18th day of April 2022, the  
13 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
14 noticed public meeting, consider the sports  
15 wagering license application of Horseshoe  
16 Entertainment, LP, d/b/a Horseshoe Bossier City,  
17 and upon motion duly made and seconded, the board  
18 adopted the following resolution:

19 Be it resolved that Horseshoe  
20 Entertainment, LP, d/b/a Horseshoe Bossier City,  
21 be approved for a sports wagering license for a  
22 term of five years, commencing October 31, 2021.

23 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
24 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

55

1 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Thurman.  
2 Members, we have a resolution before you, that's  
3 been motioned to adopt and seconded. Ms. Thurman,  
4 would you call the role, please?

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Ms. Berry?

11 MS. BERRY:

12 Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Mr. Jackson?

15 MR. JACKSON:

16 Yes.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Ms. Lewis?

19 MS. LEWIS:

20 Yes.

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Mr. Poole?

23 MR. POOLE:

24 Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN:

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1 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

3 Yes.

4 MS. THURMAN:

5 Mr. Sholes?

6 MR. SHOLES:

7 Yes.

8 MS. THURMAN:

9 Chairman Johns?

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Yes.

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Unanimous.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Okay. By unanimous vote, that --

16 that resolution is hereby adopted.  
17 Congratulations to you, and we look forward to  
18 continue working with you as you grow.

19 MR. URLAND:

20 Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
21 Thank you, Board Members.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Thank you, Mr. Urland. Okay. Moving  
24 along, we have the Golden Nugget Lake Charles.  
25 Gentlemen, good morning.

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1 SENIOR TROOPER SIMPSON:

2 Good morning.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Good morning, Jeremy.

5 MR. GATHE:

6 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board  
7 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General Jeremy  
8 Gathe, and appearing with me today is Ms. Tammy  
9 Haupt with Louisiana State Police, Audit Division,  
10 and Senior Trooper Shannon Simpson with Louisiana  
11 State Police, Gaming Enforcement. We're here in  
12 the matter of the consideration of a sports  
13 wagering license application of Golden Nugget Lake  
14 Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake  
15 Charles.

16 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised  
17 Statute 27:601, the board is charged with issuing  
18 or denying applications for sports wagering

19 licenses. The applicant is eligible to apply for  
20 a sports wagering license due to its licensure as  
21 a riverboat gaming licensee. The board issued a  
22 temporary certificate of authority to the  
23 applicant to conduct business as a sports wagering  
24 licensee, with an effective date of November 10,  
25 2021. The TCOA expires on May 10, 2022.

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1 State Police's Gaming Division has  
2 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
3 now report its findings to the board, and the  
4 applicant will also provide a brief presentation  
5 after State Police.

6 MS. HAUPT:

7 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
8 Board Members. My name is Tammy Haupt. I'm with  
9 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The  
10 Audit Section has reviewed the financial  
11 information submitted by the sports wagering  
12 license applicant, Golden Nugget Lake Charles.  
13 Fertitta Entertainment, Fertitta Entertainment  
14 LLC, formerly known as Golden Nugget, LLC, is the  
15 ultimate parent of Golden Nugget Lake Charles  
16 through its wholly owned subsidiary, Golden Nugget  
17 Lake Charles Holdings, LLC.

18 Fertitta Entertainment currently owns  
19 or operates five full-service Golden Nugget  
20 Hotel & Casino facilities, including the Golden  
21 Nugget in Lake Charles, along with a number of

22 restaurants nationally and internationally and  
23 select hospitality and entertainment businesses in  
24 Texas. Fertitta Entertainment currently operates  
25 online and mobile sports wagering and iGaming,

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1 which is interactive real money gaming, through  
2 its wholly owned subsidiary, Golden Nugget Online  
3 Gaming, Inc., or referred to as GNOG. GNOG offers  
4 online and sports -- online and mobile sports  
5 wagering and iGaming in New Jersey, Michigan, and  
6 West Virginia, with only online mobile sports  
7 wagering in Louisiana and Virginia.

8 On August 9, 2021, GNOG and  
9 DraftKings entered into a merger agreement, an  
10 all-stock deal with an implied value of 1.5  
11 billion. In a recent 8-K filing with the  
12 Security -- Securities and Exchange Commission,  
13 dated April 1, 2022, DraftKings said that the  
14 companies continue to pursue the remaining gaming  
15 regulatory approvals necessary and expects to  
16 complete the acquisition on or prior to May 31.

17 DraftKings is partnered with Golden  
18 Nugget Lake Charles as its retail, online, and  
19 mobile sports wagering platform provider through a  
20 Retail -- through a retail sports and market --  
21 through retail sports wagering and market access  
22 agreements.

23 It's our assessment, based on the  
24 information reviewed, that Golden Nugget Lake

25 Charles possesses the financial ability to

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1 develop, construct, operate, and maintain its  
2 sports wagering operations. No financial issues  
3 came to the Audit Section's attention that were of  
4 such a nature as to preclude the board from  
5 approving the issuance of a sports wagering  
6 license to Golden Nugget Lake Charles.

7 Licensing will now present their  
8 findings.

9 SENIOR TROOPER SIMPSON:

10 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
11 Board Members. My name is Master Trooper Shannon  
12 Simpson with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
13 Enforcement Division. On August 25, 2021, the  
14 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement  
15 Division, received the renewal license application  
16 submitted on behalf of Golden Nugget Lake Charles,  
17 LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles  
18 Hotel & Casino and their business affiliates.

19 In accordance with the rules and  
20 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
21 background investigation was conducted on Golden  
22 Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden  
23 Nugget Lake Charles Hotel & Casino, its  
24 shareholders, subsidiaries, officers, and  
25 directors with five percent or more ownership or

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1 economic interest in the license.



2 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
3 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
4 investigation and determine if any information  
5 would deem Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing  
6 business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles Hotel &  
7 Casino, its shareholders, or its subsidiaries  
8 unsuitable.

9 The background investigation consists  
10 of inquiries to federal, state, and local law  
11 enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming  
12 regulatory agencies, and the Louisiana Department  
13 of Revenue. Inquiries were also made through  
14 Computer Criminal -- Criminal History Databases.  
15 Based on the investigation, there is no  
16 information that was found which would preclude  
17 the board from approving Golden Nugget Lake  
18 Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget --  
19 Golden Nugget Lake Charles Hotel & Casino,  
20 application as a sports wagering platform --  
21 platform provider.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Thank you. Great job. Thank y'all  
24 very much for your work on this. Good morning,  
25 Mr. Hennagin.

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1 MR. HENNAGIN:

2 Good morning, Chairman, Members of  
3 the board. Thanks for inviting me here.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Absolutely.

6 MR. HENNAGIN:

7 I think everybody's got a packet

8 similar to --

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 We do. Thank you.

11 MR. HENNAGIN:

12 Yeah. There's -- we are in the  
13 process of building a permanent sportsbook. We  
14 have a temporary sportsbook on the property and  
15 located on -- in our Blue Martini Night Club at  
16 this time. Our permanent sportsbook will have --  
17 be over 12,000 square feet, and we are -- and  
18 they've just finished demolition. They're  
19 starting the construction process, and we do plan  
20 on being open by August 15 at this time. So just  
21 got some good news that our big video walls are in  
22 production and will be shipped here in a couple of  
23 weeks; so -- so we're making good progress.

24 We will have over 30 betting  
25 terminals, which we already have on the property.

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1 Some are located in our poker room, and some are  
2 located on our casino floor at this time. So  
3 those will be moved to the new location.

4 And part of the construction process  
5 has also allowed us to expand our Saltgrass  
6 Steakhouse, which is enormously popular and has  
7 long wait times. So we were able to add a private

8 dining room, as well as a patio, to the Saltgrass  
9 Restaurant to accommodate some of that demand.

10 As you can see, the total  
11 construction project budget is 8.7 million, which  
12 included 715,000 for the temporary sportsbook,  
13 which also included a big video wall inside the  
14 nightclub. And then the Saltgrass expansion was  
15 450,000. We have -- we anticipate the permanent  
16 sportsbook to come in right around 7 1/2 million.

17 So it's a big project. It will  
18 contain a sit -- seated restaurant area inside the  
19 sportsbook. It will also have a quick-serve area,  
20 where people can grab pizza and nachos and some  
21 drinks. So it -- it is a big facility.

22 We are -- you can see the timeline  
23 here. We are on schedule. There are some  
24 pictures of the temporary sportsbook as -- as it  
25 is now, and then you can see the expansion of the

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1 Saltgrass Steakhouse, which we just completed a  
2 couple of weeks ago. And that's given us a lot  
3 more seating.

4 You can see the previous plan for the  
5 buffet and what it will transform into on the next  
6 page. It's a permanent sportsbook. Similar to  
7 folks that came before me, it includes a big bar  
8 that will seat 32 people. We have four video  
9 walls inside the facility, large video walls, and  
10 it's followed by several pages of rendering

11 showing what the -- what the project will look  
12 like once its complete.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 You're committing a lot of square  
15 footage of your property to this -- to this  
16 project. Right?

17 MR. BARBIN:

18 Yes. Well, we had a big buffet,  
19 which we -- it won't become again. So, yeah, this  
20 will take that space.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Great. Okay. Mr. Hennagin, as  
23 everything y'all do at the Golden Nugget is first  
24 class, we -- we can see that this is going to be  
25 just a great addition to your property. And,

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1 again, it's a huge commitment on y'all's part, a  
2 lot of money, but it -- it's just -- it appears to  
3 be just a first-class operation that you're  
4 building.

5 MR. HENNAGIN:

6 Thank you, Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 While you're at the table,  
9 Mr. Hennagin, I want to personally thank you for  
10 the commitment that the Golden Nugget made to  
11 bring the PGA Tour to Lake Charles a few weeks  
12 ago. The Korn Ferry Tour was hosted by the Golden  
13 Nugget and the first time that the Lake Charles

14 area has ever had a professional golf tournament  
15 of this nature, and it was just a huge success.

