

Directors' Meeting, Board of, (Pages 1:1 to 79:25)

1:1 LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

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3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

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8 THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2020

9

10 Via Zoom - Video Teleconference

11 Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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14

15 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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1 APPEARANCES

2

3 MICHAEL D. NOEL

Chairman Second Congressional District

4 June 30, 2025

5

6 JULIE A. LEWIS

Fifth Congressional District for Investigational

7 Law Enforcement

June 30, 2024

8

9 MICHAEL LEGENDRE

Office of Charitable Gaming

10 Director

11

12 JULIE BERRY

(CPA)

13 Third Congressional District

June 30, 2024

14

15 O. LAMAR POOLE, JR.

(Economic/Community Planner)

16 Sixth Congressional District

June 30, 2025

17

18 HARRY AVANT

(At Large)

19 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2024

20

21 ELTON LAGASSE

(At Large)

22 First Congressional District

June 30, 2021

23

24

25

3

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 CLAUDE D. JACKSON

(At Large)

10 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2021

11

12 TRUDY SMITH

Confidential Assistant

13

14 NATALIE THURMAN

Principal Assistant

15

16 REPORTED BY:

BRITTANY E. VIDRINE, CCR, RPR

17 Baton Rouge Court Reporters

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1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. Good
3 morning, everyone. We'll go ahead and
4 call the meeting to order. I do want to
5 certify that the Gaming Control Board
6 Meeting is an essential meeting and that
7 due to the current health crisis and
8 pursuant to Governor Edwards' executive
9 proclamations, this meeting is being held
10 via videoconference, because the Gaming
11 Control Board would otherwise be unable
12 to operate due to quorum requirements.

13 All right. Ms. Thurman, would you
14 call the roll.

15 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

16 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Here.

17 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

18 MR. AVANT: Here.

19 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?

20 MS. BERRY: Here.

21 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

22 MR. JACKSON: Here.

23 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?

24 MR. LAGASSE: Here.

25 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

1 MS. LEWIS: Here.

2 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

3 MR. POOLE: Here.

4 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Acker?

5 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: (No response.)

6 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?

7 MR. WEST: (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. West?

9 MS. THURMAN: Colonel Reeves -- is

10 Mr. West here?

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I thought I heard,

12 but perhaps --

13 MS. SMITH: He's having trouble

14 getting on --

15 MS. THURMAN: Okay.

16 MS. SMITH: -- but he should be here

17 in a minute.

18 MS. THURMAN: Okay.

19 Colonel Reeves?

20 COLONEL REEVES: (No response.)

21 MS. THURMAN: Secretary Robinson?

22 MR. LEGENDRE: Michael Legendre here

23 for Secretary Robinson.

24 MS. THURMAN: We have a quorum.

25 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. And just

1 a reminder --

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: This is --

3 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Sorry. Go ahead.

4 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Hi, this is
5 Francesca Hamilton-Acker. I had a
6 little bit of problems getting on, but
7 I'm here also. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

9 Just a quick reminder that, you
10 know, if you're not prepared to speak,
11 please be mindful to mute your phone or
12 your computer so that we don't get too
13 much background noise.

14 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: We'll move onto
16 public comments at this point and see if
17 there are any public comments on any
18 matters before the Board today.

19 Any public comments? All right.

20 III. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: The next item on the
22 agenda is when Mr. Stipe termed out of
23 his position, that left a vacant
24 Vice-Chairperson position. So today I
25 want to go ahead and call for an election

10

1 of Vice-Chair -- Vice-Chairperson. I
2 would at this point ask for any
3 nominations.

4 MR. LAGASSE: Mr. Chairman?

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes, sir.

6 MR. LAGASSE: It gives me great
7 pleasure to -- somebody I've learned to
8 have great respect for. I sit next to
9 her at the meetings, and I've learned
10 a lot about this program from her. And
11 she is very astute to what's going on.
12 It gives me great pleasure to nominate
13 Julie Berry.

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Well, thank you very
15 much. Do we have a second to that?

16 MR. AVANT: A second. Avant,
17 second.

18 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
19 Mr. Harry.

20 All right. And I guess at this
21 point, I do want to ask the nominee,
22 Ms. Berry, if you accept the nomination.

23 MS. BERRY: I graciously accept it.
24 And I thank you for the nice words of --
25 I just hope I can do a good job for the

11

1 Board.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I'm confident of
3 that.

4 So Ms. Thurman, would you call the
5 roll. If you support Ms. Berry --

6 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT: Yes.

8 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?

9 MS. BERRY: Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

11 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

12 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?

13 MR. LAGASSE: Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

15 MS. LEWIS: Yes.

16 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

17 MR. POOLE: Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Acker?

19 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Yes.

20 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West, if he's

21 joined us? He did call. He is having

22 trouble getting on.

23 Chairman Noel?

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN: Yes, sir.

12

1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Motion

2 carries.

3 MS. THURMAN: Congratulations.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Congratulations,

5 Ms. Berry.

6 MS. BERRY: Thank y'all very much.

7 I tremendously enjoy serving on this

8 board, and I appreciate all the input

9 from the -- my fellow board members who

10 are amazingly qualified also. And to the

11 Chairman, thank you very much for your

12 confidence.

13 CHAIRMAN NOEL: You're welcome.

14 IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. We'll
16 move onto the approval of the minutes.
17 I'd ask for a motion to waive
18 reading and approve the minutes of the
19 July 16th, 2020, meeting.

20 MR. POOLE: So moved.

21 MR. LAGASSE: So moved.

22 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I think Mr. Avant --
23 okay. Mr. Poole moved and Mr. Lagasse
24 seconded.

25 All in favor?

13

1 ("Aye" in unison.)

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any opposed?

3 No opposition. So the motion
4 carries. Thank you.

5 V. REVENUE REPORTS

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: We'll move on --
7 into Revenue Reports. And I would ask
8 State Police to present the information.

9 MS. JACKSON: Good morning, Chairman
10 Noel, Board Members. My name is Donna
11 Jackson with Louisiana State Police,
12 Gaming Enforcement Division.

13 The casinos continue to operate at
14 50 percent capacity with 75 percent of

15 gaming positions and operations except
16 for Harrah's New Orleans and Fairgrounds,
17 which are at 25 percent capacity.

18 The 14 operating riverboats
19 generated Adjusted Gross Receipts of
20 \$136,984,253 in July. This total
21 represents an increase of \$5 million or
22 3.7 percent from June 2020, but a
23 decrease of \$15.7 million or 10 percent
24 from last July.

25 As information, July is the first

14

1 month to reflect the reduction of gaming
2 revenue due to promotional play no longer
3 being reported as revenue in accordance
4 with Senate Bill 5 of this year's First
5 Extraordinary Session. State fees
6 collected during July were \$29.5 million.

7 Next is a summary of the July 2020
8 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans
9 found on page three.

10 Harrah's generated \$12,994,739 in
11 gross gaming revenue during July. These
12 revenues represent a decrease from
13 July -- last July of \$7.4 million or
14 36 percent, but and increase of
15 \$7.4 million from June 2020 when there
16 were only 18 days of operation.

17 During July, the state received

18 \$5,095,890 in minimum daily payments.

19 Next I will present the revenue for
20 Slots at the Racetracks.

21 During July, the four racetrack
22 facilities combined generated Adjusted
23 Gross Receipts of \$27,645,635, an
24 increase of \$900,000 from June 2020, but
25 a decrease of \$1.5 million or 5.2 percent

15

1 from last July.

2 State fees collected from racetrack
3 facilities during July totaled
4 \$4.2 million.

5 Overall in July, Riverboats, Land
6 Based and Slots at the Racetracks
7 combined generated \$177.6 million in AGR,
8 which represents a decrease from
9 July 2019 of \$24.7 million or 12 percent.

10 Are there any questions before I
11 present the video gaming statistics?

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Questions from
13 members of the Board? Ms. Berry?

