

Directors' Meeting, Board of, (Pages 1:1 to 42:24)

1:1 LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

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6 MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

7

8

9 LASALLE BUILDING - LABELLE HEARING ROOM

10 617 NORTH THIRD STREET

11 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

12

13

14

15 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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1 APPEARANCES

2

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE NOEL

Chairman

4 Second Congressional District

June 30, 2025

5

6 JULIE BERRY

(CPA)

7 Third Congressional District

June 30, 2024

8

9 ELTON LAGASSE

(At-Large)

10 First Congressional District

June 30, 2021

11

12 HARRY AVANT

(At-Large)

13 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2024

14

15 CLAUDE D. JACKSON

(At Large)

16 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2021

17

18 O. LAMAR POOLE, JR.

(Economic/Community Planner)

19 Sixth Congressional District

June 30, 2025

20  
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23  
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25

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1 APPEARANCES CONTINUED

2

3 FRANCESCA HAMILTON-ACKER

(Attorney)

4 Third Congressional District

June 30, 2026

5

6 PAUL T. WEST

(Public-Business Administration)

7 Second Congressional District

June 30, 2026

8

9 MAJOR CHUCK MCNEAL

Louisiana State Police

10

11 NATALIE THURMAN

Principal Assistant

12

13 REPORTED BY:

14 SHELLEY G. PAROLA, CSR, RPR

Baton Rouge Court Reporters

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2 C. Consideration of Transfer of Interest  
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1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Good morning and,  
3 Ms. Thurman, would you call the roll.

4 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Here.

6 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT: Here.

8 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?

9 MS. BERRY: Here.

10 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

11 MR. JACKSON: Here.

12 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?

13 MR. LAGASSE: Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis? [No  
15 response.]

16 Mr. Poole?

17 MR. POOLE: Here.

18 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

19 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Present.

20 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?

21 MR. WEST: Here?

22 MS. THURMAN: Colonel Reeves?

23 MAJOR MCNEIL: Major McNeil for  
24 Colonel Reeves.

25 MS. THURMAN: Secretary Robinson?

7

1 [No response.]

2 We have a quorum.

3 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay, is there any  
5 Public Comment on any matter before the  
6 Board this morning? [No response.]

7 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Hearing none, we'll  
9 move to Approval of the Minutes. Do I  
10 have a motion to waive reading and  
11 approve the minutes of the September  
12 17th meeting? Motion by Ms. Berry,  
13 second by Mr. Lagasse.

14 All in favor say "aye." [Collective  
15 "aye.]

16 Any opposed? [No response.]

17 Seeing no opposition, the motion  
18 carries. Thank you.

19 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: We'll now move to  
21 Revenue Reports. Good morning.

22 MR. BOSSIER: Good morning, Chairman  
23 Noel and Board Members. My name is Jim  
24 Bossier with the Louisiana State Police  
25 Gaming Enforcement Division. The gaming

8

1 licensees continue to operate subject to

2 COVID-19 restrictions. Isle of Capri  
3 Lake Charles remains closed due to the  
4 damage sustained in Hurricane Laura.  
5 Golden Nugget and L'Auberge Lake Charles  
6 both reopened on September 11th.

7 During September, the operating  
8 riverboats generated Adjusted Gross  
9 Receipts of \$94,344,809. This total  
10 represents a decrease of \$18.8 million  
11 or 16.6 percent from August 2020, and a  
12 decrease of over \$39 million or 29.4  
13 percent from last September. Adjusted  
14 Gross Receipts for fiscal year 2021 to  
15 date are \$344.5 million, a decrease of  
16 \$106 million or 24 percent from fiscal  
17 year 2020.

18 During September, the state  
19 collected fees totaling \$20.3 million.  
20 As of September 30, 2020, the state  
21 collected \$74 million in fees for fiscal  
22 year 2021.

23 Next is a summary of the September  
24 2020 gaming activity for Harrah's New  
25 Orleans found on page 3. Harrah's

9

1 generated \$13,747,783 in gross gaming  
2 revenue during September. These  
3 revenues represent an increase from  
4 August of \$2 million or 16.6 percent,



5 but a decrease of \$10.4 million or 43  
6 percent from last September.

7 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal  
8 year 2021 to date are \$38.5 million, a  
9 decrease of \$29.3 million or 43 percent  
10 from fiscal year 2020.