16 MR. HENNAGIN:

17 Absolutely.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 It brought -- brought a lot of -- of  
20 people in, brought a lot of advertising in for the  
21 Lake Charles area, and economic development --  
22 economic growth, advertisement. It was just  
23 phenomenal. So thank y'all. I know that was a  
24 big commitment on y'all's part --

25 MR. HENNAGIN:

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1 Thank you. We --

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 -- for that golf course tournament.

4 MR. HENNAGIN:

5 We plan on continuing it in the years  
6 to come, so . . .

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Yeah. So there is a long-term

9 commitment on -- on --

10 MR. HENNAGIN:

11 At the time, we're committed for  
12 three more years, and we're looking at expanding  
13 that.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 That would be great. That would be  
16 great, so . . .

17           Okay. Members, any -- any questions  
18 for Mr. Hennagin?

19           (NO RESPONSE)

20           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21           Okay. I would -- I would -- being  
22 this is in my -- my backyard, I would like to make  
23 the motion that we adopt this resolution this  
24 morning.

25           MS. BERRY:

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1           (Indicating)

2           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3           And Ms. Berry, who is just right down  
4 the road, is going to second it. So we have a  
5 motion with a -- and a second to adopt this  
6 resolution. Ms. Thurman, would you read the  
7 resolution?

8           MS. THURMAN:

9           On the 18th day of April 2022, the  
10 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
11 noticed public meeting, consider the sports  
12 wagering license application of Golden Nugget Lake  
13 Charles, LLC, d/b/a Golden Nugget Lake Charles,  
14 and upon motion duly made and seconded, the board  
15 adopted the following resolution:

16           Be it resolved that Golden Nugget  
17 Lake Charles, LLC, d/b/a Golden Nugget Lake  
18 Charles, be approved for a sports wagering license  
19 for a term of five years, commencing November 10,

20 2021.

21 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,

22 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. We do have a

25 motion to adopt with a second. Ms. Thurman, would

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1 you call the roll?

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Mr. Avant?

4 MR. AVANT:

5 Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Ms. Berry?

8 MS. BERRY:

9 Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Mr. Jackson?

12 MR. JACKSON:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Ms. Lewis?

16 MS. LEWIS:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Mr. Poole?

20 MR. POOLE:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

24 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

25 Yes.

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1 MS. THURMAN:

2 Mr. Sholes?

3 MR. SHOLES:

4 Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Chairman Johns?

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 It's unanimous.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Okay. By unanimous vote, the motion

13 to adopt the resolution has been approved.

14 Mr. Hennagin, thank you very much.

15 MR. HENNAGIN:

16 Thank you. I appreciate it.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 We appreciate your commitment.

19 MR. HENNAGIN:

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Next on the agenda, we have

23 Penn -- Penn National. Good morning, Justin.

24 MR. CARTER:

25 Good morning. Good morning. Happy



1 After Easter to everybody.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Ms. Elder, good morning.

4 MS. ELDER:

5 Good morning. Amy Elder with Baker  
6 Donelson. We represent Penn National Gaming,  
7 Incorporated, which is the ultimate parent of the  
8 licensees in Louisiana. And you've already spoken  
9 to him, but Justin Carter, he is the Senior Vice  
10 President of Regional Operations of Penn National  
11 Gaming.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Good morning.

14 MS. JAMES:

15 Good morning, Chairman and Board  
16 Members. Assistant Attorney General Lekiesha  
17 James. With me, in the Gaming -- in the Gaming  
18 Audit Division, is Ms. Tammy Haupt and  
19 Investigator Michael Talley of the Gaming  
20 Enforcement Division. As previously stated, the  
21 applicant is -- is present and will provide a  
22 presentation. We're here in the matter of the  
23 consideration of the sports wagering license  
24 application of PNK (Lake Charles), LLC, doing  
25 business as L'Auberge Lake Charles.

1 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute  
2 27:601, et sequens, the board is charged with

3 issuing or denying applications for sports  
4 wagering licenses. The applicant is eligible to  
5 apply for a sports wagering license due to its  
6 licensure as a riverboat gaming licensee.

7           The board issued a temporary  
8 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
9 conduct business as a sports wagering licensee,  
10 with an effective date of November 10, 2021. The  
11 TCOA expires on May 10, 2022.

12           State Police's Gaming Division has  
13 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
14 now present its findings to the board, after which  
15 the applicant will provide a brief presentation.

16           MS. HAUPT:

17           My name is Tammy Haupt with Louisiana  
18 State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit  
19 Section has reviewed the financial information  
20 submitted by the sports wagering license  
21 applicant, L'Auberge Lake Charles, and its  
22 ultimate parent, Penn National Gaming.

23           Penn currently owns, manages, or has  
24 ownership interest in 44 gaming and racing  
25 properties across 20 states and video gaming

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1 terminals in Pennsylvania and Illinois. Penn's  
2 wholly interactive division, Penn Interactive  
3 Ventures, operates 24 retail sportsbooks across 11  
4 states, online and mobile sportsbooks in 13  
5 states, and online casinos in 5 states under the

6 Hollywood Casino L'Auberge, Barstool Sportsbook &  
7 Casino, and the Bet -- the Score Bet brands.  
8 PSI, Penn Sports Interactive, LLC, a  
9 wholly owned subsidiary of Penn's interactive  
10 division, is L'Auberge Lake Charles' sports  
11 wagering platform provider for its  
12 Barstool-branded retail, online, and mobile  
13 sportsbooks.

14 In 2021, Penn National Gaming's  
15 revenues were over 4.9 billion, a \$1.9 billion, or  
16 61 percent, increase compared to the previous year  
17 primarily due to the easing of capacity  
18 restrictions, continuing growth of its online --  
19 online and sports betting revenues, and the  
20 inclusion of the operating results of three new  
21 properties that opened in 2021. Penn delivered a  
22 strong year-to-year -- Penn delivered strong  
23 year-to-year results with improvements in net  
24 income, net income margin, adjusted EBITDA,  
25 adjusted EBITDAR, as well as EBITDAR margins.

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1 It is our assessment, based on the  
2 information reviewed, that L'Auberge Lake Charles  
3 possesses the financial ability to develop,  
4 construct, operate, and maintain its sports  
5 wagering operations. No financial issues came to  
6 the Audit Section's attention that were of such a  
7 nature as to preclude the board from approving the  
8 issuance of a sports wagering license to L'Auberge

9 Lake Charles.

10 Licensing will now present its  
11 findings.

12 MASTER TROOPER TALLEY:

13 Thank you. Good morning, Chairman  
14 Johns and Members of the Board. I'm Master  
15 Trooper Michael Talley with the Louisiana State  
16 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

17 On August 23, 2021, the Louisiana  
18 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division,  
19 received a sports wagering license application  
20 submitted on behalf of PNK (Lake Charles), LLC,  
21 which is doing business as L'Auberge Casino Resort  
22 Lake Charles.

23 In accordance with the rules and  
24 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
25 background investigation was conducted on Penn

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1 National Gaming, Incorporated, its shareholders,  
2 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
3 with five percent or more ownership or economic  
4 interest in the license.

5 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
6 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
7 investigation and determine if any information  
8 would deem Penn National Gaming, Incorporated, its  
9 shareholders, or subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
10 background investigations consisted of inquiries  
11 to federal, state, and local law enforcement

12 agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory  
13 agencies, and Louisiana Department of Revenue  
14 inquiries, which were also made through the  
15 Computerized Criminal History Database. Based on  
16 this investigation, there's no information that  
17 was found which would preclude the board from  
18 approving PNK (Lake Charles), LLC, doing business  
19 as Lake Charles -- L'Auberge Casino Resort Lake  
20 Charles.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Thank y'all very much. And,  
23 Justin, good morning again to you.

24 MR. CARTER:

25 Good morning. Thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 We're going to take these  
3 individually.

4 MR. CARTER:

5 Yes, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 I know you're going to be at the  
8 table a while, so . . .

9 MR. CARTER:

10 Yeah, I'm getting comfortable.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 With Lake Charles, you're not here to  
13 talk about what you're going to build. You're  
14 here to talk about what you've already built.

15 MR. CARTER:

16 Yes, sir. And before, I would be  
17 remiss to not thank you Chair, Board, State  
18 Police, AG's Office, Audit, for the Herculean  
19 effort in quickly allowing us to offer sports  
20 betting in the great state of Louisiana. Thank  
21 you so much for that, and without wavering on high  
22 regulatory standards that we've become used to.  
23 So thank you for that.

24 And with that, Lake Charles couldn't be  
25 more proud of that facility. As you can see, the

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1 pictures don't do it justice, because we did not  
2 want to give you guys a scroll-type pamphlet with  
3 everything we're doing, but we quickly pivoted  
4 from the temporary sportsbook in Lake Charles to  
5 the permanent facility, which was over a \$4  
6 million investment, which is -- it's absolutely  
7 amazing.

8 A 22-foot video wall is indoor and  
9 outdoor, going out to the pool. There's gaming  
10 inside of the sportsbook with tables. Every last  
11 table game we offer is offered with -- inside the  
12 sportsbook. And it has completely transformed  
13 that property and is really part of a larger plan  
14 in L'Auberge Lake Charles. We added Drago's,  
15 which is really part of our commitment to reinvest  
16 with local in Louisiana.

17 And, hopefully, in the upcoming

18 months I'll have a lot more stories to come here  
19 and share with y'all and you will be very proud of  
20 the work we're doing in Louisiana.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 I like Drago's, but I like that Lucky  
23 Dog cart you've got in there, too. So . . .

24 MR. CARTER:

25 You know, you would be surprised --

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1 well, maybe not. It's a little nicer than Bourbon  
2 Street -- but the amount of revenue that's driven  
3 from people who just want a hot dog or to have  
4 that experience of going to Lucky Dog is just  
5 unbelievable, and trying to bring some of that New  
6 Orleans flavor to Lake Charles without having to  
7 go downtown and park, like you said, Mr. Sholes,  
8 is what we try to achieve there.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Justin is correct. These pictures do  
11 not do justice to this property. I visited during  
12 March Madness. I was there at 10:30 on a Thursday  
13 morning, and there wasn't a seat to be found in  
14 that -- in that sportsbook. It was just  
15 absolutely packed on a Thursday morning. So  
16 congratulations to Penn National --

17 MR. CARTER:

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 -- on a -- on a first-class project,

21 Justin.

22 MR. CARTER:

23 Thank you very much.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Any -- any questions? Any comments

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1 from the board?