14 MS. BERRY: Donna, I just want to
15 verify something you said. The -- let's
16 see, where was I? There was an increase
17 in Harrah's from the previous month, and
18 they're only at 25 percent capacity; is
19 that what you said?

20 MS. JACKSON: That is correct.

21 MS. BERRY: Okay. Well,
22 25 percent --

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I also believe for
24 June they had less days of operation.

25 MS. JACKSON: Right.

16

1 MS. BERRY: Oh, okay.

2 MS. JACKSON: Only 18 days of
3 operation during June, right. They
4 opened on June 13th.

5 MS. BERRY: And they won't move to
6 more capacity until the Governor moves to
7 the diff- -- next phase; is that correct?

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: That is likely.
9 They also have restrictions by the city,
10 and that is why they're at 25 percent
11 versus 50 percent for the casinos and
12 riverboats in other areas of the state.

13 MS. BERRY: Okay.

14 MR. LAGASSE: You've got to remember
15 too --

16 MS. JACKSON: As a -- sorry. Sorry.

17 MR. LAGASSE: Julie, New Orleans is
18 really struggling right now. Bourbon
19 Street is completely shut down. There's
20 no travel or tourism at all in the city.
21 In fact, they have a meeting today. They
22 are trying to borrow money to keep the
23 city afloat. So, I mean, that whole area

24 is struggling down there right now.

25 MS. BERRY: And that's being

17

1 declared our, quote, hot spot, I guess,
2 right?

3 MR. LAGASSE: Yes. Not as much --
4 not as bad as Jefferson Parish where I
5 live. Jefferson is number one in the
6 state right now.

7 MS. BERRY: Well, not good, but
8 thank you. Thank you, Donna.

9 MS. JACKSON: You're welcome.

10 Okay. I'll move to the video gaming
11 statistics if there are no further
12 questions.

13 Thirteen new video gaming licenses
14 were issued in July: Seven bars, four
15 restaurants, and two device owners.

16 Two new video gaming applications
17 were received by the Gaming Enforcement
18 Division during July and are currently
19 pending in the field, one bar and one
20 device owner.

21 The Gaming Enforcement Division
22 assessed \$2,250 in July, but did not
23 receive any civil penalty payments. As
24 of July 31st, there were \$5,000 in
25 outstanding fines.

18

1 There are currently 12,700 video
2 gaming devices activated at 1,590
3 locations.

4 Net device revenue for July 2020 was
5 \$62.7 million, a \$12.8 million or
6 25.5 percent increase when compared to
7 July 2019, and a \$2.1 million increase
8 when compared to June 2020.

9 Total franchise fees collected
10 during July 2020 were \$19 million, an
11 \$800,000 increase when compared to
12 June 2020 and a \$4 million or
13 27.8 percent increase when compared to
14 July 2019.

15 That concludes the report. Are
16 there any further questions?

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any questions?

18 Thank you, Ms. Jackson.

19 MS. JACKSON: Thank you.

20 VI. RULEMAKING

21 A. Consideration of Institution of Rulemaking
22 Procedures for Amendment of LAC 42:III.2117
23 (Certification Required, Riverboat Only)

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. We'll
25 move onto the next item, rulemaking.

1 Consideration of Institution of
2 Rulemaking Procedures for Amendment of
3 LAC 42:III.2117 (Certification Required,

4 Riverboat Only)

5 Ms. Himel?

6 MS. HIMEL: Yes. Good morning,
7 Chairman Noel, Members of the Board. I'm
8 Assistant Attorney General Dawn Himel
9 presenting this rule change.

10 In its 2018 Regular Session, the
11 Louisiana Legislature passed Act No. 469,
12 which provided the opportunity for
13 riverboat licensees to relocate their
14 gaming operations to a facility within
15 1,200 feet of their licensed berth.

16 The law requires riverboat licensees
17 to have the facilities inspected and
18 obtain certificate of compliance from
19 this Board regardless of whether it
20 operates on a vessel or in a landside
21 facility.

22 There's currently a process for the
23 licensee to operating on a vessel to be
24 inspected and issue a COC, but due to the
25 change in law, it is now necessary that

20

1 the rules be amended to align with the
2 new facility.

3 This rule change would set forth a
4 process for licensees operating in a
5 landside facility to be inspected and to
6 be issued a COC.

7 If the Board has no questions, a
8 motion to institute the rulemaking
9 procedure is needed.

10 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Yes.
11 What -- what -- right now I'll just add a
12 little bit. What brought this on, of
13 course, is with the current approved
14 project for Isle of Capri and others that
15 perhaps -- we'll bring one up today and
16 any in the future. There was some
17 concern of overlap between -- and
18 duplication between our current
19 third-party inspector and local -- local
20 government inspectors, as well as the
21 state fire marshal's office. And so we
22 wanted to clarify that when it comes to
23 the landside construction of new
24 projects, that we wanted to clarify
25 that -- what would be filed and who would

21

1 have the ability to conduct those
2 inspections.

3 So any other questions or -- for
4 Ms. Himel?

5 MR. LAGASSE: I've got a question,
6 Mike. I guess if -- when they start
7 moving on shore, will -- will the local
8 fire departments have their jurisdiction,
9 or will that still be state fire marshal?

10 CHAIRMAN NOEL: No. Locals will
11 continue their jurisdiction, and I think,
12 in conversations with the fire marshal's
13 office, that they have a very good
14 relationship and they work together. So
15 the inspection process will be a
16 combination. Locals will look for their
17 local ordinances in compliance in those
18 areas and the fire marshal for life
19 safety --

20 MR. LAGASSE: Good.

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: -- related issues.

22 MR. LAGASSE: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay. We would need
24 a motion to institute rulemaking. A
25 motion?

22

1 MS. BERRY: I'll move.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Berry.

3 MR. AVANT: Avant, second.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you, sir.

5 Ms. Thurman, could you call the

6 roll.

7 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

8 MR. AVANT: Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?

10 MS. BERRY: Yes.

11 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

12 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?
14 MR. LAGASSE: Yes.
15 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?
16 MS. LEWIS: Yes.
17 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?
18 MR. POOLE: Yes.
19 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Acker?
20 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Yes.
21 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?
22 MR. WEST: (No response.)
23 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?
24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes.
25 Motion carries. Thank you.

23

1 VII. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

2 A. Consideration of Approval of the
3 Third-Party Inspector

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay. Next we'll
5 move onto Casino Gaming Issues and
6 Consideration of Approval of the
7 Third-Party Inspector. And this kind of
8 goes hand in hand with the rule that we
9 just approved for -- to institute
10 rulemaking on.

11 And I'll, again, turn it over to
12 Ms. Himel.

13 MS. HIMEL: Assistant Attorney
14 General Dawn Himel present in this matter
15 as well. In conjunction with the rule

16 change that was just instituted by this
17 Board to establish a process for the
18 inspection of landside facilities in
19 accordance with the law, it is necessary
20 that the Board consider the approval of
21 the state fire marshal as a third-party
22 inspector authorized to conduct the
23 required inspection of riverboat landside
24 facilities and to present those to the
25 Board or to prepare a report for the

24

1 Board in order for the Board to issue a
2 certificate of compliance.

3 Should the Board chose to approve
4 the state fire marshal as a third-party
5 inspector, a resolution has been prepared
6 for consideration.

7 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Are
8 there any questions from the Board
9 regarding this motion -- or this item?

10 All right. Do we have a motion to
11 adopt the resolution?

12 MR. JACKSON: Jackson. Recommend an
13 approval.

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
15 Mr. Jackson.

16 MR. LAGASSE: I'll second it.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Seconded by
18 Mr. Lagasse.

19 And, Ms. Thurman, could you read the
20 resolution into the record.

21 MS. THURMAN: On the 20th day of
22 August, 2020, the Louisiana Gaming
23 Control Board did, in a dually noticed
24 public meeting, consider the issue of the
25 approval of the Louisiana Office of State

25

1 Fire Marshal as a third-party inspector,
2 and upon motion dually made and seconded,
3 the Board adopted this resolution.