11 During September, the state received  
12 \$4,931,507 in minimum daily payments.

13 As of September 30, 2020, the state  
14 collected approximately \$15 million in  
15 fees for fiscal year 2021.

16 Next I will present the revenues for  
17 Slots at the Racetracks. During  
18 September, the four racetrack facilities  
19 combined generate Adjusted Gross  
20 Receipts of \$17,946,800, a decrease of  
21 \$5.7 million or 24 percent from last  
22 month, and a decrease of \$7.6 million or  
23 30 percent from last September. As a  
24 note, delta Downs had 15 days of  
25 operation this month, reopening on

10

1 September 16th.

2 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal  
3 year 2021 to date are \$69.2 million, a  
4 decrease of \$15.4 million or 18 percent  
5 from fiscal year 2020.

6 During September, the state  
7 collected \$2.7 million in fees. As of

8 September 30, 2020, the state has  
9 collected \$10.5 million in fees for  
10 fiscal year 2020.

11 Are there any questions before I  
12 present the Video Gaming Statistics?

13 [No response.]

14 Eight new video gaming applications  
15 were received by the Gaming Enforcement  
16 Division during September and are  
17 currently pending in the field: Six  
18 bars, one restaurant and one truckstop.

19 The Gaming Enforcement Division  
20 assessed no fines but received \$1,500 in  
21 penalties during September. There are  
22 presently \$3,250 in outstanding fines.  
23 Please refer to page 2 of your handout.

24 There currently are 11,970 video  
25 gaming devices activated at 1,445

11

1 locations.

2 Net device revenue for September  
3 2020 was \$54.4 million, a \$6.4 million  
4 increase when compared to September  
5 2019, and a \$900,000 increase when  
6 compared to August 2020.

7 Net device revenue so far for fiscal  
8 year 2020 is \$170.6 million, a \$20.5  
9 million, or 13.7 percent, increase when  
10 compared to fiscal year 2019. Page three

11 of your handout shows a comparison of  
12 net device revenue.

13 Total franchise fees collected  
14 during September 2020 were \$16.6  
15 million, a \$300,000 increase when  
16 compared to August 2020, and a \$2.2  
17 million increase when compared to  
18 September 2019.

19 Total franchise fees collected for  
20 fiscal year 2020 are \$52 million, a \$7.1  
21 million increase, or 15.7 percent, when  
22 compared to fiscal year 2019. Page four  
23 of your handout shows a comparison of  
24 franchise fees.

25 Does anyone have any questions?

12

1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Jim, I do have a  
2 question back on the riverboat numbers.  
3 Is August generally a down month?

4 MR. BOSSIER: I don't know the  
5 answer to that question, but I could  
6 find out for you.

7 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any other questions?

8 [No response.]

9 Thank you.

## 10 V. COMPLIANCE REPORTS

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next we have  
12 Compliance Reports.

13 MS. MURRAY: Good morning, Chairman

14 Noel, Board Members. I am Assistant  
15 Attorney General Alonna Murray. Today  
16 I'll present the staff reports on  
17 riverboat and racetrack casino  
18 licensees' compliance with the  
19 employment and procurement conditions  
20 with the first and second quarters of  
21 2020. I'll begin with riverboats.  
22 These are reported by the 15 operating  
23 riverboats to the Louisiana Gaming  
24 Control Board.

25 In the first quarter, 11,871 people

13

1 were employed by the riverboat industry.  
2 Of that number, 11,676 were minorities,  
3 7,472 were minorities and 6,664 were  
4 women.

5 Five licensees achieved total  
6 compliance this quarter, and they are:  
7 Golden Nugget, L'Auberge Baton Rouge,  
8 Boomtown New Orleans, Treasure Chest  
9 Casino and L'Auberge Lake Charles.

10 Next I'll address employment. Eight  
11 licensees did not meet their total  
12 employment goals, and they are:  
13 DiamondJacks Casino & Resort, which  
14 achieved 362 out of a goal of 650; Sam's  
15 Town Hotel & Casino, which achieved 690  
16 out of a goal of 700; Belle of Baton

17 Rouge, which achieved 337 out of a goal  
18 of 450; Hollywood Casino, which achieved  
19 348 out of a goal of 450; Amelia Belle,  
20 which achieved 283 out of a goal of 325;  
21 Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel, which  
22 achieved 646 out of a goal of 650;  
23 Boomtown Casino Bossier, which achieved  
24 425 out of a goal of 650, and Eldorado  
25 Resort Casino, which achieved 865 out of

14

1 a goal of 950. All licensees either met  
2 or exceeded their goals in all of the  
3 subcategories under the main category of  
4 employment.