2 (NO RESPONSE)

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Okay. Again, I will make -- I don't

5 want to show any favoritism to your neighbor next

6 door; so I'm going to make a motion to adopt the

7 resolution.

8 MS. BERRY:

9 (Indicating)

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 And Ms. Berry has asked to second

12 that -- that motion. Ms. Thurman, would you read

13 the resolution, please?

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 On the 18th day of April 2022, the

16 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly

17 noticed public meeting, consider the sports

18 wagering license of PNK (Lake Charles), LLC, d/b/a

19 L'Auberge Lake Charles, and upon motion duly made

20 and seconded, the board adopted the following

21 resolution:

22 Be it resolved that PNK (Lake

23 Charles), LLC, d/b/a L'Auberge Lake Charles be



24 approved for a sports wagering license for a term  
25 of five years, commencing November 10, 2021.

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1 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
2 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. So, Members,  
5 we have a motion and a second to adopt this  
6 resolution for L'Auberge Lake Charles.  
7 Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll, please?

8 MS. THURMAN:

9 Mr. Avant?

10 MR. AVANT:

11 Yes.

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Ms. Berry?

14 MS. BERRY:

15 Yes.

16 MS. THURMAN:

17 Mr. Jackson?

18 MR. JACKSON:

19 Yes.

20 MS. THURMAN:

21 Ms. Lewis?

22 MS. LEWIS:

23 Yes.

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 Mr. Poole?

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1 MR. POOLE:

2 Yes.

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

5 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

6 Yes.

7 MS. THURMAN:

8 Mr. Sholes?

9 MR. SHOLES:

10 Yes.

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 Chairman Johns?

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Yes.

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Unanimous.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 By unanimous vote, that motion to

19 adopt the resolution is approved. Okay. Let's

20 move on to L'Auberge Baton Rouge. Okay, Lekiesha.

21 You want to lead us off?

22 MS. JAMES:

23 Yes. Assistant Attorney General

24 Lekiesha James, appearing with Investigate -- I'm

25 sorry -- appearing with Ms. Patricia Bell of

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1 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Division, and

2 Investigator Catina Hamilton with the Gaming

3 Enforcement Division. We are here in the matter

4 of the consideration of the sports wagering  
5 license application of PNK (Baton Rouge)  
6 Partnership doing business as L'Auberge Baton  
7 Rouge Hotel & Casino.

8 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute  
9 27:601, et sequens, the board is charged with  
10 issuing or denying applications for sports  
11 wagering licensees. The applicant is eligible to  
12 apply for a sports wagering license -- for a  
13 sports wagering license due to its licensure as a  
14 riverboat gaming licensee.

15 The board issued a temporary  
16 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
17 conduct business as a sports wagering licensee,  
18 with an effective date of October 31, 2021. The  
19 TC -- the TCOA expires on April 30, 2022.

20 State Police's Gaming Division has  
21 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
22 now present its findings to the board. Mr. Justin  
23 Carter is here and present today to provide a  
24 brief presentation after State Police.

25 MS. BELL:

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1 Good morning, Chairman and Board  
2 Members. My name is Patricia Bell with Louisiana  
3 State Police's Gaming Audit Section. The Audit  
4 Section has reviewed the financial information  
5 submitted by L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge  
6 and Penn National Gaming, Inc., for a sports

7 wagering license.  
8 Penn Sports Interactive and L'Auberge  
9 Baton Rouge are parties to an agreement that  
10 allows PSI to provide retail sports wagering  
11 services to L'Auberge Baton Rouge as platform  
12 provider. L'Auberge BR does not utilize a mobile  
13 sports betting platform at this time. The  
14 revenues and the gaming footprint were previously  
15 covered with the L'Auberge property and are  
16 applicable here as well.

17 It is our assessment, based on the  
18 information reviewed, that the applicant possesses  
19 the financial ability to develop, construct,  
20 operate, and maintain its sports wagering  
21 operations. No financial issues came to the Audit  
22 Section's attention that were of such a nature as  
23 to preclude the board from approving the sports  
24 wagering license of L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton  
25 Rouge.

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1 MS. HAMILTON:

2 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
3 Members of the Board. I am Investigative  
4 Specialist Catina Hamilton with Louisiana State  
5 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

6 On August 24, 2021, the Louisiana  
7 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division,  
8 received a -- received a sport wagering license  
9 application submitted on behalf of PNK (Baton

10 Rouge) Partnership, LLC, doing business as  
11 L'Auberge Baton Rouge Hotel & Casino.  
12 In accordance with the rules and  
13 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
14 background investigation was conducted on Penn  
15 National Gaming, Incorporated, its shareholders,  
16 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
17 with five percent or more ownership or economic  
18 interest in the license.

19 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
20 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct an  
21 investigation and determine if any information  
22 would deem Penn National Gaming, Incorporated, its  
23 shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
24 background investigation consisted of inquiries to  
25 federal, state, and local law enforcement

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1 agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory  
2 agencies, and Louisiana Department of Revenue.  
3 Inquiries were also made through the Computerized  
4 Criminal History Database. Based on this  
5 investigation, there is no information that was  
6 found which would preclude the board from  
7 approving PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership, LLC,  
8 doing business as L'Auberge Baton Rouge Hotel &  
9 Casino a sports wagering license.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Okay. Thank y'all very much.

12 Justin?

13 MR. CARTER:

14 Thank you once again. And not to be  
15 outdone by its sister property, L'Auberge Baton  
16 Rouge committed over 6,000, right under 7,000,  
17 square feet of existing space -- if you've ever  
18 been to the Stadium Restaurant, as you're walking  
19 down the escalators to the property or through  
20 those front doors there, that entire space, along  
21 with portions of the casino floor, will be  
22 constructed, which will start next week, actually.  
23 Construction will start on the permanent  
24 sportsbook, which is going to be transformative to  
25 the property. It is going to going to be right

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1 under a 7 million reinvestment in total for the  
2 project.

3 So this project, once again, will  
4 replace a full-service bar and restaurant with a  
5 larger full-service bar and restaurant, video  
6 walls. It will have an interactive customer  
7 experience, where you can play games. There will  
8 be AstroTurf and things like that, where you don't  
9 necessarily have to even be a sports-better to  
10 enjoy the facility.

11 And so, like we were saying, now  
12 we're driving a different demographic, a younger  
13 demographic, people who don't typically view the  
14 casino as a place to -- to spend time as their  
15 entertainment option. This new creation that

16 we're building, the Barstool Sportsbook, is going  
17 to facilitate that and really provide people with  
18 multiple options in Baton Rouge, how to enjoy  
19 their entertainment.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay. So you're -- you're going to  
22 utilize the entire Stadium Restaurant space. Will  
23 y'all be opening another restaurant on the  
24 property to take its place?

25 MR. CARTER:

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1 Yes, sir. So we're taking part of  
2 the -- so this is part of -- and this is kind of a  
3 continuous theme with our properties in Louisiana.  
4 This is part of a larger master plan. So with  
5 this, what we will do, when we shut down the  
6 restaurant next week, we will be opening an  
7 a la carte out of the existing buffet space.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Okay.

10 MR. CARTER:

11 So that will become a la carte  
12 restaurant. And then after this permanent venue  
13 is open, hopefully early Q4 this year, then that  
14 a la carte restaurant will go under construction  
15 for another part of the master plan. So we are  
16 not done, and we will continue to reinvest into  
17 that property until we just can't go any further.  
18 It's been great for us, and -- and we're really

19 proud of what it's been to the community.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 And is that all included in the -- in

22 the 6.6 million you're talking about, --

23 MR. CARTER:

24 No.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 -- or what was that concerning?

2 MR. CARTER:

3 No, sir. The 6.6 is only Sportsbook.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Oh, wow.

6 MR. CARTER:

7 That's the tip of the iceberg.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 All right. Well, okay. Any -- any

10 questions, Members?

11 MR. POOLE:

12 (Indicating)

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Mr. Poole, would you like to make a

15 motion?

16 MR. POOLE:

17 I would.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Mr. Poole has moved that we adopt the

20 resolution.

21 MR. JACKSON:



22 Second.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 And Mr. Jackson has seconded that  
25 motion. Ms. Thurman, would you read the

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1 resolution, please?

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 On the 18th day of April 2022,  
4 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
5 noticed public meeting, consider the sports  
6 wagering license application of PNK (Baton Rouge)  
7 Partnership d/b/a L'Auberge Baton Rouge Hotel &  
8 Casino, and upon motion duly made and seconded,  
9 the board adopted the following resolution:

10 Be it resolved that PNK (Baton Rouge)  
11 Partnership d/b/a L'Auberge Baton Rouge Hotel &  
12 Casino be approved for a sports wagering license  
13 for a term of five years, commencing October 31,  
14 2021.

15 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
16 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Okay. Thank you very much. We do  
19 have a motion and a second to adopt this  
20 resolution. Ms. Thurman, would you please read  
21 the res -- excuse me -- please call the roll?

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Mr. Avant?

24 MR. AVANT:

25 Yes.

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1 MS. THURMAN:

2 Ms. Berry?

3 MS. BERRY:

4 Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Mr. Jackson?

7 MR. JACKSON:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Ms. Lewis?

11 MS. LEWIS:

12 Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Mr. Poole?

15 MR. POOLE:

16 Yes.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

19 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

20 Yes.

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Mr. Sholes?

23 MR. SHOLES:

24 Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN:

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1 Chairman Johns?

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Yes.

4 MS. THURMAN:

5 Unanimous.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 By unanimous vote, L'Auberge Baton

8 Rouge is hereby approved. Okay. Moving along to

9 Margaritaville Bossier City.

10 MS. JAMES:

11 Good morning. Assistant Attorney

12 General Lekiesha James, appearing with Ms. Tammy

13 Haupt of Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit

14 Division, and Investigator Byron Sam of the Gaming

15 Enforcement Division. We are here in the matter

16 of the consideration of a sports wagering license

17 application of Bossier Casino Venture, LLC, doing

18 business as Margaritaville Resort Casino.