4 Be it resolved that the Louisiana
5 Office of State Fire Marshal is hereby
6 approved as a third-party inspector to
7 conduct the inspections of riverboat
8 facilities as defined in Revised Statute
9 27:44.24 (b).

10 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
11 Louisiana, this 20th day of August, 2020.

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
13 Ms. Thurman. Could you then call the --
14 call the roll.

15 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

16 MR. AVANT: Yes.

17 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?

18 MS. BERRY: Yes.

19 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

20 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

21 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?

22 MR. LAGASSE: Yes.

23 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

24 MS. LEWIS: Yes.

25 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

26

1 MR. POOLE: Yes.

2 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Acker?

3 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Yes.

4 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes. Thank you.

6 Motion carries.

7 B. Consideration of Certification of Compliance for

8 the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming

9 vessel of Belle of Orleans, LLC d/b/a Amelia

10 Belle - No. R013600020

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay. The next item

12 will be Consideration of Certification of

13 Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat

14 Inspection for the gaming vessel Belle Of

15 Orleans, LLC, doing business as Amelia

16 Belle - No. R013600020.

17 MR GATHE: Good morning,

18 Chairman Noel and Board Members.

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you, Jeremy.

20 MR GATHE: Assistant Attorney

21 General, Jeremy Gathe, and with me is

22 Mr. John Francic of ABSG Consulting.

23 We're here in the matter of the

24 issuance of the annual certificate of

25 compliance to Belle of Orleans, LLC,

27

1 doing business as Amelia Belle Casino,

2 which is located in Amelia, Louisiana.

3 On June 3rd, 2020, ABSG began the
4 inspection process for the approval of
5 Amelia Belle's annual certificate of
6 compliance. On June 3rd -- on July 16th,
7 2020, the Board issued a temporary
8 certificate of compliance to Amelia Belle
9 Casino to allow additional time to
10 resolve an outstanding discrepancy.

11 ABSG has now issued a supplemental
12 report addressing this outstanding
13 discrepancy, and Mr. John Francic will
14 now provide the details of ABSG's
15 supplemental report.

16 MR. FRANCIC: Good morning, Chairman
17 and Board members. I'm John Francic with
18 ABSG Consulting here to report the status
19 of the annual certification for Amelia
20 Belle Casino.

21 On July 28th documentation was
22 received from Amelia Belle Casino on the
23 servicing of elevators and escalators,
24 and found they were compliant with
25 industry standards. This is considered

28

1 satisfactory.

2 The 2020 annual survey, as required
3 by Louisiana Gaming Control Board, is now
4 complete, and it's the recommendation of
5 ABSG Consulting that Amelia Belle
6 Casino's certificate of compliance be
7 issued.

8 MR GATHE: We now present these
9 findings to the Board and request that
10 upon the Board accepting the report
11 submitted by ABSG, we will move for the
12 issuance of the annual certificate of
13 compliance to Amelia Belle Casino, which
14 expires on July 31st, 2021.

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
16 questions from the Board?

17 Thank you. Motion -- we need a
18 motion to issue the certificate of
19 compliance.

20 MS. LEWIS: This is Julie Lewis.
21 I'll make the motion.

22 MS. BERRY: I'll second.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. All in
24 favor?

25 ("Aye" in unison.)

29

1 Opposed? No opposition.

2 All right. The motion carries. The
3 certificate of compliance for Amelia
4 Belle is approved for a year. Thank you.

5 MR GATHE: Thank you.
6 C. Consideration of Certification of Compliance for
7 the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming
8 vessel of PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership d/b/a
9 L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge -
10 No. R011000801

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. The next
12 item is Consideration of Certification of
13 Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat
14 Inspection of gaming vessel PNK
15 (Baton Rouge) Partnership doing business
16 as L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge -
17 No. R011000801.

18 MS. LANDRY: Good morning,
19 Chairman Noel and Board Members. I'm
20 Assistant Attorney General Lisha Landry.
21 With me is Mr. John Francic of ABSG
22 Consulting.

23 We're here in the matter of the
24 issuance of the annual certificate of
25 compliance to PNK (Baton Rouge)

30

1 Partnership doing business as L'Auberge
2 Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge.

3 On July 29th, 2020, ABSG began the
4 inspection process for the approval of
5 L'Auberge Casino's annual certificate of
6 compliance.

7 Mr. Francic will now provide the

8 details on ABSG's inspection.

9 MR. FRANCIC: Good morning, Chairman
10 and Board Members. John Francic with
11 ABSG Consulting here to report the annual
12 certification for L'Auberge Baton Rouge
13 Casino.

14 The inspectors Pete Bullard and Jeff
15 Bullard did, on July 29th, attend the
16 L'Auberge Baton Rouge Casino to conduct
17 the annual inspection in accordance with
18 the State of Louisiana Alternative
19 Inspection Program.

20 The surveyors reviewed fire
21 protections measures, life safety
22 equipment, egress routes, training
23 records, and conducted a fire drill.

24 There were a few deficiencies that
25 were corrected during the course of the

31

1 inspection, but all were found
2 satisfactory.

3 The 2020 annual survey, as required
4 by Louisiana Gaming Control Board, is
5 complete and it is the recommendation of
6 ABSG Consulting that L'Auberge
7 Baton Rouge Casino be issued the
8 certificate of compliance.

9 MS. LANDRY: We now present these
10 findings to the Board and request that

11 upon the Board's acceptance of the report
12 submitted by ABSG, you'll move for the
13 issuance of the annual certificate of
14 compliance to L'Auberge Casino
15 Baton Rouge, which expires on
16 August 31st, 2021.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
18 questions?

19 All right. No questions. Do we
20 have a motion to issue the certificate of
21 compliance?

22 MR. AVANT: So moved, Avant.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
24 Mr. Avant. Do we have a second?

25 MS. BERRY: Second, Ms. Berry.

32

1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Berry. Thank
2 you.

3 All in favor?

4 ("Aye" in unison.)

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any opposed?

6 Hearing no opposition, the motion
7 carries. Thank you. The certificate of
8 compliance for L'Auberge Baton Rouge is
9 approved.

10 D. Consideration of Certification of Compliance for
11 the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming
12 vessel of Louisiana Casino Cruises, Inc. d/b/a
13 Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge - No. R011700193

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. Next
15 item, Certification -- Consideration of
16 Certification of Compliance for the
17 Alternate Riverboat Inspection for the
18 gaming vessel of Louisiana Casino
19 Cruises, Incorporated, doing business as
20 Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge - No.
21 R011700193.

22 MS. LANDRY: Assistant Attorney
23 General Lisha Landry and John Francic of
24 ABSG Consulting now here in the matter of
25 the issuance of the annual certificate of

33

1 compliance to Louisiana Casino Cruises,
2 Inc., doing business as Hollywood Casino
3 Baton Rouge.

4 On June 16th, 2020, ABSG began the
5 inspection process for the approval of
6 Hollywood Casino's annual certificate of
7 compliance.

8 And now Mr. Francic will provide the
9 details on ABSG's inspection.

10 MR. FRANCIC: Chairman, Board
11 Members, I'm John Francic with ABSG
12 Consulting here to report the annual
13 certification for Hollywood Casino
14 Baton Rouge.

15 The inspectors Doug Chapman and Pete
16 Bullard did attend the riverboat casino

17 to conduct the annual inspection in
18 accordance with the alternative
19 inspection of riverboat gaming in the
20 state of Louisiana.

21 The inspectors reviewed fire
22 protection equipment, egress routes,
23 mooring systems, and inspected machinery
24 spaces and conducted a fire drill. There
25 were a few deficiencies found during

34

1 inspection that can be found on page six
2 and seven of your report. A followup to
3 all the deficient items was done on
4 June 30th. And on July 31st, all
5 deficient items were corrected and found
6 satisfactory.