5 Next I'll address procurement. The  
6 licensees are grouped according to three  
7 subcategories which appear in your  
8 report. Those subcategories are  
9 Louisiana, minority and female  
10 procurement. Under Louisiana  
11 procurement, three licensees did not  
12 achieve compliance with its voluntary  
13 conditions, and those are: Amelia Belle  
14 Casino, which achieved 76.10 out of a  
15 goal of 80 percent; Isle of Capri Casino  
16 & Hotel, which achieved 52.60 out of a  
17 goal of 60 percent, and Margaritaville  
18 Resort Casino, which achieved 87.60 out  
19 of a goal of 90 percent.

20 Under the subcategory of minority  
21 procurement, one licensee did not  
22 achieve compliance with its voluntary  
23 conditions, and that licensee is  
24 Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, which achieved  
25 16.80 percent out of a goal of 35

15

1 percent. For female procurement, one  
2 licensee did not achieve compliance with  
3 its voluntary conditions, and that is  
4 Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, which achieved  
5 18.80 out of a goal of 35 percent.

6 In the second quarter of 2020,  
7 approximately 9,942 people were employed  
8 by the riverboat industry. Of that,  
9 number, 9,853 were Louisiana residents,  
10 6,101 were minorities and 5,571 were  
11 women. Two licensees achieved total  
12 compliance this quarter, and they are:  
13 Golden Nugget and L'Auberge Lake  
14 Charles.

15 Next I'll address employment. Ten  
16 licensees did not meet their total  
17 employment goals, and they are:  
18 DiamondJacks Casino & Resort, which  
19 achieved 48 out of a goal of 650; Sam's  
20 Town Hotel & Casino, which achieved 650  
21 out of a goal of 700; L'Auberge Baton  
22 Rouge, which achieved 605 out of a goal

23 of 800; Boomtown New Orleans, which  
24 achieved 329 out of a goal of 555; Belle  
25 of Baton Rouge Casino, which achieved  
16  
1 318 out of a goal of 450; Amelia Belle,  
2 which achieved 259 out of a goal of 325;  
3 Isle of Capri Casio & Hotel, which  
4 achieved 575 out of a goal of 650;  
5 Boomtown Casino Bossier, which achieved  
6 365 out of a goal of 650, and Eldorado  
7 Resort Casino, which achieved 343 out of  
8 a goal of 950. All licensees either met  
9 or exceeded their goals in all of the  
10 subcategories under the main category of  
11 employment.

12 Next I'll address procurement. The  
13 licensees are grouped according to three  
14 subcategories which appear in your  
15 report. Those subcategories are  
16 Louisiana, minority and female  
17 procurement. Under Louisiana  
18 procurement, four licensees did not  
19 achieve compliance with its voluntary  
20 conditions, and those licensees are:  
21 Treasure Chest Casino, which 74.10  
22 percent out of a goal of 75 percent;  
23 Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel, which  
24 achieved 55.2 out of a goal of 60  
25 percent; Margaritaville Resort Casino,

1 which achieved 85.40 out of a goal of 90  
2 percent, and Eldorado Resort Casino,  
3 which achieved 58.8 percent out of a  
4 goal of 60.

5 Under the subcategory of minority  
6 procurement, eight licensees did not  
7 achieve compliance with its voluntary  
8 conditions, and those licensees are:  
9 Sam's Town Hotel & Casino, which  
10 achieved 19.2 out of a goal of 25  
11 percent; Boomtown New Orleans, which  
12 achieved 11.8 percent out of a goal of  
13 15 percent; Belle of Baton Rouge, which  
14 achieved 5.40 percent out of a goal of  
15 15 percent; Isle of Capri Casino &  
16 Hotel, which achieved 6 percent out of a  
17 goal of 10 percent; Margaritaville  
18 Resort Casino, which achieved 8.5  
19 percent out of a goal of 10 percent;  
20 Boomtown Casino Bossier, which achieved  
21 8.3 percent out of a goal of 10 percent,  
22 and Eldorado Resort Casino, which  
23 achieved 8.2 percent out of a goal of 25  
24 percent.

25 For female procurement, one licensee

1 did not achieve compliance with its  
2 voluntary conditions, and that licensee



3 is Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, which  
4 achieved 16.60 out of a goal of 35  
5 percent.

6 Are there any questions regarding  
7 the riverboats?

8 MR. WEST: I'm new to the board, and  
9 the reason I am asking is because you  
10 mentioned like nobody listens or is  
11 paying attention, and I'm sure my  
12 colleagues are paying attention.

13 There were a couple of questions  
14 that I had about -- that you had said  
15 two of them did not meet all the goals?