19 Pursuant to Revised Statute 27:601,

20 et sequens, the board is charged with issuing or

21 denying applications for sports wagering

22 licenses. The applicant is eligible to apply for

23 a sports wagering licensure due to its licensure

24 as a riverboat gaming licensee. The board issued

25 a temporary certificate of authority to the

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1 applicant to conduct business as a sports wagering

2 licensee, with an effective date of November 12,

3 2021. The TCOA expires on May 12, 2022.

4 State Police's Gaming Division has

5 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
6 now present its findings to the board. Mr. Justin  
7 Carter is present on behalf of the applicant and  
8 will provide a brief presentation after State  
9 Police.

10 MS. HAUPT:

11 Good morning again. My name is Tammy  
12 Haupt with Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit  
13 Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the  
14 financial information submitted by the sports  
15 wagering license applicant -- licensed applicant,  
16 Margaritaville Bossier City, and its ultimate  
17 parent, Penn National Gaming, Inc.

18 PSI, Penn Sports Interactive, LLC, is  
19 Margaritaville's sports wagering platform and  
20 service provider for its Barstool-branded retail  
21 operations. Through its parent, Penn, Margarita  
22 has partnered with RSI, Rush Street Interactive,  
23 to provide its Bets -- BetsRiver --  
24 BetRivers-branded online and mobile sportsbook  
25 platform and services.

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1 It is our assessment, based on the  
2 information reviewed, that Margaritaville  
3 possesses the financial ability to develop,  
4 construct, operate, and maintain its sports  
5 wagering operations. No financial issues came to  
6 the Audit Section's attention that were of such a  
7 nature as to preclude the board from approving the

8 issuance of a sports wagering license to  
9 Margaritaville.

10 Licensing will now prevent their  
11 findings.

12 MR. SAM:

13 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
14 Members of the Board. I am Investigative  
15 Specialist Byron Sam with the Louisiana State  
16 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

17 On August 26, 2021, the Louisiana  
18 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division,  
19 received a sports wagering license application  
20 submitted on behalf of Bossier City Venture, LLC,  
21 doing business as Margaritaville Bossier City. In  
22 accordance with the rules and regulations of the  
23 Gaming Enforcement Division, a background  
24 investigation was conducted on Penn National  
25 Gaming, Inc., its shareholders, subsidiaries,

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1 officers, directors, and persons with five percent  
2 or more ownership or economic interest in the  
3 license.

4 The Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
5 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
6 investigation and determine if any information  
7 would deem Penn National Gaming, Inc., its sub --  
8 its shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable.  
9 The background investigations consisted of  
10 inquiries to federal, state, and local law

11 enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming  
12 regulatory agencies, and the Department of  
13 Revenue. Inquiries were also made through the  
14 Computerized Criminal History Database. Based on  
15 this investigation, there is no information that  
16 was found which would preclude the board from  
17 approving Bossier City -- Bossier City Ventures,  
18 Bossier City -- I'm sorry -- Bossier Casino  
19 Venture, LLC, doing business as Margaritaville  
20 Bossier City.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Thank y'all very much. And,  
23 Mr. Carter, what we've got planned for  
24 Margaritaville?

25 MR. CARTER:

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1 Once again, continuing on a theme of  
2 larger plans and using sports wagering and these  
3 new capital reinvestments, as sportsbook is really  
4 the impetus to -- to create a better product  
5 overall for our guests.

6 So Margaritaville, construction is  
7 scheduled to commence in July. It's going to be a  
8 2 million -- and every time I talk to Barry, it  
9 seems like two goes to three. So as of today,  
10 it's a \$2 million refurb and conversion of the  
11 current Riverbend Restaurant into a sportsbook.  
12 And that construction will be interesting, because  
13 once we commence in July -- and the reason for the

14 July start is really because we have so many  
15 construction projects going on in Louisiana, we're  
16 running out of people to actually do the  
17 construction, local contractors. So we're a bit  
18 constrained by that, but that's a good problem to  
19 have.

20           So we are -- commencing in July, we  
21 are having another project that will take place in  
22 the Margaritaville buffet space that's going to  
23 create an exciting new restaurant. Hopefully, I  
24 can announce that within days now. That will  
25 really be in coordination with the sportsbook,

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1 which will be -- once again, it's going to be  
2 bilevel.

3           The bi -- the second level  
4 construction will start first, and that's going to  
5 be an interactive experience, like we mentioned,  
6 for Baton Rouge, but you'll be able to go up  
7 there -- you'll be able to play -- whether it be  
8 foosball -- you'll be able to play interactive  
9 games, things like that, just so you can enjoy  
10 yourself, whether you want to wager or not. It  
11 will just be a nice, fun place to be. And that  
12 also goes out to the pool, which will also be  
13 heavily themed. So you'll have the experience of  
14 the sportsbook really transversing the entire  
15 property, so the pool, second floor interactive.

16           And then on the first floor, you'll

17 actually have the -- I think the lights loved it,  
18 too. So you also have the interactive gaming.  
19 And then on the first level, you'll have the  
20 actual sportsbook restaurant and bar, and then  
21 outside you also have another exciting experience  
22 in that existing buffet space. So really proud of  
23 what's happening there. And, hopefully, over the  
24 next coming months, we'll be able to expand upon  
25 Margaritaville's plans and our overall plans to

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1 continue to reinvest in our properties in  
2 Louisiana.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Knowing Barry, he's going to ask you  
5 for more money. Right?

6 MR. CARTER:

7 He always asks for more money.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Again, I enjoyed my visit up there  
10 and excited to -- to see the -- the proposed  
11 projects that you talk about. Any -- any  
12 questions?

13 MR. AVANT:

14 (Indicating)

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Mr. Avant has moved that we adopt the  
17 resolution for Margaritaville.

18 MR. JACKSON:

19 Second.



20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 And Mr. Jackson has seconded that  
22 motion. And so, Ms. Thurman, would you read the  
23 resolution?

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 On the 18th day of April 2022, the

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1 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
2 noticed public meeting, consider the Sports  
3 Wagering License Application of Bossier Casino  
4 Venture, LLC, d/b/a Margaritaville Resort Casino,  
5 and upon motion duly made and seconded, the board  
6 adopted the following resolution:

7 Be it resolved that Bossier Casino  
8 Venture, LLC, d/b/a Margaritaville Resort Casino  
9 be approved for a sports wagering license for a  
10 term of five years, commencing November 12, 2021.

11 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
12 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. Members, we  
15 have a motion and a second to adopt this  
16 resolution. And, Ms. Thurman, would you call the  
17 roll?

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Mr. Avant?

20 MR. AVANT:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Ms. Berry?

24 MS. BERRY:

25 Yes.

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1 MS. THURMAN:

2 Mr. Jackson?

3 MR. JACKSON:

4 Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Ms. Lewis?

7 MS. LEWIS:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Mr. Poole?

11 MR. POOLE:

12 Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

15 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

16 Yes.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Mr. Sholes?

19 MR. SHOLES:

20 Yes.

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Chairman Johns?

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN:

1 It's unanimous.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 By unanimous vote, this resolution is  
4 hereby adopted. Okay. Moving along to Boomtown  
5 New Orleans. Good morning.

6 MS. SIZEMORE:

7 Good morning. Chairman Johns,  
8 Members of the Board, Assistant Attorney General  
9 Shanna Sizemore, appearing with Ms. Patricia Bell  
10 with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit  
11 Division, and Ms. Tori Brown with the Gaming  
12 Enforcement Division. We're here in the matter of  
13 the consideration of the Sports Wagering License  
14 Application of Louisiana - I Gaming, a Louisiana  
15 Partnership in Commendam, doing business as  
16 Boomtown Casino New Orleans.

17 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised  
18 Statute, Title 27:601, et seq, the board is  
19 charged with issuing or denying applications for  
20 sports wagering licenses. The applicant is  
21 eligible to apply for a sports wagering license  
22 due to its licensure as a riverboat gaming  
23 licensee. This board issued a temporary  
24 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
25 conduct business as a sports wagering licensee,

1 with an effective date of October 30 -- 31, 2021.

2 The TCOA expires on April 30, 2022.

3 State Police's Gaming Division has  
4 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
5 now report its findings to the board. I believe  
6 Mr. Justin Carter will also have a short  
7 presentation following.

8 MS. BELL:

9 Good morning again, Chairman and  
10 Board Members. My name is Patricia Bell with  
11 Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit Section.  
12 The Audit Section has reviewed the financial  
13 information submitted by Boomtown New Orleans and  
14 Penn National Gaming, Inc., for a sports wagering  
15 license.

16 Penn Sports Interactive and Boomtown  
17 New Orleans are parties to an agreement that  
18 allows PSI to provide retail sports wagering  
19 services to Boomtown New Orleans as platform  
20 provider. Boomtown New Orleans does not utilize a  
21 mobile sports betting platform at this time.

22 The revenues in gaming footprint  
23 information that were previously shared is also  
24 applicable to Boomtown New Orleans' property.

25 It is our assessment, based on the

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1 information reviewed, that the applicant possesses  
2 the financial ability to develop, construct,  
3 operate, and maintain its sports wagering  
4 operations. No financial issues came to the Audit  
5 Section's attention that were of such a nature as

6 to preclude the board from approving the sports  
7 wagering license for Boomtown New Orleans.

8 MS. BROWN:

9 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
10 Members of the Board. I am Investigative  
11 Specialist Tori Brown with Louisiana State Police,  
12 Gaming Enforcement Division.

13 On August 24, 2021, Louisiana State  
14 Gaming Enforcement Division received a sports  
15 wagering license application submitted on behalf  
16 of Louisiana - I Gaming, a Partnership in  
17 Commendam, doing business as Boomtown New Orleans.

18 In accordance with the rules and  
19 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
20 background investigation was conducted on Penn  
21 National Gaming, Incorporated, its shareholders,  
22 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
23 with five percent or more interest -- five percent  
24 or more economic or -- economic interest in the  
25 license.