7 The 2020 annual survey, as required
8 by Louisiana Gaming Control Board, is
9 complete, and it is the recommendation of
10 ABSG Consulting that Hollywood Casino
11 Baton Rouge be issued the certificate of
12 compliance.

13 MS. LANDRY: We now present these
14 findings to the Board and request that
15 upon the Board accepting the report
16 submitted by ABSG, you'll move for the
17 issuance of the annual certificate of
18 compliance to Hollywood Casino, which
19 expires on September 30th, 2021.

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
21 questions from the Board?

22 Okay. Then do we have a motion to
23 issue the certificate of compliance for
24 Hollywood?

25 MR. POOLE: I'll make a motion.

35

1 MR. LAGASSE: So moved.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Motion by?

3 MR. POOLE: Lamar.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. And
5 seconded by Mr. Lagasse?

6 All right. All in favor say, "Aye."

7 ("Aye" in unison)

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any opposed? No
9 opposition. The motion carries, and the
10 certificate of compliance for Hollywood
11 Casino is approved.

12 E. Consideration of Petition for Approval to
13 Relocate Gaming Operations and for Modification
14 of License Conditions for Louisiana Casino
15 Cruises, Inc. d/b/a Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge
16 - No. R011700193

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. Next
18 item, Consideration of Petition for
19 Approval to Relocate Gaming Operations
20 and for Modification of License
21 Conditions for Louisiana Casino Cruises,
22 Incorporated, doing business as Hollywood

23 Casino Baton Rouge - No. R011700193.

24 Ms. Himel, I think you will be up
25 first.

36

1 MS. HIMEL: Yes. Good morning.
2 Again, Assistant Attorney General Dawn
3 Himel appearing in the matter of the
4 petition for Louisiana Casino Cruises,
5 Inc., for approval to relocate its gaming
6 operation to a new facility.

7 In the 2018 Regular Session, the
8 Louisiana Legislature passed Act No. 469,
9 which provided the opportunity for a
10 riverboat licensee to relocate its gaming
11 operations to a facility within 1,200
12 feet of its licensed berth.

13 The law and rules require a licensee
14 seeking relocation to submit a site plan,
15 a capital improvement and reinvestment
16 plan, a financing plan, a construction
17 schedule and property descriptions. All
18 required documents were submitted by the
19 licensee to the Division for review and
20 investigation.

21 The licensee's petition is up for
22 consideration today. Neither law nor
23 rule dictate a minimum monetary
24 investment for relocation. It is the
25 Board's discretion on a case-by-case

1 basis.

2 If it is the Board's pleasure to
3 approve the request, a resolution has
4 been prepared for your consideration.

5 The licensee will be allowed to
6 commence gaming activities on its new
7 facility once the Division determines
8 that all necessary staffing, training,
9 security, and surveillance, technical
10 accounting, and internal control
11 procedures are acceptable.

12 Paul West, who is licensee's
13 counsel, will now introduce the
14 licensee's representatives presenting
15 today.

16 Following the licensee's
17 presentation, Lieutenant Adam Albright
18 and Trnessia Ware from Louisiana State
19 Police Enforcement and Audit Office.

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

21 MR. WEST: Good morning. Good
22 morning, Mr. Chairman and Board Members.
23 It's an exciting time for Hollywood
24 Casino of Baton Rouge, and we have a team
25 here to present what I think everybody

1 will agree is a very, hopefully,

2 successful move onto land.

3 Obviously, everybody is remote, but
4 we have in Pennsylvania, Peter Carlino
5 who is the President and Chairman and CEO
6 of GLPI, which is a parent company of
7 Hollywood Casino. With him is Brandon
8 Moore who is the Senior Vice-President of
9 General Counsel. And then we have
10 Jeannie Magdefrau here in Baton Rouge
11 who's the general manager of Hollywood
12 Casino itself.

13 I'm going to turn it over to Peter
14 who will make some opening remarks, and
15 then Jeannie will walk you through what
16 the project will look like.

17 MR. CARLINO: Let me see. I just
18 un-muted. Can I -- am I -- am I here?

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes.

20 MR. CARLINO: Okay. Well, thank
21 you. Good morning, everyone,
22 Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission.

23 I'm pleased to be here with you
24 today. I must confess, I have never done
25 a presentation of this sort in this

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1 manner. It's a very strange arrangement.
2 I am, as it turns out, actually in
3 Massachusetts, and, you know, our team is
4 staggered everywhere. So we can't look
5 at each other, we'll do the best we can.

6 A little history, if I may. You
7 might recall that I am the founder of
8 Penn National Gaming. It's my business
9 for almost 50 years. And I bought from
10 Woody Weiser, if I can give you a name
11 from the past. Maybe some still
12 remember. Was the CEO at Carnival Cruise
13 Lines who developed this boat, and -- oh,
14 gosh, back in the '90s. And we've owned
15 it now for 20 years. Have some, oh,
16 \$300 million plus invested having made
17 some pretty significant improvements to
18 the boat. There's only so much you can
19 do with that thing. And on the land side
20 we, I think, did some very attractive
21 improvements over time.

22 It's been an interesting 20 years.
23 Lots and lots of ups and downs.
24 Tremendous performance. We've had
25 floods. We've had competition.

40

1 L'Auberge down the road put a dent in our
2 business, as you would recall. But all
3 in all, it's been a wonderful property
4 for us and for our company, and we're
5 thrilled to own it. And this opportunity
6 to go landside, I think is just
7 marvelous. And we are most anxious to do
8 it. And I think when Jeannie goes

9 through the proposal, we'll use the same
10 architect, same interior design folks
11 that have done all my Hollywood casinos
12 over time. I should say that, I'm still
13 chairman of Meredith's and Penn, but my
14 day job is gaming and leisure properties.
15 That's -- they pay my salary. That's my
16 job day to day. So we are very, very
17 excited about the possibility of doing
18 this.

19 I think the market has faced a
20 number of challenges, declining
21 population. Certainly, I think, you
22 know, and I'm not complaining, but the
23 smoking ban put a real dent in
24 performance -- it is a sad reality, I
25 guess, that gamblers smoke. And we

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1 intend, of course, as part of this new
2 facility to build a patio, which Jeannie
3 will describe, that will allow us to get
4 some of that business back for our
5 smoking customers.

6 We also want to take advantage of
7 the Mississippi cruise market and
8 Viking's interest in our site. I can't
9 think of anything more exciting,
10 certainly for us, and I think for the
11 city, than to have these folks make this

12 a regular stop in their tour.

13 Parenthetically, I'll tell you that
14 my wife and I did our first Viking tour
15 ever just a year ago. I forget where we
16 started, someplace in Germany, and went
17 to Budapest, and it was a great
18 experience with them. I see my screen is
19 cut off. Am I still being heard?

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes. We can hear
21 you fine, sir.

22 MR. CARLINO: Fine. So we've had a
23 great experience with Viking. You'll
24 hear a little bit more about that from
25 Mr. Simmons.

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1 In addition, and I know Jeannie will
2 get to that as well, we have an alliance
3 with Shaquille O'Neal with the Big
4 Chicken facility, which should be a lot
5 of fun.

6 Jeannie, you want to show that now?
7 What's the right time you want to pick it
8 up in your presentation?

9 MS. MAGDEFRAU: In my presentation,
10 Peter, I do have a video from Shaq that I
11 will be sharing as well.

12 MR. CARLINO: Okay. Well, then I'm
13 going to pass over that and just -- just
14 highlight it.

15 You know, I think one of the big
16 advantages, frankly, is bringing our
17 facility closer to the road to parking
18 and convenience. It's going to help
19 immensely in trying to attract people to
20 our sports bar, sports restaurant, and
21 our entertainment center. Ultimately,
22 with perhaps the -- with sports betting
23 somewhere down the road and the like, I
24 think we're going to turn out to be a
25 very, very convenient location for people

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1 who want to get in and get out. And it's
2 just an advantage, I think, or something
3 we can make an advantage for for our
4 location.