16 MS. MURRAY: For quarter two, yes,  
17 and I believe most of that is due to  
18 COVID-19 issues.

19 MR. WEST: All right. When you get  
20 the breakdown, when you read that, we  
21 don't have it in our report like that.  
22 Can you break it down to us again?

23 MS. MURRAY: Sure. You mean the  
24 reason behind each goal?

25 MR. WEST: Yeah, we can certainly

19

1 define the spreadsheet. I'm looking  
2 forward to working with you because you  
3 seem to be like a good person.

4 SPEAKER: And just to add to that,  
5 Mr. Chairman, Chris mentioned obviously

6 the numbers were significantly different  
7 than what they normally are because of  
8 COVID as we go into the coming months  
9 and we see where this goes. But I think  
10 there will be an appropriate time in the  
11 future to go into those numbers and try  
12 to get a better understanding of the  
13 employment and procurement numbers, and  
14 we will definitely want to stay on top  
15 of that.

16 MR. WEST: Thank you very much. As  
17 the senior old-timer on the board, I  
18 think the employment figures have not  
19 been so bad as they think right now, and  
20 it's mostly related to the people in the  
21 casinos. I think that's one of the most  
22 important issues, to keep the jobs, the  
23 purchasing into these particular -- I  
24 know in the past we have had some of the  
25 GMs come in and try to make a difference

20

1 and catch up with that base everybody's  
2 looking to us to report to, the  
3 legislature that we're meeting the  
4 criteria. The more we can understand  
5 it, the better and to look at the  
6 statistics and deal across the board  
7 where it was when the happy days were  
8 here with no problem.

9 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. There's  
10 definitely some exceptions this year,  
11 and I can probably note within the  
12 report, it would probably be helpful to  
13 be able to find some distinction to what  
14 the numbers are. I know typically when  
15 numbers are crunched, given the leeway  
16 to provide narratives, but sort of a  
17 note that is due to what the exceptions,  
18 are not the normal numbers. I did see  
19 in the numbers reported that they were  
20 kind of close to the goal but not yet at  
21 the goals, but that's what's going to  
22 stand out, so there is some exceptions.  
23 I think that it certainly will help make  
24 the report.

25 MS. MURRAY: Next quarter we're

21

1 reaching out to the different licensees  
2 to be able to provide you guys with a  
3 narrative. And then we go to the  
4 racetracks.

5 In the first quarter of 2020,  
6 approximately 1,389 people were employed  
7 by the racetrack casino industry. Of  
8 that number, 1,131 were Louisiana  
9 residents, 697 were minorities and 826  
10 were women. Two of the racetrack  
11 casinos achieved compliance this

12 quarter, and they are Evangeline Downs  
13 and Fairgrounds Casino. Delta Downs did  
14 not achieve its Louisiana employment  
15 condition. It achieved 59.9 out of the  
16 80 percent condition. And Louisiana  
17 Downs did not achieve its female  
18 employment. It achieved 55.1 out of the  
19 60 percent condition.

20 I'll now move on to the racetracks.  
21 In the second quarter of 2020,  
22 approximately 1,319 people were employed  
23 by the racetrack casino industry. Of  
24 that number, 1,078 were Louisiana  
25 residents, 653 were minorities and 780

22

1 were women. Two racetrack casinos  
2 achieved total compliance this quarter,  
3 and they are Evangeline Downs and  
4 Fairgrounds. Delta Downs did not  
5 achieve its Louisiana employment  
6 condition. It achieved 60.40 out of the  
7 80 percent condition. And Louisiana  
8 Downs did not achieve its female  
9 employment condition. It achieved 57.9  
10 out of 60 percent condition.

11 Are there any questions regarding  
12 the racetracks?

13 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Are there any  
14 questions on racetracks?

15 MS. BERRY: Did you talk to your  
16 area that you represent and Delta Downs  
17 on employment and having problems  
18 because they're having to compete with  
19 Texas for employees?

20 MS. MURRAY: That's typically the  
21 narrative that we've kind of always had  
22 that issue.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. West.

24 MR. WEST: Is there any statistics  
25 showing how many of the vendors that we

23

1 use at our casinos use Louisiana -- how  
2 many employees are from Louisiana?

3 MS. MURRAY: If you flip to -- I'm  
4 not sure how your pamphlets look. About  
5 anywhere it says procurement, you can  
6 see which are Louisiana and women and  
7 minority-owned.

8 MR. WEST: And we'll get the reports  
9 in the next part, and I'm trying to  
10 learn.

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes, Mr. West,  
12 procurement is the vendors.