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1 The Louisiana State Gaming  
2 Enforcement Division was assigned to conduct an  
3 investigation to determine if any information  
4 would deem Penn -- Penn National Gaming,  
5 Incorporated, its shareholders, or its  
6 subsidiaries unsuitable. The background  
7 investigation consisted of inquiries to federal,  
8 state, and local enforcement agencies, civil

9 jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, and the  
10 Louisiana Department of Revenue. Inquiries were  
11 also made through the Computerized Criminal  
12 History Database. Based on this investigation,  
13 there was no information that was found which  
14 would preclude the board from approving  
15 Louisiana - I Gaming, a Partnership in Commendam,  
16 doing business as Boomtown New Orleans' sports  
17 wagering license

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Thank y'all. And, Justin, what we've  
20 got in store for New Orleans?

21 MR. CARTER:

22 So when -- in early days when we were  
23 talking about sports wagering, prior to its  
24 approval, you know, the operators, to a fault,  
25 spoke about it being able to drive a different

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1 demographic, being able to drive food and beverage  
2 revenue, being able to -- even though itself  
3 wasn't the most profitable thing we could offer,  
4 how much it could do for our property in this  
5 driving feat and the other things, the ancillary  
6 revenue we could drive from having sports wagering  
7 in place.

8 Boomtown is the greatest example of  
9 that I have for you in New Orleans and probably  
10 one of the best examples in the company. And as  
11 you look at the revenue reports, you can see how

12 well they're doing year to year, and last year was  
13 the same story, and it's no small part to sports  
14 wagering, the fact that we converted an existing  
15 buffet for over a half a million into the sports  
16 betting lounge, once again, a large screen TV. We  
17 converted the buffet space into a grill.

18           And so, like you said, you went to  
19 L'Auberge at 10:30 in the morning and it's busy.  
20 And if we were to build a Boomtown now, it will be  
21 busy in the sportsbook. We saw that it was able  
22 to drive the local customers really to come and  
23 enjoy the sportsbook, and that is attributable to  
24 the property. Food and beverage revenue is -- is  
25 up.

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1           And that book has done so well for  
2 the property, because it's easy to get to. You  
3 can come right in, bet if you want to, stay if you  
4 want to, and enjoy the televisions and the game  
5 and the atmosphere, but it is -- it is really --  
6 and I would -- I can't discount, in no small part,  
7 a big part of the success we're seeing at Boomtown  
8 New Orleans. So thank you.

9           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10           All right. Well, thank you. Any  
11 questions from the board on Boomtown New Orleans?  
12 Judge Sholes, would you like to make that  
13 motion --

14           MR. SHOLES:

15 So moved.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 -- that we adopt the resolution?

18 MR. SHOLES:

19 So moved.

20 MS. LEWIS:

21 (Indicating)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Okay. And Mr. -- Ms. Lewis will

24 second that motion. Two ends of the state here.

25 Okay. We have a motion and a second to adopt the

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1 resolution. Ms. Thurman, would you read the

2 resolution?

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 On the 18th day of April 2022, the

5 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly

6 noticed public meeting, consider the sports

7 wagering license application of Louisiana -

8 I Gaming, a Louisiana Partnership in Commendam,

9 d/b/a Boomtown Casino New Orleans, and upon motion

10 duly made and seconded, the board adopted the

11 following resolution:

12 Be it resolved that Louisiana -

13 I Gaming, a Louisiana Partnership in Commendam,

14 d/b/a Boomtown Casino New Orleans be approved for

15 a sports wagering license for a term of five

16 years, commencing October 31, 2021.

17 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,



18 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Thank you, and we do have a  
21 motion and a second to adopt this resolution.

22 And, Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll?

23 MS. THURMAN:

24 Mr. Avant?

25 MR. AVANT:

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1 Yes.

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Ms. Berry?

4 MS. BERRY:

5 Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Mr. Jackson?

8 MR. JACKSON:

9 Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Ms. Lewis?

12 MS. LEWIS:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Mr. Poole?

16 MR. POOLE:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

20 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Mr. Sholes?

24 MR. SHOLES:

25 Yes.

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1 MS. THURMAN:

2 Chairman Johns?

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 It's unanimous.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 By unanimous vote, this resolution is

9 hereby adopted. And last for Penn National will  
10 be Boomtown Bossier City. Okay, Ms. Sizemore.

11 MS. SIZEMORE:

12 Good morning. Assistant Attorney  
13 General Shanna Sizemore here, appearing with  
14 Ms. Tammy Haupt from Louisiana State Police,  
15 Gaming Audit Division, and Ms. Angela Hernandez  
16 with the Gaming Enforcement Division. We're here  
17 in the matter of the consideration of the sports  
18 wagering license application of PNK (Bossier  
19 City), LLC, doing business as Boomtown Casino  
20 Bossier City.

21 Pursuant to the Sports Wagering Act,  
22 this board -- the board is charged with issuing or  
23 denying applications for sports wagering licenses.

24 The applicant is eligible to apply for a sports  
25 wagering license due to its licensure as a

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1 riverboat gaming licensee.

2 This board issued a temporary  
3 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
4 conduct business as a sports wagering licensee,  
5 with an effective date of November 12, 2021. The  
6 TCOA expires on May 12, 2022.

7 State Police's Gaming Division has  
8 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
9 now report its findings to the board, and  
10 Mr. Justin Carter will have a short presentation  
11 following.

12 MS. HAUPT:

13 Good morning. My name is Tammy Haupt  
14 with Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit  
15 Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the  
16 financial information submitted by the sports  
17 wagering license applicant, Boomtown Bossier City,  
18 and its ultimate parent, Penn National Gaming.

19 PSI, Penn Sports Interactive, is  
20 Boomtown Bossier City's sports wagering platform  
21 provider for its Barstool-branded retail  
22 operations. Boomtown Bossier has not announced  
23 who its third-party online and mobile sportsbook  
24 platform provider partner will be at this time.  
25 Although the Barstool-branded online and mobile

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1 sportsbook app is not partnered with the licensee,  
2 Boomtown Bossier, sports betters are invited to  
3 register for PSIs Barstool-branded online  
4 sportsbook and mobile sportsbook app.

5           It is our assessment, based on the  
6 information reviewed, that Boomtown Bossier  
7 possesses the financial ability to develop,  
8 construct, operate, and maintain its sports  
9 wagering operations. No financial issues came to  
10 the Audit Section's attention that were of such a  
11 nature as to preclude the board from approving the  
12 issuance of a sports wagering license to Boomtown  
13 Bossier.

14           Licensing will now present their  
15 findings.

16           MS. HERNANDEZ:

17           Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
18 Members of the Board. I'm Investigative Angela --  
19 Specialist Angela Hernandez with Louisiana State  
20 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

21           On August 26, 2021, Louisiana State  
22 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division, received a  
23 sports wagering license application submitted on  
24 behalf of PNK (Bossier City), LLC, doing business  
25 as Boomtown Casino Bossier City. In accordance

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1 with the rules and regulations of the Gaming  
2 Enforcement Division, a background investigation  
3 was conducted on Penn National Gaming,

4 Incorporated, its shareholders, subsidiaries,  
5 officers, directors, and persons with five percent  
6 or more ownership or economic interest in the  
7 license.

8           The Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
9 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
10 investigation and determine if any information  
11 would deem Penn National Gaming, Incorporated, its  
12 shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
13 background investigation consisted of inquiries to  
14 federal, state, and local enforcement agencies,  
15 civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies,  
16 and the Louisiana Department of Revenue.  
17 Inquiries were also made through the Computerized  
18 Criminal History Database. Based on this  
19 investigation there are no information that was  
20 found in which would preclude the board from  
21 approving PNK (Bossier City), LLC, doing business  
22 as Boomtown Casino Bossier City's sports wagering  
23 license.

24           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25           Thank you. And Justin?

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1           MR. CARTER:

2           Yes, sir. Thank you, all, for  
3 hanging in there. Boomtown Bossier, definitely a  
4 smaller footprint than some of the other offerings  
5 that I've spoken with you about today, however,  
6 not to be undersold. Once again, the power of

7 being able to offer sports wagering. The plan in  
8 Boomtown is to convert an existing bar space  
9 that's a bit underutilized and really make that  
10 something special. So right under 200,000 to do  
11 that, but it will take a dark corner bar that now  
12 will be able to really enhance that area,  
13 converting it into something really, really nice  
14 and special, and make it a featured bar at the  
15 property on the casino floor.

16 So that is the plan at Boomtown, move  
17 some of the existing kiosks and really create a  
18 space where you can go play video poker, place  
19 your bets, and just enjoy a unique experience,  
20 which is in fitting with the customers who love  
21 that property and who visit with us today.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Okay. Thank you very much. Any  
24 questions for Mr. Carter?

25 MR. JACKSON:

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1 Motion to approve.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Mr. Jackson has moved that we adopt  
4 the resolution for Boomtown Bossier City.

5 MS. LEWIS:

6 (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 And Ms. Lewis has seconded that  
9 motion. Ms. Thurman, would you read the

10 resolution?

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 On the 18th day of April 2022,  
13 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
14 noticed public meeting, consider the Sports  
15 Wagering License Application of PNK (Bossier  
16 City), LLC, d/b/a Boomtown Bossier City, and upon  
17 motion duly made and seconded, the board adopted  
18 the following resolution:

19 Be it resolved that PNK (Bossier  
20 City), LLC, d/b/a Boomtown Bossier City be  
21 approved for a sports wagering license for a term  
22 of five years, commencing November 12, 2021.

23 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
24 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 Okay. Thank you. We do have a  
2 resolution that's been -- we have a motion to  
3 adopt this resolution, and we have a second.  
4 Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll?

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Ms. Berry?

11 MS. BERRY:

12 Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Mr. Jackson?

15 MR. JACKSON:

16 Yes.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Ms. Lewis?

19 MS. LEWIS:

20 Yes.

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Mr. Poole?

23 MR. POOLE:

24 Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN:

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1 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

3 Yes.

4 MS. THURMAN:

5 Mr. Sholes?

6 MR. SHOLES:

7 Yes.

8 MS. THURMAN:

9 Chairman Johns?

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Yes.

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Unanimous.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 By unanimous vote, the Boomtown



16 Bossier City resolution has been adopted.  
17 Mr. Carter, before you leave the table, I want to  
18 personally thank Penn National for your commitment  
19 to human trafficking.

