

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

Minutes September 19, 2024

The meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board (the “Board”) convened on Thursday, September 19, 2024, 10:00 a.m., at the Louisiana State Capitol – House Committee Room 1. Present at the meeting were Chairman Christopher Hebert, Vice-Chair Julie Berry, Kathryn Becnel, Claude Jackson, Julie Lewis, Lamar Poole, Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Ronald Sholes, and Ashley Traylor. Maj. Adam Albright was present for Col. Robert Hodges and Jarrod Coniglio was present for Sec. Richard Nelson. Absent were ex officio members Col. Hodges and Sec. Nelson.

Chairman Hebert called the meeting to order and introduced the Board’s new confidential assistant, Lisha Landry.

It was moved by Mr. Jackson to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024 meeting. That motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Berry and unanimously approved by the Board.

Donna Jackson, Louisiana State Police (“LSP”) Gaming Audit Section, provided revenue reports for the riverboats, slots at the racetracks, and land-based casino. She also reported on video poker, retail and mobile sports wagering, and daily fantasy sports contest revenue.

Chairman Hebert provided an update on the Board’s cease and desist letter to Harp Media B.V. d/b/a Bovada regarding the company’s operation of its unlicensed online casino in Louisiana. The company has now added Louisiana to its list of restricted states.

The Board considered the Certificate of Compliance for the Riverboat Gaming Landside Facility of Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC d/b/a The Queen Baton Rouge – No. R011700193. After presentation by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to approve the issuance of an annual certificate of compliance for the landside facility. That motion was seconded by Mr. Poole and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Certificate of Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming vessel of Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC d/b/a The Queen Baton Rouge – No. R011700193. Present were Attorney Jeff Barbin on behalf of The Queen Baton Rouge and Billy Taylor on behalf of American Vessel

Services, LLC (“AVS”). After presentation by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Vice-Chair Berry to approve the issuance of a temporary certificate of compliance for the vessel. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Five-Year Hull Extension Request for Catfish Queen, LLC d/b/a Belle of Baton Rouge – No. R011700009. Present were Attorney Jeff Barbin on behalf of the Belle of Baton Rouge and Billy Taylor on behalf of AVS. After presentation by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Ms. Becnel to approve the resolution. That motion was seconded by Mr. Poole and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Petition to Approve Substantial Completion of Temporary Gaming Operations and for Approval to Close Existing Operations for Catfish Queen, LLC d/b/a Belle of Baton Rouge – No. R011700009. Present on behalf of the Belle of Baton Rouge were Attorney Jeff Barbin, General Manager Bruce Woods, and VP of Operations Stacey Stagg. Lt. Robert Grimes and Sgt. Jarrod Miles were present on behalf of LSP, Gaming Enforcement Division. After presentation by Matthew Meek, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Ms. Traylor to approve the resolution. That motion was seconded by Mr. Poole and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Petition for Approval to Sell and/or Dispose of the Vessel for Treasure Chest Casino, LLC d/b/a Treasure Chest Casino – No. R012600098. After presentation by Delancey Houston, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Mr. Sholes to approve the resolution. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board next considered the institution of rulemaking procedures for an amendment to LAC 42:III.2905 (Weapons in Designated Gaming Area). After presentation by Cathryn Gits, Assistant Attorney General, it was moved by Ms. Lewis to institute rulemaking procedures for the proposed amendment. That motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Berry and approved by the Board with opposition from Mr. Sholes.

The Board then considered the fantasy sports contests renewal application of FanDuel, Inc. d/b/a FanDuel – No. F011703419. After presentation by Delancey Houston, Assistant Attorney General; Donna Jackson, LSP Gaming Audit Section; and Master Trooper Kevin Bidy, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Vice-Chair Berry to approve the three-year renewal of its fantasy sports contests

license. That motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton-Acker and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board next considered the transfer of interest in Tiger Truck Stop, Inc. d/b/a Tiger Truck Stop – No. 2401501288. After presentation by Andrea Nathan, Assistant Attorney General, and Master Trooper James Cannon, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to approve the transfer of ownership interest in the licensee. That motion was seconded by Ms. Becnel and was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the transfer of interest in Ewings of Livonia, LLC d/b/a LA Express 11 Deli – No. 3904514315. After presentation by Andrea Nathan, Assistant Attorney General, and Master Trooper James Cannon, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to approve the transfer of membership interest in the licensee. That motion was seconded by Ms. Traylor and was unanimously approved by the Board.

Lastly, the Board considered the appeal of Terrytown Café, Inc. d/b/a Terrytown Café – No. 2600207442. After presentation Quintele Jackson, Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Sholes moved to remand the matter back to the Hearing Officer for consideration of new evidence. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson. There being no opposition, the matter was remanded.

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Becnel to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Berry and unanimously approved by the Board.