13 Any other questions? [No response.]

#### 14 VI. GAMING UPDATES POST HURRICANES LAURA AND DELTA

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next we'll have an  
16 update from State Police on the  
17 hurricanes Laura and Delta in Lake

18 Charles/Lafayette.

19 CAPTAIN BRADLEY: Mr. Chairman,  
20 Captain Pat Bradley with Louisiana State  
21 Police here to discuss the effects of  
22 COVID-19 and hurricanes Laura and Delta  
23 as well.

24 We currently have 1,248 video poker  
25 machines active throughout Louisiana.

24

1 653 of those machines are currently  
2 offline at 426 locations. As a result  
3 of COVID, 286 of those machines are a  
4 result of COVID-19. L'Auberge Lake  
5 Charles and Delta Downs are all back up  
6 and running. They all suffered some  
7 water leakage in what happened in Laura,  
8 and all three of the properties are  
9 back. The Isle of Capri is still  
10 offline, and they had no additional  
11 information from the last board meeting,  
12 and they're currently discussing with  
13 their insurance companies and things of  
14 that nature and there's nothing.

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Pat, do you have any  
16 idea how much longer before Isle --  
17 what they're going to do moving forward?

18 CAPTAIN BRADLEY: As opposed to  
19 their long-term goal of coming landside,  
20 but I will continue to look into that

21 for you. That's all I have for you.

22 VII. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

23 A. Consideration of Certificate of Compliance

24 for the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of  
25 the gaming vessel Louisiana 1 Gaming, L.P.

25

1 d/b/a Boomtown New Orleans - No.

2 R012600196

3 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right, next on  
4 the agenda is Casino Gaming Issues. We  
5 have Consideration of Certificate of  
6 Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat  
7 Inspection of the gaming vessel  
8 Louisiana 1 Gaming, L.P., d/b/a Boomtown  
9 New Orleans, No. R012600196.

10 MS. LANDRY: Good morning, Chairman  
11 Noel and Board Members. I'm Lisha  
12 Landry, Assistant Attorney General.  
13 We're here in the matter of the issuance  
14 of the temporary Certificate of  
15 Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat  
16 Inspection of Louisiana 1 Gaming doing  
17 business as Boomtown New Orleans located  
18 in New Orleans.

19 On September 10th, 2020, ABSG began  
20 the inspection process of Boomtown New  
21 Orleans' annual Certificate of  
22 Compliance. However, Boomtown is  
23 requesting an extension of time to

24 resolve discrepancies that remain  
25 outstanding.

26

1 Mr. Francic will provide the details  
2 of the inspection.

3 MR. FRANCIC: Good morning, Mr.  
4 Chairman and Board. I'm John Francic  
5 with ABS Consulting. I'm here to report  
6 the annual certification of Boomtown  
7 Casino New Orleans.

8 The inspectors, Doug Chapman and  
9 Pete Bullard, did, on September 10th,  
10 2020, attend the riverboat Boomtown  
11 Belle to do the inspection of the vessel  
12 as required by the State of Louisiana.  
13 They reviewed fire protection equipment,  
14 life safety items and conducted a fire  
15 drill. The inspection as required by  
16 the Louisiana Gaming Board is not  
17 complete, and Boomtown New Orleans needs  
18 a 30-day extension for a leaking pipe.  
19 It appears that there was work, but  
20 they're needing more time to repair the  
21 leak. The leak is not a life safety  
22 issue, so it is the recommendation that  
23 Boomtown New Orleans be issued a 30-day  
24 extension.

25 MS. LANDRY: We now present these

27



1 findings to the Board, and upon the  
2 Board's acceptance of the recommendation  
3 by ABSG, we move for the temporary  
4 Certificate of Compliance for Boomtown  
5 Casino to expire on November 30th, 2020.

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

7 Do we have any questions? Mr.  
8 West.

9 MR. WEST: Can you explain, is the  
10 leaking into the river?

11 MR. FRANCIC: No, it's not leaking  
12 into the river. You have standing water  
13 there in the restrooms and in drains  
14 throughout onboard, and it drains into a  
15 -- comes aboard where it is discharged.

16 MR. LAGASSE: Just a question, did  
17 they notice this before you did the  
18 inspection?

19 MR. FRANCIC: Our guys just went to  
20 do the inspection that day, and they  
21 opened up the space.

22 MR. LAGASSE: And you don't feel  
23 there was any health issue?

24 MR. FRANCIC: Not immediately.

25 MR. LAGASSE: And you believe the

28

1 request -- that they can get it done in  
2 30 days?