20 MR. CARTER:

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 L'Augerge in Baton Rouge just  
24 recently hosted, for the fourth time, a major  
25 fundraiser for a private foundation that is

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1 devoted to minor female victims of human  
2 trafficking. That event has now raised over a  
3 million dollars, Mr. Carter, for these young  
4 girls.

5 MR. CARTER:

6 That's fantastic.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 And Penn National has committed, over  
9 that four-year period, \$200,000 of its own money.  
10 So on behalf of the board, thank you -- Penn  
11 National. Thank your leadership at Penn for their  
12 commitment to this incredible cause. We greatly  
13 appreciate it.

14 MR. CARTER:

15 No, thank you, Chair. On behalf of  
16 the senior leadership team, over 20,000 employees  
17 across the United States, we thank you and  
18 Louisiana, and we're just happy to be a small part

19 of helping change some lives. It is an amazing  
20 cause. So thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Well, thank you very much.

23 Congratulations. Okay. Moving on, consideration  
24 for the approval of the following sports wagering  
25 platform provider permit applications. First on

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1 the agenda will be Penn Sports Interactive. Okay,  
2 Ms. Sizemore.

3 MS. SIZEMORE:

4 Good morning again, Chairman  
5 Johns, --

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Busy lady today.

8 MS. SIZEMORE:

9 -- and Members of the Board.

10 Assistant Attorney General Shanna Sizemore,  
11 appearing with Ms. Tammy Haupt with the Louisiana  
12 State Police, Gaming Audit Division, and  
13 Mr. Michael Talley with the Gaming Enforcement  
14 Division. We're here in the matter of the  
15 consideration of the sports wagering platform  
16 provider permit application of Penn Sports  
17 Interactive, LLC, doing business as Penn Sports  
18 Interactive.

19 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute  
20 27:601, et seq, the board is charged with issuing  
21 or denying applications for sports wagering

22 platform provider permits. This board issued a  
23 temporary certificate of authority to the  
24 applicant to conduct business as a sports wagering  
25 platform provider, with an effective date of

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1 October 31, 2021. The TCOA expires on April 30,  
2 2022.

3 State Police's Gaming Division has  
4 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
5 now report its findings to the board. Ms. Rhea  
6 Loney is also present to answer questions on  
7 behalf of the applicant.

8 MS. HAUPT:

9 Good morning. My name is Tammy Haupt  
10 with Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit  
11 Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the  
12 financial information submitted in conjunction  
13 with the sports wagering platform provider permit  
14 applicant, PSI, Penn Sports Interactive, LLC.

15 Penn National Gaming is the ultimate  
16 parent of PSI through its wholly owned subsidiary,  
17 Penn Interactive Ventures. PSI is a sports  
18 wagering platform and service provider for Penn's  
19 internally-branded and Barstool-branded retail  
20 sportsbooks, mobile and online sportsbooks, and  
21 mobile and online real money casino products  
22 across Penn's corporate portfolio nationwide.

23 PSI is the retail platform provider  
24 for all five of Penn's Louisiana gaming

25 properties, as well as the platform provider for

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1 mobile and online sports wagering products through  
2 its Louisiana gaming partner, L'Auberge Lake  
3 Charles.

4 In 2021, Penn's interactive segment  
5 reported 432.9 million in revenue, which is up  
6 257.5 percent, or 121.1 million, in 2000 -- 2020.  
7 In the fourth quarter of 2021, the segment  
8 delivered a lower-than-expected EBITDA loss by  
9 achieving market growth and submitting -- and  
10 limiting marketing spend. Although the segment  
11 anticipates an EBITDA loss of approximately 50  
12 million in 2022, it is a significant improvement  
13 over its previous forecast of 100 million. The  
14 forecast was amended to reflect scaled-down  
15 operations and infrastructure in -- in  
16 anticipation of bringing technology in-house and  
17 launching in new states. The segment is expected  
18 to achieve meaningful positive contributions in  
19 2021 -- I mean 2022 -- '23. I'm sorry.

20 It is our assessment based on the  
21 information reviewed that PSI possesses the  
22 financial ability to support its sports wagering  
23 operations. No financial issues came to the Audit  
24 Section's attention that were of such a nature as  
25 to preclude the board from approving the issuance

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1 of the sports wagering platform provider permit to

2 PSI.

3 Licensing will now present their  
4 findings.

5 MASTER TROOPER TALLEY:

6 Thank you. Again, good morning,  
7 Chairman Johns and Members of the Board. I am  
8 Master Trooper Michael Talley with the Louisiana  
9 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

10 On September 9, 2021, the Louisiana  
11 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division,  
12 received a sports wagering platform provider  
13 application submitted on behalf of Penn Sports  
14 Interactive, LLC. In accordance with the rules  
15 and regulations the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
16 background investigation was conducted on Penn  
17 National Gaming, Incorporated, its shareholders,  
18 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
19 with five percent or more ownership or economic  
20 interest in the license.

21 The Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
22 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct an  
23 investigation and determine if any information  
24 would deem Penn National Gaming, Incorporated, its  
25 shareholders, or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The

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1 background investigations consisted of inquiries  
2 to federal, state, and local law enforcement  
3 agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory  
4 agencies, and Louisiana Department of Revenue

5 inquiries. They were also made through the  
6 Computerized Criminal History Database. Based on  
7 this investigation, there is no information that  
8 was found which would preclude the board from  
9 approving Penn Sports Interactive, LLC.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Thank you very much. And,  
12 Ms. Elder, good --

13 MS. ELDER:

14 Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 -- morning again.

17 MS. ELDER:

18 Good morning. I'm Amy Elder with  
19 Baker Donelson. We represent Penn National  
20 Gaming, Incorporated, which is the publicly traded  
21 parent of Penn Interactive Ventures, LLC, and its  
22 wholly owned subsidiary, Penn Sports Interactive,  
23 LLC, which is the applicant for a sports wagering  
24 platform provider permit. With me this morning is  
25 Rhea Loney. She is the Vice President of

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1 Compliance of Penn Sports Interactive, and she's  
2 going to tell you a little bit about their  
3 platform and their services.

4 MS. LONEY:

5 Good morning again, Chairman, --

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Good morning.

8 MS. LONEY:  
9 -- Board Members. You know, we're  
10 happy to be live in Louisiana with the Barstool  
11 Sportsbook online services and providing services  
12 to the five Penn National Casinos. I'm here for  
13 any questions that you may have around our  
14 platform, because Justin has already gone through  
15 all of the -- the retail sportsbook and has  
16 discussed those. So if you have any questions  
17 relating to the online platform, I'm here to  
18 answer any of those for you today.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Thank you. Any questions from  
21 the board? Any questions?

22 (NO RESPONSE)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 If not, I'll entertain a motion to  
25 adopt this resolution.

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1 MR. JACKSON:

2 Motion to approve.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Mr. Jackson has moved that we adopt  
5 this resolution.

6 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

7 (Indicating)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Ms. Hamilton-Acker has seconded that  
10 motion. Ms. Thurman, would you read the

11 resolution, please?

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 On the 18th day of April 2022, the  
14 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
15 noticed public meeting, consider the sports  
16 wagering platform provider permit application of  
17 Penn Sports Interactive, LLC, d/b/a Penn Sports  
18 Interactive, and upon motion duly made and  
19 seconded, the board adopted the following  
20 resolution:

21 Be it resolved that Penn Sports  
22 Interactive, LLC, d/b/a Penn Sports Interactive be  
23 approved for a sports wagering platform provider  
24 permit for a term of five years, commencing  
25 October 31, 2021.

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1 Be it resolved that the Comprehensive  
2 Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program submitted  
3 by Penn Sports Interactive, LLC, d/b/a Penn Sports  
4 Interactive is hereby approved.

5 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
6 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Thurman. We do  
9 have a motion and a second to adopt this  
10 resolution. So, Ms. Thurman, would you call the  
11 roll?

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Mr. Avant?



14 MR. AVANT:

15 Yes.

16 MS. THURMAN:

17 Ms. Berry?

18 MS. BERRY:

19 Yes.

20 MS. THURMAN:

21 Mr. Jackson?

22 MR. JACKSON:

23 Yes.

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 Ms. Lewis?

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1 MS. LEWIS:

2 Yes.

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 Mr. Poole?

5 MR. POOLE:

6 Yes.

7 MS. THURMAN:

8 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

9 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

10 Yes.

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 Mr. Sholes?

13 MR. SHOLES:

14 Yes.

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Chairman Johns?

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Yes.

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 It's unanimous.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 By unanimous vote, this resolution is

23 hereby adopted. Next on the agenda will be

24 DraftKings, Incorporated, doing business as

25 DraftKings. Jeremy?

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1 MR. GATHE:

2 Chairman Johns, Board Members,

3 Assistant Attorney General Jeremy Gathe, and

4 appearing with me today is Ms. Tammy Haupt with

5 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Division, and

6 Michael Daniel of Louisiana State Police, Gaming

7 Enforcement. We are here in the matter of the

8 consideration of a sports wagering platform

9 provider permit application of DraftKings,

10 Incorporated, a Delaware Corporation, pursuant to

11 Louisiana Revised Statute, Title 27:601, et seq.

12 The board is charged with issuing or denying

13 applications for sports wagering platform provider

14 permits.

15 The board issued a temporary

16 certificate of authority to the applicant to

17 conduct business as a sports wagering platform

18 provider, with an effective date of November 10,

19 2021. The TCOA expires on May 10, 2022.

20 State Police's Gaming Division has  
21 reviewed and investigated the application and will  
22 now report its findings to the board, and we also  
23 have Jeffrey Barbin, who is the local counsel for  
24 DraftKings, available should the board have any  
25 questions.

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1 MS. HAUPT:

2 My name is Tammy Haupt with Louisiana  
3 State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit  
4 Section has reviewed the financial information  
5 submitted in conjunction with the sports wagering  
6 platform provider permit applicant, DraftKings  
7 Inc., a Delaware Corporation, and wholly owned  
8 subsidiary of DraftKings, Inc., a Nevada  
9 Corporation. DraftKings is currently licensed in  
10 Louisiana as a daily fantasy sports operator.