5 I think as you see the presentation,
6 we're very pleased with -- I think it's a
7 very attractive facility. And we're
8 excited to do it. I just can't emphasize
9 enough after 20 years there how thrilled
10 I would be to be able to do this project.
11 So we'll have time for questions and
12 answers. That's just a quick run through
13 of our disposition about this and our
14 long-term interest in this -- this
15 property and in Baton Rouge.

16 So with that, Jeannie, I think it's
17 over to you.

18 MS. MAGDEFRAU: All right. I'm
19 hoping everybody can see my screen.

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Doing fine.

21 MS. MAGDEFRAU: All right. So let's
22 get started here. I have -- well, first
23 and foremost, thank you, Peter.

24 Good morning, Chairman and
25 Commissioners. Jeannie Magdefrau,

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1 General Manager, Hollywood Casino.

2 I'm going to briefly review a
3 condensed version of the presentation
4 that was in your petition. So let's
5 start on page three. This is our, you
6 know, present-day site. The building was
7 built in 1994. It has 64,000 square
8 feet. Very solid, great structure for
9 us. You see the riverboat. We have two
10 ramps with the riverboat. We have about
11 1,500 parking spaces.

12 Page five is the interior of our
13 existing casino along with, at the bottom
14 right, is the pavilion. It's a
15 three-level riverboat, first generation.
16 Holds 859 slots right now and 12 table
17 games. We do have outdoor gaming in the
18 front of the facility with 26 slot
19 machines.

20 As Peter mentioned, we have spent a

21 significant amount of funds and money
22 keeping both our properties, the pavilion
23 and the boat, in a great condition to the
24 tune of about 300 million in present
25 value.

45

1 Okay. On page seven, this is the
2 overlay of the expansion. So basically,
3 there's going to be about 37,136 square
4 feet of expansion. That does not include
5 the porte cochere. We're going to be
6 renovating about 38,194 square feet. And
7 nonimpact areas is going to be about
8 25,000. The nonimpact areas are
9 basically office space. This is for a
10 total of about a little over 100,000
11 square feet.

12 You know, and we also own about 25.1
13 acres of land. What you -- you know,
14 it's -- you can't see it on this picture.
15 But if you go down to far the right,
16 that's our underpass. So we basically
17 own up to that underpass.

18 You know, this is very exciting for
19 us, because, you know, it is the start of
20 a project, and hopefully this will be the
21 catalyst for future development north of
22 us.

23 Page eight is our layout. And the

24 one thing I want to point out here is
25 there are three entries. There's the

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1 entry of the porte cochere. There's the
2 entry in the non-gaming facility, and
3 then you can see there's the entry for
4 the cruise ship.

5 So let's just start on kind of the
6 left-hand side. When you enter in
7 through the porte cochere, you can
8 actually go into our gaming patio. I
9 will be showing renderings of what I call
10 some of our wow factors, which is the
11 gaming patio.

12 When you look to the right side, the
13 entry there, you'll walk in to the
14 facility. You will enter into a sports
15 viewing area. That basically, has a
16 capacity of about 115 people and there
17 are 46 seats. To the right of that, is
18 going to be our sports entertainment
19 restaurant concept. This is going to
20 have a mezzanine along with outdoor
21 dining as well. You know, we want to
22 take advantage of, you know, the
23 Mississippi River.

24 As Peter mentioned, we do have an
25 agreement with Shaquille O'Neal's Big

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1 Chicken restaurant. This restaurant also
2 includes a bar on the inside.

3 When you take a look at where you
4 enter from the Viking cruise ship, so
5 basically what will happen there, as you
6 know, obviously, we'll have to move our
7 ship out of the way. But Viking cruise
8 ships will come in, dock, and they will
9 be entering directly into our casino.

10 That entry will only be opened, you know,
11 when there is a ship, you know, at the
12 dock.

13 You know, the one thing that we kind
14 of are lacking right now is meeting
15 facility space. So our second floor is
16 going to be converted into meeting rooms.
17 This is going to be a pretty cool area,
18 because when you come up, you know, those
19 stairways that was shown in the previous
20 diagram, you'll see -- you can either go
21 into a pre-function area -- you know, so
22 if you're going to have a nighttime
23 event, you know, you can have cocktails
24 there. We're also going to have a
25 server area called the buffet seating

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1 area. So if you -- you don't want to
2 have, you know, your lunch, dinner in the
3 meeting rooms, they'll be an area for

4 server, and then 200-foot meeting area.

5 Moving on to page 12, this just kind
6 of gives you the overall mass of the
7 project. You know, the right side is the
8 sports entertainment center, casino, and
9 then on the left is the gaming patio.

10 This is what it's going to look
11 like. So now let's get into some of the
12 fun stuff, you know, the renderings.
13 This is a proposed, you know, front
14 elevation. The one thing I do want to
15 point out on this slide is you'll notice
16 that there is no brand on this slide. We
17 believe that, you know, with a new
18 casino, all these new experiences, that
19 we need to find a new name for this to
20 basically describe, you know, all the wow
21 factors and all the different experiences
22 you'll have when you enter into our
23 facility.

24 So this is the gaming experience
25 when you walk through the porte cochere.

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1 You will walk directly in, and they'll be
2 table games, the Craps game. You'll have
3 lots of excitement right there. You can
4 also see on the top there, that's kind of
5 the walkover of the second floor of the
6 event center or the meeting space.

7 This is our gaming patio. Yes, it
8 doesn't look like, you know, it's an
9 outdoor, but -- so it's beautifully
10 designed. It has a bar in the inside,
11 slot machines. You probably won't even
12 notice that you're really outside in this
13 area.

14 Okay. This is Big Chicken,
15 Shaquille O'Neal's concept. So it has a
16 bar; you can see that. So let me just --
17 so if I can click to activate his video
18 here and see what he has to --

19 (Video playing.)

20 MS. MAGDEFRAU: I hope everybody
21 heard that okay. So we're very excited
22 to bring Shaquille O'Neal back to
23 Baton Rouge -- you know, or Big Diesel.
24 Maybe we'll get him to spin some records
25 at some point in time.

50

1 And then moving onto page 18. This
2 is our sports and entertainment venue.
3 So there's a lot going on in this slide
4 that I would like to point out.
5 Obviously, you know, you can see
6 basically the TV screens and all the
7 sport screens. You look up onto the top
8 left-hand side, that's our mezzanine. So
9 you can actually go up there. You can

10 watch, you know, down below, a band,
11 karaoke, you know, however we have --
12 whatever entertainment we have scheduled
13 for that. So very excited about that.

14 And then if you look out, you can
15 kind of see that there is outdoor seating
16 outside. So we are very excited about
17 the sports restaurant entertainment
18 venue. We think it will be, you know,
19 top class for the Baton Rouge market.

20 On page 19, this is basically when
21 you would walk right in the non-gaming
22 area, our sports viewing area. So you
23 can see lots of TVs. You can watch golf.
24 You know, you'll be able to watch soccer,
25 football -- football, basketball, you

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1 know, whatever is going on in that
2 particular time period.

3 So briefly talk about project
4 milestones. We really would like this
5 completed by February 18th prior to our
6 peak time period. So we're fully in our
7 building at that time. That gives us
8 enough time to move our boat out of the
9 way so Viking cruise can come in for
10 their first ship. This will be,
11 obviously, June 2022.

12 Our plans are basically that we

13 would only be -- you would have access to
14 the casino at all times with the
15 exception of the week leading up to our
16 grand opening. We would have to be shut
17 down at that time to finish the
18 transition. Other than that, fully
19 operational 100 percent of the time.

20 We will fast track this project once
21 it's approved to meet this deadline.
22 Obviously, there may be things that are
23 out of our control that could push it
24 back, but that is our goal.