3 MR. FRANCIC: From what I

4 understand, it can be hopefully.

5 MR. LAGASSE: So y'all will come  
6 back to us that it has been completed?

7 MR. FRANCIC: Yes, we will make sure  
8 that we do.

9 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I know we have  
10 someone from Boomtown here if you'd like  
11 to add anything to that.

12 SPEAKER: Morning, Chairman. I'm  
13 from Boomtown. We've actually been  
14 working. We asked for the  
15 recommendation of 30 days to make sure  
16 it gets addressed immediately.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Is it a problem with  
18 the parish disposing with the sewage  
19 other than getting it into the drains;  
20 is that the problem?

21 MR. FRANCIC: No problem with the  
22 parish at all.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay, thank you.  
24 Any other questions? [No response.]

25 Do I have a motion to approve the

29

1 temporary Certificate of Compliance that  
2 will expire on November 30th, 2020?

3 MR. LAGASSE: I move.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Lagasse, second  
5 by Ms. Berry.

6 All in favor? [Collective "aye."]

7           Opposed? [No response.]

8           The motion carries.

9 VIII. VIDEO GAMING ISSUES

10       A. Consideration of Transfer of Interest in

11       Little Capitol of Louisiana, Inc., d/b/a

12       Little Capitol Exxon, No. 5000503933

13           CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next is Video Gaming

14       Issues. We have Consideration of

15       Transfer of Interest in Little Capitol

16       of Louisiana doing business as Little

17       Capitol Exxon, No. 5000503933.

18           MS. LANDRY: Good morning, Chairman

19       Noel and Board Members, Assistant

20       Attorney General Lisha Landry appearing

21       before the Board in the stock transfers

22       of interest in Little Capitol of

23       Louisiana, Inc., doing business as

24       Little Capitol Exxon, which holds a Type

25       5 Video Draw Poker Gaming License.

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1       The truckstop facility is located in

2       St. Martin Parish.

3       The Diesi family owns 100 percent of

4       the Licensee, some family members

5       individually and some family members

6       through the Frank J. Diesi Residuary

7       Testamentary Trust and the Salvador L.

8       Diesi, Sr., Inter Vivos Trust No. 1.

9       On December 15, 2016, the income

10 beneficiaries of the Frank Diesi Trust  
11 donated all of their interest in the  
12 trust to the eleven principal  
13 beneficiaries. At the time of the  
14 transfers, the Frank Diesi Trust held a  
15 43.30 ownership interest in the  
16 Licensee.

17 On November 26, 2017, Salvador L.  
18 Diesi, Jr., died.

19 At the time of his death, Mr. Diesi  
20 was a principal and income beneficiary  
21 of the Salvador Diesi, Sr., Inter Vivos  
22 Trust. Through his interest in that  
23 trust, Mr. Diesi held an indirect  
24 ownership interest of 14.06 percent in  
25 the Licensee.

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1 On November 12th, 2019, the Salvador  
2 L. Diesi, Sr., Inter Vivos Trust  
3 established for Mr. Diesi was terminated  
4 and the trust property, including his  
5 278.25 shares in the Licensee, was  
6 distributed to Mr. Diesi's surviving  
7 spouse, Christi Fonti Diesi, as  
8 independent executrix of Mr. Diesi's  
9 succession.

10 Of Mr. Diesi's 278.25 shares in the  
11 Licensee, 263.25 shares were redeemed by  
12 the licensee. Frank J. Diesi, II,

13 purchased three shares; Elaine Diesi  
14 Ardoin purchased six shares, and Joseph  
15 W. Diesi purchased 6 shares.

16 As a result of these transfers, the  
17 current ownership of the Licensee is  
18 held by Joseph W. Diesi who owns 0.8743  
19 percent directly, Elaine Diesi Ardoin  
20 who owns 0.3497 directly, Frank J.  
21 Diesi, II, who owns 0.1748 percent  
22 directly, The Salvador Diesi, Sr., Inter  
23 Vivos Trust, which owns 48.6522 percent,  
24 and The Frank Diesi Testamentary Trust,  
25 which owns 49.9490 of the Licensee.

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1 Joseph W. Diesi, Elaine Diesi Ardoin  
2 and Frank J. Diesi, II, are each  
3 beneficiaries of a 16.2174 percent  
4 indirect ownership interest in the  
5 Licensee through the Salvador Diesi  
6 Inter Vivos Trust, and the 11  
7 beneficiaries of the Frank Diesi Trust  
8 each hold a 4.5408 percent indirect  
9 ownership interest in the Licensee.