11 DraftKing has -- DraftKings has  
12 partnership agreements with two Louisiana sports  
13 wagering licensees to provide retail, online, and  
14 mobile platform -- platforms and services.  
15 DraftKings is the retail platform provider for  
16 Golden Nugget Lake Charles and Hollywood Casino  
17 Baton Rouge, as well as the platform provider for  
18 mobile and online sports wagering through its  
19 Louisiana gaming partner, Golden Nugget Lake  
20 Charles.

21 Although DraftKings reported  
22 approximately 1.3 billion in total revenue in

23 2021, up from 110.9 percent, or 614.5 million, in  
24 2020, its 10-K for the 2020-21 fiscal year  
25 continues to note a going concern regarding its

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1 operating losses and negative operating cash flows  
2 for the past several years. DraftKings  
3 representatives expect to continue to incur annual  
4 operating losses and negative operating cash flows  
5 for the foreseeable future and will continue to  
6 use its corporate cash reserves to fund operations  
7 until profitable. As of December 31, 2021,  
8 DraftKings had over 2.1 billion in cash reported  
9 on its balance sheet to fund operations until  
10 profitability is reached.

11 According to DraftKings' Press  
12 release dated February 18, 2022, they amended  
13 their 2022 forecast to include the launch of  
14 mobile sportsbooks in New York and Louisiana in  
15 January of 2022, while excluding the financial  
16 impact of additional state launches in 2022. The  
17 amended forecast includes an increase in its  
18 revenue from 1.85 billion to 2 billion, which  
19 equates to a year-over-year growth of 54 percent  
20 compared to 50 -- compared to 43 percent  
21 previously forecasted and an estimated EBITDA loss  
22 between 825 million and 920 -- 925 million in  
23 2022. DraftKings expects to generate positive  
24 EBITDA in the fourth quarter of 2023 based on  
25 operations in states that they current -- they are

1 currently live and anticipated expansion into  
2 states based on the consistency of legalization  
3 trends.

4 In conclusion, it is our assessment,  
5 based on the information reviewed, that DraftKings  
6 possesses the financial ability to support its  
7 sports wagering operations. No financial issues  
8 came to the Audit Section's attention that were of  
9 such nature as to preclude the board from  
10 approving the issuance of a sports wagering  
11 platform provider permit to DraftKings.

12 Licensing will now present their  
13 findings.

14 MR. DANIEL:

15 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
16 Members of the Board. I'm Master Trooper Michael  
17 Daniel with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
18 Enforcement Division.

19 On September 8, 2021, DraftKings,  
20 Incorporated, submitted a sports wagering platform  
21 provider application. DraftKings, Incorporated,  
22 applied for a permit to provide a retail and  
23 online marketing access sports wagering operation  
24 on behalf of Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC,  
25 doing business as the Golden Nugget Lake Charles

1 Hotel & Casino.

2 Under the rules and regulations of

3 the Gaming Enforcement Division, a background  
4 investigation was conducted on DraftKings,  
5 Incorporated, its shareholders, subsidiaries,  
6 officers, directors, and persons with five percent  
7 or more ownership or economic interest in the  
8 licensee to determine that -- if any information  
9 would deem DraftKings, Incorporated, unsuitable.

10           The background investigation  
11 consisted of inquiries through federal, state, and  
12 local law enforcement agencies, civil  
13 jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, and the  
14 Louisiana Department of Revenue. Inquiries were  
15 also made through a Computerized Criminal History  
16 Database. Based on the investigation, no  
17 information was found that would preclude the  
18 board from approving DraftKings, Incorporated, a  
19 sports wagering platform provider application.

20           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21           Thank y'all very much. Mr. Barbin?

22           MR. BARBIN:

23           Good morning, Chairman, Board  
24 Members. I'm Jeff Barbin, representing  
25 DraftKings. I think that my colleagues across the

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1 table said it all, but I'm happy to answer any  
2 questions you may have.

3           MS. BERRY:

4           I -- I have a question.

5           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Question, Ms. Berry?

7 MS. BERRY:

8 Did I hear you say that this is a

9 "consistent going concern" comment on their

10 10-K -- they had a "consist going concern"

11 comment, but you said -- my question was, when do

12 you think they'll be profitable. Did you -- did

13 you say fourth of '23?

14 MS. HAUPT:

15 Yes, ma'am.

16 MS. BERRY:

17 And they have enough cash to --

18 MS. HAUPT:

19 Over --

20 MS. BERRY:

21 -- subsidize it for that --

22 MS. HAUPT:

23 Right.

24 MS. BERRY:

25 -- time?

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1 MS. HAUPT:

2 They had over -- yeah. They have

3 2.1 billion on their financial for December 31.

4 MS. BERRY:

5 But they were losing a billion at a

6 time. Right? Did I hear that? I'm sorry. The

7 numbers get to me.

8 MS. HAUPT:

9 I know. I'm sorry.

10 MR. BARBIN:

11 The projections for this year,  
12 though, are a lot -- a lot higher than last year,  
13 so . . .

14 MS. BERRY:

15 Okay. Just, as a CPA, "going  
16 concern" --

17 MS. HAUPT:

18 Right.

19 MS. BERRY:

20 -- is not a good comment. I just was  
21 curious. Okay. All right. So fourth quarter of  
22 '23, you think.

23 MR. BARBIN:

24 Right.

25 MS. BERRY:

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1 Okay. Thank you. That's all I have.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. All right. Any other  
4 questions? Ms. Berry, you want to make a motion  
5 that we adopt?

6 MS. BERRY:

7 I'll make a motion.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Ms. Berry has moved that we adopt  
10 this resolution.

11 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:



12 (Indicating)

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Seconded by Ms. Hamilton-Acker.

15 Ms. Thurman, would you read the resolution,  
16 please?

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 On the 18th day of April 2022, the  
19 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly  
20 noticed -- duly noticed public meeting, consider  
21 the sports wagering platform provider permit  
22 application and the Comprehensive Compulsive and  
23 Problem Gambling Program of DraftKings, Inc.,  
24 d/b/a DraftKings, and upon motion duly made and  
25 seconded, the board adopted this resolution:

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1 Be it resolved that DraftKings, Inc.,  
2 d/b/a DraftKings be approved for a Sports Wagering  
3 Platform Provider Permit for a term of five years,  
4 commencing November 10, 2021.

5 Be it resolved that the Comprehensive  
6 Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program submitted  
7 by DraftKings, Inc., d/b/a DraftKings is hereby  
8 approved.

9 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
10 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Thank you, Ms. Thurman. We do have a  
13 motion and a second to adopt this resolution.

14 And, Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll?

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Mr. Avant?

17 MR. AVANT:

18 Yes.

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 Ms. Berry?

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Yes.

23 MS. THURMAN:

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

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1 Yes.

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Ms. Lewis?

4 MS. LEWIS:

5 Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE:

9 Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

12 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Mr. Sholes?

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Chairman Johns?

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 It's unanimous.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Okay. By unanimous vote, that

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1 resolution is hereby adopted.

2 MR. BARBIN:

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 I think we have one more, American

6 Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars

7 Sportsbook.

8 MS. MURRAY-BROWN:

9 Good morning, Chairman Johns and

10 Board Members. Assistant Attorney General Alonna

11 Murray-Brown, appearing with Ms. Patricia Bell

12 with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit

13 Division, and Trooper Rodney Perkins with the

14 Gaming Enforcement Division. We are here in the

15 matter of the consideration of the sports wagering

16 platform provider permit application of American

17 Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars

18 Sportsbook.

19 Pursuant to the Sports Wagering Act,

20 the board is charged with issuing or denying

21 applications for sports wagering platform provider  
22 permits. This board issued a temporary  
23 certificate of authority to the applicant to  
24 conduct business as a sports wagering platform  
25 provider, with an effective date of October 31,

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1 2021. The TCOA will expire on April 30, 2022.

2 State Police's Gaming Division  
3 has reviewed and investigated the application and  
4 will now report its findings to the board.

5 MS. BELL:

6 Good Morning, Chairman and Board. My  
7 name is Patricia Bell with Louisiana State  
8 Police's Gaming Audit Section.

9 The Audit Section has reviewed the  
10 financial information submitted by American  
11 Wagering, Inc., AWI, and Caesars Entertainment  
12 Inc., for a platform provider permit.

13 AWI, a Nevada Corporation, is an  
14 indirect subsidiary of Caesars Entertainment,  
15 Inc., its ultimate parent. AWI became a  
16 subsidiary when Caesars purchased William Hill,  
17 PLC, and its subsidiaries. When Caesars purchased  
18 William Hill, AWI became the sportsbook platform  
19 for William Hill, now rebranded as Caesars  
20 Sportsbook, to operate the retail and first mobile  
21 skin for the sportsbooks at Caesars properties.  
22 The previously mentioned performance is also  
23 applicable to AWI as the platform provider for

24 Caesars Entertainment, Inc.

25 It is our assessment, based on the

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1 information reviewed, that American Wagering,  
2 Inc., possesses the financial ability to serve as  
3 the retail and mobile sportsbook platform provider  
4 for Caesars Sportsbook. No financial issues came  
5 to the Audit Section's attention that were of such  
6 a nature as to preclude the board from approving  
7 the platform provider permit for American  
8 Wagering, Inc.

9 MR. PERKINS:

10 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
11 Members of the Board. I'm Criminal Investigator  
12 Rodney Perkins with Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
13 Enforcement Division.

14 On August 23, 2021, Louisiana State  
15 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division, received a  
16 sports wagering platform provider permit  
17 application submitted on behalf of American  
18 Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars  
19 Sportsbook.

20 In accordance with the rules and  
21 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a  
22 background investigation was conducted on American  
23 Wagering, Inc., its sub -- its shareholders,  
24 subsidiaries, officers, directors, and persons  
25 with five percent or more ownership or economic

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1 interest in the permit.  
2 Louisiana State Police, Gaming  
3 Enforcement Division, was assigned to conduct the  
4 investigation and determine if any information  
5 would deem American Wagering, Inc., its  
6 shareholders or its subsidiaries unsuitable. The  
7 background investigation consisted of inquiries to  
8 federal, state, local law enforcement agencies,  
9 civil jurisdictions, gaming, regulatory agencies,  
10 and Louisiana Department of Revenue. Inquiries  
11 were also made through the Computerized Criminal  
12 History Database. Based on this investigation,  
13 there was no information that was found which  
14 would preclude the board from approving American  
15 Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars  
16 Sportsbook a sports wagering platform provider  
17 permit.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Thank y'all. Mr. Barbin, any further  
20 comment?