25 On page 21 is the cost estimate.

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1 You know, as stated earlier, you know, we
2 have spent significant amounts of money
3 on capital to keep our, you know, slot
4 machines fresh. So we had -- and plus
5 the fact of we really have a great base
6 to start with with our pavilion being
7 such a strong, basically -- you know,
8 building that we can build off on. So
9 we're looking at about a 21,000 to 20- --
10 or 21,000 -- 21 million to about
11 24 and a half million dollars to get this
12 all accomplished.

13 And, you know, I'm going to start --
14 I'm going to click on -- to activate this
15 video. This is a message from Mayor

16 Broome. It takes a few seconds to come
17 up, so I'm going to start -- click onto
18 that while I go through some of this
19 here.

20 The estimated impact over six years
21 is about a half a billion dollars. So
22 it's a significant amount of economic
23 impact for us. We also have a letter
24 from --

25 (Video playing.)

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1 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Okay. Mayor Broome
2 speaking on behalf of our future
3 investment.

4 So as mentioned earlier, this
5 project over six years is estimated to
6 bring about a half a billion dollars,
7 nonconstruction, to the Baton Rouge
8 market. One-time construction will be
9 about 166 jobs with about 10 million in
10 labor and about 30 million in output. We
11 do have a letter in your package from
12 Senator Johns basically that says, you
13 know, this meets the standard of the
14 substantial economic development that the
15 legislators are looking for when they
16 pass the -- you know, the landside bill.

17 So, in summary, you know, Viking
18 Cruise Lines, you know, wants to make

19 this their destination beginning
20 operation in 20- -- June 2022. You know,
21 Shaquille O'Neal coming back. We'll have
22 a great sports entertainment restaurant
23 and venue with outdoor entertainment and
24 a dining balcony overlooking the
25 Mississippi River. We have a sports

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1 viewing area. We have meeting space.
2 We'll have even, you know, the outdoor
3 patio. So we're very excited that we can
4 bring this development to the Board
5 today.

6 I would like to, at this time, if
7 David Simmons was able to join, to give
8 kind of a brief discussion about what --
9 how the Hollywood partnership means a lot
10 to Viking cruise.

11 MR. SIMMONS: Yes. Thank you and
12 good morning to the Gaming Commission.

13 Viking -- for those of you who don't
14 know much about Viking, we're the world
15 leader in river cruising. We're going
16 through a lot of difficulty right now as
17 you-all would expect. We've got 80 plus
18 ships sitting around waiting for -- for
19 all of our guests to come back. And so
20 what's really interesting and what's
21 really good right now is our Viking

22 Mississippi project is brand-new, and
23 it's doing extremely well even during
24 this pandemic.

25 We've opened for sail starting in
55

1 August of 2022, and I'll explain that in
2 a second. But August of 2022. And so
3 far in this very short period of time
4 from March, we have over 6,800 bookings.
5 Of that, 5,800 are just -- are going to
6 be touching Baton Rouge.

7 Our schedules are basically -- we
8 have four basic schedules, and of those
9 four, three of them have stopped in
10 Baton Rouge. So New Orleans round trip,
11 New Orleans to Memphis, and also the
12 great American rivers which goes from
13 New Orleans all the way to St. Paul.

14 So we have 41 days that we are going
15 to be stopping per ship in Baton Rouge.
16 Currently, Baton Rouge has a serious
17 problem with docking. It only has, what
18 we effectually call the paperclip, and
19 there are three cruise lines. So without
20 this Hollywood Casino dock, we would have
21 to pass Baton Rouge's market on many,
22 many days, because there's just no way to
23 dock there.

24 But more importantly is, we believe

25 that we should be able to deliver what we

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1 sell. So if -- we would not put
2 Baton Rouge on our schedule if we didn't
3 believe that we were going to be able to
4 offer that. There's nothing worse than,
5 you know, having your parents on the --
6 on the balcony waving as you pass
7 Baton Rouge because we're not allowed to
8 land there. And that's just not
9 something Viking is willing to do. So
10 we've been working with Jeannie and her
11 group for many years to see how we can
12 both benefit.

13 Each schedule for each ship is
14 15,826 passengers per year, per ship to
15 Baton Rouge. We have done great studies
16 on this market, and we believe it's a
17 six-to-eight ship market without any
18 problem. Torstein, who owns the company,
19 has no desire to build one ship in the
20 Mississippi.

21 So how's the ship going? We started
22 building it this year. We had a meeting
23 this morning, and I saw all the welding
24 and everything going on. And even with
25 COVID, we're actually on schedule. So

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1 even though I mentioned a few minutes ago

2 that we are -- first sailings are in
3 August, we will be opening up some of
4 June and some of July. But we don't want
5 to disappoint our customers. So we want
6 to make sure that the delivery is going
7 to happen during COVID and there won't be
8 any delays. So as soon as we get
9 confirmation, then we'll be able to open
10 back up into June and July.

11 So we're very excited about having
12 this partnership with Hollywood Casino,
13 and I hope that I help you understand a
14 little bit about what our volume would be
15 bringing it to the market. Thanks so
16 much.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

18 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Thank you, David. I
19 will turn it back over to Peter for any
20 closing comments.

21 MR. CARLINO: Thank you, Jeannie,
22 and thank you, David, for that
23 presentation.

24 As I said, I just had, a year ago, a
25 recent experience with Viking; it was

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1 really a wonderful, wonderful experience.
2 So we're excited about that on our end.

3 To you, Mr. Chairman, and Members of
4 the Commission, thank you for allowing us

5 to make this presentation. And we're
6 available now for any questions that you
7 might have.

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. What I'd
9 like to do is let State Police -- they
10 have a brief presentation to cover a few
11 topics. Let them present their material,
12 and then we'll open it up for questions.

13 MR. ALBRIGHT: Yes, sir. Good
14 morning, Chairman Jones and Members of
15 the Board.

16 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Chairman Jones?

17 MR. ALBRIGHT: Chairman Noel.
18 Sorry. Old habits.

19 Can y'all see me? I can't --

20 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes, you're good.

21 MR. ALBRIGHT: Okay. I'm Lieutenant
22 Adam Albright with the Louisiana State
23 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

24 The Division has reviewed the
25 location plan as submitted, and Hollywood

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1 has submitted everything that we've
2 requested to date. We didn't find any
3 issues that would preclude approval, and
4 we are satisfied that Hollywood is
5 working through the process with
6 compliance to rule and law as a priority.

7 So as the project progresses and the

8 construction plans are finalized, the
9 Division will work closely with Hollywood
10 to ensure that they remain in compliance
11 throughout the whole process. And I can
12 answer any questions that anyone may
13 have.

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

15 Trnessia, did you have some --

16 MS. WARE: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

18 MS. WARE: Good morning,
19 Chairman Noel and Members of the Board.

20 My name is Trnessia Ware with Louisiana
21 State Police, Corporate Securities Audit.

22 The proposed project for the new
23 facility at Hollywood will range from
24 20.9 million to 24.5 million. GLPI
25 intends to finance the project with funds

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1 currently available under a 1.75 billion
2 revolving credit facility previously
3 approved by the Board.

4 As of June 30, 2020, GLPI had
5 649 million outstanding balance on the
6 amended term loan credit facility
7 consisting of approximately 225 million
8 term loan A1 facility and the 424 million
9 term loan A2 facility.

10 No amounts were outstanding under

11 the revolver. Additionally, GLPI was
12 contingently obligated under
13 approximately \$4.4 million letters of
14 credit resulting in 1 billion,
15 174.6 million of available borrowing
16 capacity under the revolver as of
17 June 30, 2020.

18 At June 30, 2020, the company was in
19 compliance with all required financial
20 covenants.

21 The Division's Corporate Security
22 Audit section received confirmation from
23 JP Morgan Chase Bank that GLPI has the
24 ability to draw \$1,174,605,389 on their
25 revolver facility.

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1 Based on the projected cost to build
2 the new facility and the confirmation of
3 funds available under the credit
4 facility, the Division determined GLPI
5 has the necessary funding available to
6 make the capital investment in the
7 project.