10 Master Trooper James Cannon  
11 conducted an investigation of the stock  
12 transfers in the Licensee and  
13 suitability investigations of the  
14 relevant persons associated with the  
15 transfers. He is present this morning

16 to report his findings to the Board.

17 TROOPER CANNON: Good morning, James

18 Cannon with Louisiana State Police

19 Gaming Enforcement Division here to

20 report on the transfers in the Licensee

21 resulting from the death of Salvador L.

22 Diesi, Jr., the 2016 transfer of income

23 beneficiary interest in the Frank J.

24 Diesi Residuary Testamentary Trust, and

25 the 2019 redemption and sale of stock in

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1 the Licensee.

2 Updated criminal history checks were

3 performed on Elaine E. Diesi Ardoin,

4 Frank J. Diesi, II, Joseph W. Diesi and

5 Trustee Ronald J. Lashutes, who are

6 required to maintain suitability. No

7 other individuals are required to meet

8 suitability in connection with this

9 license. I found no information that

10 would preclude the continued licensing

11 of Little Capitol of Louisiana, Inc.,

12 d/b/a Little Capitol Exxon or that would

13 preclude any associated persons from

14 continuing to participate in Louisiana's

15 gaming industry.

16 MS. LANDRY: The Office of the

17 Attorney General has reviewed the file

18 prepared by the Office of State Police.

19 Our review indicated that no information  
20 was found to preclude the continued  
21 licensing of Little Capitol of  
22 Louisiana, Inc., d/b/a Little Capitol  
23 Exxon or the approval of the transfers.  
24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any  
25 questions of the Board? [No response.]

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1 Do we have a motion for the approval  
2 of the transfers?

3 MR. AVANT: So moved.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: By Mr. Avant, second  
5 by Mr. Jackson.

6 No opposition, the motion carries.

7 B. Consideration of the transfer of interest in  
8 R.C. Management, Inc., d/b/a River Parishes  
9 Truck Stop & Casino, No. 4800514194

10 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next up is the  
11 transfer of interest in R.C. Management,  
12 Inc., d/b/a River Parishes Truck Stop &  
13 Casino, No. 4800514192.

14 MR. PITRE: Chairman Noel and Board  
15 Members, I am Assistant Attorney General  
16 Earl Pitre, Jr., appearing before the  
17 Board in the matter of the transfer of  
18 ownership interest in R.C. Management,  
19 Inc.

20 On August 11, 2010, prior to their  
21 marriage on August 13, 2010, Roger C.

22 Holmes, the 100 percent owner of R.C.  
23 Management, Inc., and Shawn C. Holmes,  
24 executed an Act of Donation wherein they  
25 agreed that the separate property that

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1 existed between them would be converted  
2 from separate property to community  
3 property. This included converting  
4 Roger C. Holmes' 100 percent ownership  
5 interest in R.C. Management, Inc., into  
6 community property.

7 Criminal Investigator Rodney Perkins  
8 conducted the updated suitability check  
9 on Shawn C. Holmes. He also conducted  
10 an investigation of the transfer of  
11 ownership interest. He will present the  
12 Office of State Police's findings to the  
13 Board.

14 TROOPER PERKINS: Good morning, I  
15 conducted an updated suitability check  
16 on Shawn C. Holmes. Mrs. Holmes  
17 previously had met suitability under  
18 this license as the secretary of the  
19 licensee, and I found no information  
20 that would preclude her from continuing  
21 to participate in the gaming industry.

22 I conducted the investigation of the  
23 transfer of ownership interest and found  
24 no information that would preclude the



25 continued licensing of R.C. Management,

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1 Inc., d/b/a River Parishes Truck Stop &

2 Casino.

3 MR. PITRE: The Office of the

4 Attorney General has reviewed the file

5 compiled as a result of the

6 investigation conducted by the Office of

7 State Police. Our review indicates that

8 no information has been found which

9 would preclude approval of the transfer.

10 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay, we have a

11 motion by Mr. Poole and a second by Ms.