21 MR. BARBIN:

22 No further comment, no. Just happy  
23 to answer any questions you have.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Any questions from the board?

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1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 We have none. Chair will entertain a

4 motion that we adopt the resolution.

5 MR. SHOLES:

6 (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Judge Sholes has moved that we adopt

9 the resolution.

10 MR. POOLE:

11 (Indicating)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Mr. Poole has seconded that motion.

14 And, Ms. Thurman, would you read the resolution,

15 please?

16 MS. THURMAN:

17 On the 18th day of April 2022, the

18 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly

19 noticed public meeting, consider the sports

20 wagering platform provider permit application and

21 the Comprehensive Compulsive and Problem Gambling

22 Program of American Wagering, Inc., d/b/a Caesars

23 Sportsbook, and upon motion duly made and

24 seconded, the board adopted this resolution:

25 Be it resolved that American

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1 Wagering, Inc., d/b/a Caesars Sportsbook be

2 approved for a sports wagering platform provider

3 permit for a term of five years, commencing

4 October 31, 2021.

5 Be it resolved that the Comprehensive

6 Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program submitted

7 by American Wagering, Inc., d/b/a Caesars  
8 Sportsbook is hereby approved.

9 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  
10 Louisiana, this 18th day of April 2022.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Okay. And we have a motion and a  
13 second to adopt this resolution. Ms. Thurman,  
14 would you call the roll?

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Mr. Avant?

17 MR. AVANT:

18 Yes.

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 Ms. Berry?

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Yes.

23 MS. THURMAN:

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

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1 Yes.

2 MS. THURMAN:

3 Ms. Lewis?

4 MS. LEWIS:

5 Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE:

9 Yes.



10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

12 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Mr. Sholes?

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Chairman Johns?

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 It's unanimous, then.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 By unanimous vote, that resolution is

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1 hereby adopted.

2 MR. BARBIN:

3 Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Thank you, Mr. Barbin. Thank y'all.

6 Ms. Thurman, we have set a record for resolutions.

7 MS. THURMAN:

8 Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Great job.

11 VIII. RULEMAKING

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Moving along to rulemaking.  
14 Members before us today we have the consideration  
15 of the adoption of rulemaking procedures of agenda  
16 items Section IX, A through C. Ms. Himel, are you  
17 going to -- you're not -- you're not presenting?  
18 Okay. Thank you. Good morning.

19 MS. JOHNSON:

20 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
21 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
22 Venise Johnson, here in the matter of rulemaking  
23 procedures for item number IX.

24 The proposed rule changes are as  
25 follows:

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1 "A" amends Louisiana Administrative  
2 Code, Title 42, Part III, Section 103, to reflect  
3 the new service timelines and to correct the new  
4 citations for video poker laws and to add fantasy  
5 and sport wagering laws.

6 "B" amends Louisiana Administrative  
7 Code, Title 42, Part III, Section 108 to provide a  
8 clear process for service of notice in order to  
9 avoid inconsistent and excessive service attempts.

10 This is to give the licensees and permittees an  
11 understanding of the service attempts and to  
12 reduce the State's cost and excessive burdens that  
13 have been placed on it.

14 "C" creates Louisiana Administrative  
15 Code, Title 42, Part III, Section 109, to

16 reiterate the requirement that licensees,  
17 permittees, and applicants must accept all  
18 correspondence from the board, Board Hearing  
19 Office, and Division and to notify timely of any  
20 changes of address, phone number, or electronic  
21 mailing address.

22 If the board has no questions, a  
23 motion to institute the rulemaking procedures is  
24 needed.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 Okay.

2 MS. BERRY:

3 I have a question. What's -- what's  
4 the definition of "timely" for notice of moving or  
5 a change of address?

6 MS. JOHNSON:

7 Ten days.

8 MS. BERRY:

9 Ten days.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Anything else?

12 MS. BERRY:

13 That's it.

14 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

15 I move to accept.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 You will move?

18 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

19 Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay. Ms. Hamilton-Acker has moved  
22 that we adopt these rulemaking procedures. Oh,  
23 I'm sorry.

24 MS. HIMEL:

25 Sorry. If I may, Dawn Himel,

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1 Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's  
2 Office. It's actually ten days for video poker,  
3 but it's fifteen days for casino permittees. So  
4 if there is a change, the laws are different on  
5 those. So they're -- it is ten days and fifteen  
6 days for casino.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay.

9 MS. BERRY:

10 We have that issue a lot; so I just  
11 wanted a definition of what it was. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Thank you, Ms. Himel. Okay.  
14 Ms. Hamilton-Acker has moved that we adopt the  
15 rulemaking procedures as outlined. Is there a  
16 second?

17 MS. BERRY:

18 Second.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Ms. Berry has seconded that motion.

21 Is there any opposition to this motion?

22 (NO RESPONSE)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Hearing none, this motion carries.

25 IX. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENTS

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. All right. Consideration of  
3 proposed settlements. We have two today. And  
4 good morning.

5 MR. LEWIS:

6 Good morning -- or afternoon.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Good afternoon.

9 MS. BERRY:

10 That's right.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 You are correct.

13 MS. LEWIS:

14 Good afternoon, Chairman Johns, Board  
15 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General Kanick  
16 Lewis, Jr., here in the matter of Three of a Kind  
17 Distributors, Inc., doing business as Three of a  
18 Kind, which holds a Type 6 video draw poker gaming  
19 license.

20 The settlement addresses the late  
21 annual submission of forms and fees that are due  
22 to the Division by July 31 of each year. This  
23 licensee did not submit its annual forms and fees  
24 and required documents until February 24, 2022,

25 which gave rise to a violation of gaming law.

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1 The settlement contains a civil  
2 penalty of \$1,500, which is an amount that is  
3 well-settled -- or well-established for violations  
4 of this type. The hearing officer has signed the  
5 settlement, and we are before the board for final  
6 approval.

7 At this time, I'll be happy to answer  
8 any questions you may have.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. And they -- they have agreed  
11 to the -- to the amount of the fine. Is that  
12 correct?

13 MS. LEWIS:

14 Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Okay. All right. Are there any  
17 questions on this settlement?

18 MR. JACKSON:

19 Motion to approve.

20 MS. LEWIS:

21 (Indicating)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Mr. Jackson has moved that we approve  
24 this settlement, seconded by Ms. Lewis. Is there  
25 any discussion on that motion?

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1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
3 Is there any opposition to the  
4 motion?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
7 Hearing none, this motion carries.

8 MS. LEWIS:  
9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
11 And the last one, Abbey Bar,  
12 Incorporated, doing business as Abbey.

13 MS. JOHNSON:  
14 Again, I'm Assistant Attorney General  
15 Venise Johnson here in the matter of the  
16 settlement of Abbey Bar, Inc., doing business  
17 Abbey, which holds a Type 1 video draw poker  
18 gaming license.

19 The settlement addresses the late  
20 submission of annual forms and fees that are  
21 required to be submitted to the Division no later  
22 than July 1 of each year. The licensee did not  
23 submit the annual forms and fees until December 3,  
24 2021, which gave rise of a violation of gaming  
25 law.

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1 The civil penalty contained in this  
2 settlement is \$750, which is an amount that is  
3 well-established for violations of this type. The  
4 settlement has been signed by the hearing officer

5 and is now before the board for final approval.

6 I would be happy to answer any  
7 questions that you may have at this time.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Okay. And, once again, agreed on by  
10 the licensee?

11 MS. JOHNSON:

12 Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay. Any questions?

15 (NO RESPONSE)

16 MR. AVANT:

17 (Indicating)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Mr. Avant has moved that we approve  
20 this settlement.

21 MR. SHOLES:

22 (Indicating)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 And Mr. -- Judge Sholes -- excuse me.

25 Judge Sholes has seconded that motion. Is there

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1 any discussion on that motion?

2 (NO RESPONSE)

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Is there any opposition to that  
5 motion?

6 (NO RESPONSE)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:



8           Hearing none, this settlement is  
9 hereby approved.

10 X. ADJOURNMENT

11           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12           Ladies and gentlemen, that is the end  
13 of our agenda, and thank you very much. We will  
14 be back in this location again in May, and then in  
15 June we get to return home back to the Capitol  
16 Building, so . . .

17           MS. BERRY:

18           Motion to adjourn.

19           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20           And I do have a motion --

21           MR. JACKSON:

22           Second.

23           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24           -- by Ms. Berry and a bunch of  
25 seconds to adjourn. Thank you, everyone, for

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1 being here today.

2           (OFF THE RECORD AT 12:12 P.M.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE  
2 I, Karla H. Mayers, a Certified Court  
Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, do  
3 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and  
correct transcript of the proceedings held at this  
4 Louisiana Gaming Control Board meeting on the 18th  
day of April, 2022, as set forth in the forgoing  
5 151 pages.

I further certify that said testimony was  
6 reported by me in the Stenotype reporting method,  
was prepared and transcribed by me or under my  
7 direction to the best of my ability and  
understanding.

8 I further certify that the transcript has  
been prepared in compliance with transcript format  
9 guidelines required by statute or by rules of the  
board and that I have been informed about the  
10 complete arrangement, financial or otherwise, with  
the person or entity making arrangements for  
11 deposition services.

I further certify that I have acted in  
12 compliance with the prohibition on contractual  
relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of  
13 Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and  
advisory opinions of the board.

14 I further certify that I am not an  
attorney or counsel for any of the parties, that I  
15 am neither related to nor employed by any attorney  
or counsel connected with this action, and that I  
16 have no financial interest in the outcome of this  
matter.

17 This certification is valid only for this  
transcript accompanied by my original signature  
18 and original seal on this page.

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24 \_\_\_\_\_  
Karla H. Mayers, CCR

Certificate No. 94023