8 The Corporate Securities Audit
9 section found nothing related to the
10 available financing to preclude the Board
11 from approving the project.

12 Do you have any questions?

13 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you, Trnessia.

14 I did want to note that Board Member
15 Paul West has joined us. Appreciate it.

16 At this time, I think it's a good
17 point to open it up for questions from
18 the Board.

19 MR. LAGASSE: Chairman, I guess I
20 have a question. Is this the first of --
21 anybody else made any indications that
22 other boats are going to try to move on
23 shore?

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I mean, obviously,
25 we have Isle who's in the process. There

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1 is some talk with Treasure Chest, but I
2 have not seen anything yet.

3 MR. LAGASSE: Okay. I was just
4 wondering. That's all.

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes, sir. Any other
6 questions from the Board?

7 MS. BERRY: I have a quick question.
8 When the Viking boats come in, is it just
9 for like a day or a certain number of
10 hours, or is it overnight?

11 MR. SIMMONS: The vessels will be
12 there from -- depending on the cruise.
13 But typically from 7:00 to 8:00 in the
14 morning to 22:00. So it's all day. We
15 do not go overnight, because we're
16 heading towards the next port of call.

17 MS. BERRY: Okay. Very good.

18 MR. SIMMONS: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any other questions?

20 MR. POOLE: Mike, I just have a
21 quick question about re-purposing the
22 boat that's currently there. Is that
23 anything that would stay in the State of
24 Louisiana, or would that be discarded off
25 to somebody else in another state

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1 somewhere?

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yeah. Right now, I
3 mean, we don't have any -- once -- once
4 that property is, you know, transitioned
5 to landside, I think it would be up to
6 GLPI on what they do with it. But they
7 can address it. If you have any
8 additional on that, please -- please add
9 to it.

10 MR. CARLINO: Jeannie, where are we
11 on that?

12 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Yeah, so our
13 intent --

14 MR. CARLINO: I have to ask the
15 question.

16 MS. MAGDEFRAU: So our intent would
17 be to sell the existing boat; however, I
18 will mention that some of these older
19 riverboats have been re-purposed into

20 vessels that will go up and down the
21 river. So I know that that has happened
22 with the one from Iowa. So it could
23 possibly. But we will be selling the
24 boat.

25 MR. CARLINO: It is a functioning
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1 boat. It's capable -- it's capable of
2 cruising.

3 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
5 other questions?

6 Okay. I did have a question,
7 Ms. Magdefrau. Did -- and I noticed in
8 one or two of the renderings or pictures
9 of the current property, Hollywood has
10 two or three deflexion barges placed in
11 the river just to the north of the
12 existing boat, correct?

13 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Those deflexion
14 barges were removed about a year and a
15 half ago based upon, you know, the Corps
16 of Engineers.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Right. And one of
18 the things I wanted to note is, you know,
19 back when the Riverboat Task Force was
20 considering the number of issues and
21 ultimately, in 2017, made recommendations
22 to the Legislature, part of the logic and

23 reasoning for, you know, providing or, at
24 least, proposing legislation to allow a
25 move to land was safety. And, actually,

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1 both properties -- both riverboats in
2 Baton Rouge were primary examples as to
3 the safety issues that sometimes occur on
4 that river, particularly -- you know,
5 Baton Rouge is a very high traffic
6 shipping area. Hundreds of barges a day.
7 And there have been times in the past
8 where the barges, in particularly, during
9 high water season, have broke loose, and,
10 you know, there is a concern with both --
11 I don't think Hollywood. But Belle of
12 Baton Rouge, it sticks even further out
13 to the river. And we experienced some of
14 that same in north Louisiana, and
15 Shreveport and Bossier on the Red River
16 when some very high floods over the past
17 several years, in fact, caused some to
18 temporarily shut down and/or make some
19 significant changes to their boarding.
20 So there was a safety issue that was also
21 discussed back then for moving to land.
22 So I just wanted to point that out. I
23 know we look at the economics and the
24 project itself, but safety was also
25 another concern.

1 All right. If there are no other
2 questions --

3 MS. BERRY: I have one more.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Berry, go ahead.

5 MS. BERRY: I have one more
6 question.

7 I want to congratulate y'all on this
8 beautiful presentation. And if I may
9 have missed this, my question, in your
10 presentation -- bear with me. But in
11 addition to the construction jobs that
12 will be in the process of converting to
13 the land base, is there some type of
14 estimate on how many permanent jobs would
15 be added due to the larger facility and
16 moving on the land base as opposed to
17 being on the boat? Just an estimate?

18 MS. MAGDEFRAU: Well, right now we
19 are estimating about the same amount of
20 employees, but it's going to be a shift
21 in employees. Because of the amount of
22 employees it takes to be on the boat,
23 those employees will shift more to more
24 table games, dealer positions, more food
25 and beverage positions.

1 MS. BERRY: Okay.

2 MR. CARLINO: Yeah, let me say -- I

3 think we see that as a -- as a -- as a
4 plus. As you look around the country,
5 casinos, sadly, and restaurant
6 operations, hotels are cutting employees
7 left and right, which is just a sad
8 consequence of this -- this virus. How
9 long it's going to take any company to
10 get back to full --

11 (Connection interruption.)

12 MS. MAGDEFRAU: We lost you.

13 CHAIRMAN NOEL: We lost you. I
14 think you paused for a minute.

15 MS. BERRY: Okay. I understand.
16 Even with the sports viewing and the
17 outdoor music venues and all that?

18 MS. MAGDEFRAU: That's correct.

19 MS. BERRY: Okay. All right. Thank
20 you.

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
22 other questions? All right. Then we're
23 at the point now I'd ask for a motion to
24 adopt the resolution.

25 MR. POOLE: Motion by Lamar Poole.

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1 MS. BERRY: Second by Ms. Berry.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Okay.
3 Ms. Thurman, could you read the
4 resolution into the record.

5 MS. THURMAN: On the 20th day of

6 August, 2020, the Louisiana Gaming
7 Control Board did, in a dually noticed
8 public meeting, consider the issue of
9 Louisiana Casino Cruises, Inc.'s,
10 petition for approval to relocate gaming
11 operations and for modification of
12 licensed conditions. And upon motion,
13 dually made and seconded, the Board
14 adopted this resolution.

15 Be it resolved, that Louisiana
16 Casino Cruises, Inc.'s, quest to relocate
17 its gaming operations to a newly
18 constructed facility to be included as
19 part of the approved project as defined
20 by the conditions placed on the riverboat
21 license of Louisiana Casino Cruises,
22 Inc., which are attached hereto and made
23 a part hereof and located within 1,200
24 feet of its licensed berth site all in
25 accordance with the plan and supporting

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1 documentation, submitted by the licensee
2 and all applicable law and to commence
3 gaming operations thereat upon completion
4 subject to the final inspection and
5 approval of the Division is hereby
6 approved.

7 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
8 Louisiana, this 20th day of August, 2020.

9 Mr. Avant?
10 MR. AVANT: Yes.
11 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry?
12 MS. BERRY: Yes.
13 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?
14 MR. JACKSON: Yes.
15 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse?
16 MR. LAGASSE: Yes.
17 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?
18 MS. LEWIS: Yes.
19 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?
20 MR. POOLE: Yes.
21 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Acker?
22 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Yes.
23 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?
24 MR. WEST: Yes.
25 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

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1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes.
2 Thank you. The motion carries.
3 MR. CARLINO: Let me thank you,
4 Mr. Chairman and Members of the
5 Commission. This means a great deal to
6 us, and we are very appreciative of your
7 support, so thank you.

8 VIII. VIDEO GAMING ISSUES

9 A. Consideration of Transfer of Membership
10 Interest for Galliano Properties, LLC
11 d/b/a Bayou Gold Casino - No. 2900517212

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

13 Okay. All right. We'll move onto
14 the next items, which are video gaming
15 issues.

16 First one is Consideration of
17 Transfer of Membership Interest for
18 Galliano Properties, LLC, doing business
19 as Bayou Gold Casino - No. 2900517212.