12 Hamilton-Acker.

13 C. Consideration of Transfer of Interest in Big D

14 Truckstop, LLC, d/b/a Wagin Cajun Casino of

15 Duson, No. 0109514164

16 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next up is

17 Consideration of Transfer of Interest in

18 Big D Truckstop, LLC, d/b/a Wagin Cajun

19 Casino of Duson, No. 0109514164

20 MR. PICOU: Good morning, Chairman

21 Noel, Members of the Board. I am

22 Assistant Attorney General Charlie Picou

23 present in the matter of the approval of

24 the transfers of revenue interest in Big

25 D Truckstop, LLC, d/b/a Wagin Cajun

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1 Casino of Duson, which holds a Type 5

2 Video Draw Poker Gaming license and is  
3 located in Acadia Parish.

4 Today the Board will be considering  
5 three transfers of revenue interest  
6 involving the Licensee.

7 The first transfer of a revenue  
8 interest occurred on September 27, 2019,  
9 when John W. Brister, Jr., LLC,  
10 transferred its 7.14 percent revenue  
11 interest in the Licensee to Bayou  
12 Gaming, Inc., who holds a 33.33 percent  
13 membership interest in the Licensee.

14 The second transfer involves only a  
15 community property interest of a revenue  
16 recipient in the Licensee. Simon-Walker  
17 Properties, LLC, has a 20 percent  
18 revenue interest in the Licensee.  
19 Brenda Walker has a 60 percent  
20 membership interest in Simon-Walker,  
21 LLC.

22 On October 19, 2019, Brenda Walker's  
23 husband, Robert Walker, who held a  
24 community property interest, passed  
25 away. He left his community property

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1 interest in Simon-Walker Properties,  
2 LLC, to Brenda Walker.

3 The third transfer occurred on  
4 November 8, 2019, when Jonas Simon, a 20

5 percent member in Simon-Walker  
6 Properties, LLC, married Sandra G. Vice.  
7 Since he did not reserve the rights and  
8 fruits of his separate property in and  
9 to Simon-Walker Properties, LLC, Sandra  
10 G. Vice is entitled to 50 percent of the  
11 revenue from such interest through the  
12 marriage.

13 Master Trooper James Cannon  
14 conducted an investigation of the  
15 transfers as well as the suitability of  
16 Sandra G. Vice. He is present this  
17 morning to report his findings to the  
18 Board.

19 MASTER TROOPER CANNON: Morning, I  
20 investigated the transfers that occurred  
21 in the Licensee and performed a  
22 suitability investigation on Sandra G.  
23 Vice. I performed cursory checks on all  
24 associated persons. I found no  
25 information that would preclude Sandra

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1 G. Vice, the Licensee, its members or  
2 its revenue recipients from  
3 participating in the Louisiana gaming  
4 industry.

5 MR. PICOU: The Office of the  
6 Attorney General has reviewed the file  
7 prepared by the Office of State Police

8 and has determined that the information  
9 contained therein would not preclude  
10 approval.

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any  
12 questions from the Board? [No  
13 response.]

14 I have a motion from Ms.  
15 Hamilton-Acker and a second by Ms.  
16 Berry.

17 All in favor say "aye." [Collective  
18 "aye."]

19 Seeing no opposition, the motion  
20 carries.

21 IX. ADJOURNMENT

22 CHAIRMAN NOEL: The last item on the  
23 agenda is adjournment. We have a motion  
24 by Mr. Lagasse and a second by Mr.  
25 Jackson.

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1 All in favor. [Collective "aye."]

2 We're adjourned. Thank you.

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1 REPORTER'S PAGE

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3 I, SHELLEY PAROLA, Certified Shorthand

4 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the

5 officer before whom this sworn testimony was

6 taken, do hereby state:

7 That due to the spontaneous discourse of this

8 proceeding, where necessary, dashes (--) have been

9 used to indicate pauses, changes in thought,

10 and/or talkovers; that same is the proper method

11 for a Court Reporter's transcription of a

12 proceeding, and that dashes (--) do not indicate

13 that words or phrases have been left out of this

14 transcript;

15 That any words and/or names which could not  
16 be verified through reference materials have been  
17 denoted with the word "(phonetic)."

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 SHELLEY PAROLA

Certified Court Reporter #96001

25 Registered Professional Reporter

42

1 STATE OF LOUISIANA

2 PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

3 I, Shelley G. Parola, Certified Court

4 Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter, do

5 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and

6 correct transcript of the proceedings on October

7 19, 2020, as taken by me in Stenographic machine

8 shorthand, complemented with magnetic tape

9 recording, and thereafter reduced to transcript,

10 to the best of my ability and understanding, using

11 Computer-Aided Transcription.

12 I further certify that I am not an

13 attorney or counsel for any of the parties, that I

14 am neither related to nor employed by any attorney

15 or counsel connected with this action, and that I

16 have no financial interest in the outcome of this  
17 action.

18       Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 9th day of  
19 December, 2020.

20

21

\_\_\_\_\_

22

SHELLEY G. PAROLA, CCR, RPR

CERTIFICATE NO. 96001

23

24