

# **LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD**

## **Minutes of February 20, 2025**

The meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board (the “Board”) convened on Thursday, February 20, 2025, 10:00 a.m., at the Louisiana State Capitol – House Committee Room 1. Present at the meeting were Chairman Christopher Hebert, Vice-Chairman Lamar Poole, Kathryn Becnel, Claude Jackson, Julie Lewis, Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Ronald Sholes, and Ashley Traylor. Major Adam Albright was present for Col. Robert Hodges and Jarrod Coniglio was present for Sec. Richard Nelson. Absent were Nicholas Langley and ex officio members Col. Hodges and Sec. Nelson.

Chairman Hebert called the meeting to order. There was no public comment. It was moved by Ms. Becnel to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025 Regular Board meeting and the February 3, 2025 Special Board meeting. That motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton-Acker 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.

Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, presented procurement and employment compliance reports for riverboats and slots at the racetracks for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2024.

The Board considered the Application of Caesars Entertainment, Inc. for Shelf Approval of Debt Transactions. After presentation by Quintele Jackson, Assistant Attorney General, and Tammy Haupt, LSP Gaming Audit Section, it was moved by Mr. Sholes to adopt the resolution. That motion was seconded by Ms. Becnel and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Petition to Amend License Conditions for Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P. d/b/a Horseshoe Bossier City – No. R010800198. A presentation was given by Attorney Jeff Barbin, Whitney Willingham, General Manager and Senior Vice-President of the licensee, and Cathryn Gits, Assistant Attorney General. After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Sholes to adopt the

resolution. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Renewal Application for the Riverboat Gaming License of St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC d/b/a Horseshoe Lake Charles – No. R011700174. Present on behalf of the licensee were Attorney Jeff Barbin and General Manager Russel Deaver. Presentations were made by Amy Pirtle, Assistant Attorney General; Tammy Haupt, LSP Gaming Audit Section; Criminal Investigator Rodney Perkins, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division; and representatives from the licensee. After discussion, it was moved by Vice-Chairman Poole to approve the five-year renewal of the riverboat gaming license. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and approved by the Board with a vote of 6 yeas/1 nay.

The Board considered the Renewal Application for the Riverboat Gaming License of Belle of Orleans, LLC d/b/a Amelia Belle Casino – No. R013600020. Present on behalf of the licensee were Attorney Janet Boles, General Manager Michael Couch, and Senior Regional Vice-President Vincent Schwartz with Boyd Gaming. Presentations were made by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General; Lisa Hotard, LSP Gaming Audit Section; Criminal Investigator Rodney Perkins, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division; and representatives from the licensee. After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Traylor to approve the five-year renewal of the riverboat gaming license. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the Renewal Application for the Riverboat Gaming License of Louisiana – I Gaming, a Louisiana Partnership in Commendam d/b/a Boomtown New Orleans – No. R012600196. Present on behalf of the licensee were Attorney Michael West, Vice-President of Legal Strategy & Business Affairs at PENN Entertainment, Inc., and General Manager Kathryn Jenkins. Presentations were made by Benjamin Westra, Assistant Attorney General; Lisa Hotard, LSP Gaming Audit Section; Master Trooper Brian Jefferson, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division; and representatives from the licensee. After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Lewis to approve the five-year renewal of the riverboat gaming license. That motion was seconded by Ms. Traylor and approved by the Board with a vote of 6 yeas/1 nay.

The Board considered the Petition of Ben Nelson Golf & Utility Vehicles, LLC for approval of Northcreek Mezzanine Fund III, L.P. to qualify as an Institutional Investor – No. P086503387. Attorney Kelly Duncan was present on behalf of Ben Nelson Golf & Utility Vehicles, LLC and Adam Gates was present

on behalf of Northcreek Mezzanine Fund III, L.P. After presentations by Talibah McIntyre, Assistant Attorney General; Master Trooper Brian Jefferson, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division; and the petitioners, it was moved by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to adopt the resolution. That motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Poole and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the transfer of membership interest in WY Properties, LLC d/b/a Logansport Truck Stop & Casino – No. 1601517239. After presentation by Andrea Nathan, Assistant Attorney General, and Investigator William Landry, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to approve the transfer of membership interest. That motion was seconded by Ms. Traylor and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered the transfer of membership interest in United Ventures Unlimited, LLC d/b/a Flashback Casino – No. 0900517347. After presentation by Andrea Nathan, Assistant Attorney General, and Investigator Glenn Verrett, LSP Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to approve the transfer of membership interest. That motion was seconded by Ms. Becnel and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board then considered the settlement of Coffee & Norco, LLC d/b/a Coffee & – No. 4500218318. After presentation by Amy Pirtle, Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Becnel moved to approve the settlement. That motion was seconded by Mr. Sholes and unanimously approved by the Board.

Lastly, the Board considered the appeal of Joachima M. Budwine – No. P040064392. After presentation by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Jackson moved to remand the matter back to the Hearing Officer for consideration of new evidence. That motion was seconded by Mr. Sholes. There being no opposition, the matter was remanded.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded by Ms. Traylor and unanimously approved by the Board.