20 MS. MURRAY: Good morning, Chairman
21 Noel and Board Members. I'm Assistant
22 Attorney General Alonna Murray together
23 with Investigator Rodney Perkins present
24 before the Board in the matter of the
25 transfer of a 50 percent membership

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1 interest in Galliano Properties, LLC,
2 doing business as Bayou Gold Casino,
3 which holds a Type V license.

4 The truck stop facility is located
5 in Lafourche Parish. On December 30th of
6 2019, Eric J. Stathes sold and
7 transferred his 50 percent membership
8 interest in the licensee to Ryan J.
9 Retif.

10 As a result of the sale and
11 transfer, Ryan Retif is now the sole
12 member of the licensee. Also on
13 December 30th of 2019, the licensee
14 entered into a device placement agreement

15 with Langosta Ventures, LLC.
16 Investigator Rodney Perkins conducted an
17 investigation of the transfer of
18 membership interest, and he is here this
19 morning to report his findings to the
20 Board.

21 MR. PERKINS: Good morning. I'm
22 Rodney Perkins. I investigated the
23 transfer of membership interest that
24 occurred in the licensee and found no
25 information that would preclude continued

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1 licensing of Galliano Properties, LLC,
2 doing business as Bayou Gold Casino.

3 I also conducted an updated
4 suitability check on Ryan Retif and found
5 no information that would preclude him
6 from continuing to participate in the
7 gaming industry.

8 MS. MURRAY: The Office of the
9 Attorney General has reviewed the file
10 prepared by the Office of State Police,
11 and the information contained therein
12 would not preclude approval.

13 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
14 questions from the Board? No questions.

15 Do we have a motion to approve the
16 transfer of interest?

17 MR. AVANT: So moved, Avant.

18 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
19 Mr. Avant.

20 MS. LEWIS: Seconded by Lewis.

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you, Ms. Julie
22 Lewis.

23 MS. MURRAY: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. All in
25 favor?

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1 ("Aye" in unison.)

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any opposed?

3 Hearing no opposition, the motion carries
4 and the transfer is approved. Thank you.

5 B. Consideration of Transfer of Membership Interest
6 for Cash Magic Prospect Station, LLC d/b/a Cash
7 Magic Prospect Station - No. 5500517083

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: And the next item is
9 Consideration of Transfer of Membership
10 Interest for Cash Magic Prospect Station,
11 LLC, doing business as Cash Magic
12 Prospect Station - No. 5500517083.

13 MR. PICOU: Good morning, Chairman
14 Noel, Members of the Board. I'm
15 Assistant Attorney General Charlie Picou.
16 Also present in this matter is
17 Investigator Rodney Perkins of Louisiana
18 State Police.

19 We're here in the matter of the
20 transfer of the 100 percent of the

21 membership interest in Cash Magic
22 Prospect Station, LLC, doing business as
23 Cash Magic Prospect Station, which holds
24 a Type V video draw poker gaming license.

25 The truck stop facility is located

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1 in Terrebonne Parish, and on March 6th,
2 2019, the following transactions
3 occurred. Jacobs Entertainment, Inc.,
4 purchased 100 percent of the membership
5 interest in Cash Magic Prospect Station,
6 LLC, doing business as Cash Magic
7 Prospect Station from GameCo Holdings,
8 Inc.

9 Prospect Station, Inc., sold all of
10 its rights, title, interest and interest
11 in an immovable property and improvements
12 of the truck stop facility to Propco
13 Prospect Station, LLC. Also on that
14 date, Prospect -- Propco Prospect
15 Station, LLC, leased the immovable
16 property and improvements to Cash Magic
17 Prospect Station, LLC.

18 Jacobs Entertainment, Inc., is a
19 sole member of the licensee. Jacobs
20 Investment, Inc., owns 100 percent of
21 Jacobs Entertainment, Inc. The ownership
22 interest of Jacobs Investment, Inc., is
23 as follows: Jacobs Family Economic Trust

24 owns 39.83 percent, Jeffrey P. Jacobs

25 owns 37.21 percent, Jeffrey P. Jacobs

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1 Family 2012 Irrevocable Trust owns
2 13.91 percent, and Jacobs Family Control
3 Trust owns 9.05 percent.

4 The Division conducted an
5 investigation into the transfer and as
6 well as all the associated parties.
7 Investigator Rodney Perkins will now
8 present the Division's findings to the
9 Board.

10 MR. PERKINS: The investigation in
11 the transfer that occurred in the
12 licensee found no information that would
13 preclude the continued licensing of Cash
14 Magic Prospect Station, LLC, doing
15 business as Cash Magic Prospect Station.

16 I also conducted updated suability checks
17 on Jeffrey P. Jacobs, Clara L. Jacobs,
18 Caroline M. Jacobs, Renee E. Jacobs,
19 Anna R. Jacobs, Jeffrey Vonglodfelter,
20 Thomas E. Hamilton, Stanley R. Gorom,
21 III, Brett A. Kramer, Stan W. Guidroz,
22 Stephen R. Roark, Scott J. Zeringue,
23 Hernan F. Castro, Justin T. Wood,
24 William H. Stevens, John R. East, Jr.,
25 Chad M. Cowell, Kenneth W. Williams,

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1 Renita Hutchinson, and Richard D. Jacobs,
2 and found no information that would
3 preclude them from continuing to
4 participate in the Gaming Industry.

5 MR. PICOU: The Office of the
6 Attorney General has reviewed the file
7 compiled by Louisiana State Police. Our
8 review indicates that no information has
9 been found that would preclude approval
10 or continued participation in the Gaming
11 Industry of the licensee.

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Any
13 questions from the Board on this matter?

14 No questions. And do we have a
15 motion to approve the transfer of
16 interest?

17 MR. JACKSON: Jackson, motion to
18 approve.

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Jackson, thank
20 you. Second?

21 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Franchesca
22 Hamilton-Acker, second.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you,
24 Ms. Hamilton-Acker.

25 All in favor, say "Aye."

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1 ("Aye" in unison.)

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any opposed? No
3 opposition. The motion carries, and the

4 transfer is approved. Thank you.

5 MR. PICOU: Thank you.

6 IX. ADJOURNMENT

7 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Real quick before we
8 move to adjournment, I just want to note,
9 hopefully next month we'll try to do an
10 in-person meeting. But, again, we'll
11 keep monitoring the situation with
12 COVID 19.

13 I also plan to have an update for
14 the Board on the current operations of
15 the casinos and employment status to see
16 where we're at at that point in time. So
17 having said that, I would entertain a
18 motion to adjourn.

19 MR. LAGASSE: So moved.

20 MS. BERRY: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Lagasse and seconded
22 by Ms. Berry.

23 All in favor?

24 ("Aye" in unison.)

25 CHAIRMAN NOEL: With no opposition,

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1 the motion carries. We stand adjourned.

2 Thank you.

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4 (CONCLUDED AT 11:12 A.M.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I, Brittany E. Vidrine, Certified Court Reporter and
3 Registered Professional Reporter in and for the State of
Louisiana, and as the officer before whom this testimony was
4 taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings of
the Public Hearing for the Louisiana Gaming Control Board in
5 compliance with Act 454 transpired as hereinabove set forth
in the foregoing 78 pages.

6

7 I further certify that said proceeding was reported by me in
the Stenotype reporting method, was prepared and transcribed
8 by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is
a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and
9 understanding.

10

I further certify that the transcript has been prepared in
11 compliance with transcript format guidelines required by
statute or by rules of the board, that I have acted in
12 compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships
as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, Article
13 1434, and in rules and advisory opinions of the board.

14

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

17

18 This certificate is valid only for this transcript
accompanied by my original signature and original required
19 seal on this page.

20

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 15th day of September, 2020.

21

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BRITTANY E. VIDRINE, CCR, RPR

NCRA NO. 963689

25

LA CCR No. 2014025