

August 19, 2021, LGCB Meeting, (Pages 1:1 to 110:25)

1:1 LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

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6 THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021

7

8

9 LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL

10 HOUSE COMMITTEE ROOM 4

11 900 NORTH 3RD STREET

12 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

13

14

15

16 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

17

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19

20

21

22

23

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2

1 APPEARANCES

2 CHAIRMAN RONNIE S. JOHNS

Chairman

3 (At-Large)

June 30, 2025

4

VICE-CHAIRMAN JULIE BERRY

5 (CPA)

Third Congressional District

6 June 30, 2024

7 ASHLEY A. TRAYLOR

(At-Large)

8 First Congressional District

June 30, 2027

9

RONALD J. SHOLES

10 (Public/Business Administration)

Second Congressional District

11 June 30, 2026

12 FRANCESCA HAMILTON-ACKER

(Attorney)

13 Third Congressional District

June 30, 2026

14

HARRY AVANT

15 (At-Large)

Fourth Congressional District

16 June 30, 2024

17 CLAUDE D. JACKSON

(At-Large)

18 Fourth Congressional District

June 30, 2027

19

JULIE A. LEWIS

20 (Investigative and Law Enforcement)

Fifth Congressional District

21 June 30, 2024

22 O. LAMAR POOLE, JR.

(Economic/Community Planner)

23 Sixth Congressional District

June 30, 2025

24

25

3

1 APPEARANCES (CONTINUED)

2 NATALIE THURMAN

Principal Assistant

3

KEVIN RICHARD

4 Department of Revenue

5 MAJOR CHUCK McNEIL

Louisiana State Police

6

7 REPORTED BY:

8 KARLA H. MAYERS, CCR

Baton Rouge Court Reporters, LLC

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1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Well, good morning, everyone.

4 Welcome to the August 19, 2021, Louisiana

5 Gaming Control Board meeting. Thank you.



6 First, let's call the meeting to order. And,  
7 Ms. Thurman, would you please call the roll,  
8 please?

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Chairman Johns?

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Here.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Mr. Avant?

15 MR. AVANT:

16 Here.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Ms. Berry?

19 MS. BERRY:

20 Here.

21 MS. THURMAN:

22 Mr. Jackson?

23 MR. JACKSON:

24 Here.

25 MS. THURMAN:

8

1 Ms. Lewis?

2 MS. LEWIS:

3 Here.

4 MS. THURMAN:

5 Mr. Poole?

6 MR. POOLE:

7 Here.

8 MS. THURMAN:

9 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

10 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

11 Present.

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Mr. Sholes?

14 MR. SHOLES:

15 Here.

16 MS. THURMAN:

17 Ms. Traylor?

18 MS. TRAYLOR:

19 Here.

20 MS. THURMAN:

21 Colonel Davis?

22 MAJOR McNEIL:

23 Major McNeil for Colonel Davis.

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 And Secretary Lewis?

9

1 MR. RICHARD:

2 Kevin Richard for Secretary Lewis.

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 We have a quorum.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Thank you. We have a quorum. And

7 good morning, everyone. I look out in the

8 audience today. I want to thank everyone here for

9 having a mask on. We are under a mask mandate,

10 and -- but I greatly appreciate your cooperation

11 with that.

12 As you come to the witness table,  
13 you're -- you're surely welcome to remove your  
14 mask as you speak into the microphone, and that's  
15 strictly up to you; so -- but, we will do that.  
16 But thank you for adhering to those rules, unlike  
17 a couple of other meetings that happened here in  
18 Baton Rouge the last few days. So thank you very,  
19 very much.

20 I guess the first order of business  
21 is for me to introduce myself. This is my first  
22 meeting as chairman. I'm Ronnie Johns. I know a  
23 lot of faces out in the audience this morning, and  
24 I'm meeting a lot of new people. So as I tell  
25 people, I'm drinking through about three fire

10

1 hoses right now trying to learn names and faces  
2 and procedures of the -- of the gaming Control  
3 Board.

4 But I live in Calcasieu Parish. I  
5 live, actually, in Sulphur, Louisiana. I'm a  
6 retired agent with State Farm Insurance of  
7 39 years, and I'm a recovering legislator. So I  
8 spent -- spent actually 22 years in the  
9 Legislature, 12 in the House of Representatives.  
10 I sat out for four years. I actually served as  
11 Chairman of the Lottery Board during that -- that  
12 period that I was out of the Legislature. And in  
13 2012, I came to the Senate and, of course,  
14 resigned a few weeks ago to take this position.

15           So I look forward to working with  
16 everyone. We have a very open-door policy in my  
17 office. We want to hear from you. We want to  
18 work with you. So thank you very much, and we  
19 greatly appreciate that.

20           I guess you'll notice, and you've  
21 probably been here and you've heard that  
22 Ms. Trudy Smith, who had been with the Board for,  
23 I think, around 25 years, retired a few weeks ago.  
24 And I want to publicly thank Trudy for her many  
25 years of service to the Board, to the industry, to

11

1 the State of Louisiana. She -- she brought just  
2 an incredible amount of knowledge and passion to  
3 her work. And during my tenure in the senate, I  
4 actually worked with her a number -- a number of  
5 times. So I want to thank Trudy for her service.

6           And so, I guess, the big question out  
7 there is who is going to take Trudy's place.  
8 Well, the lady to my right and your left down at  
9 the corner down here is Ms. Heather Hood. Heather  
10 will be starting with us, hopefully, next week at  
11 the board level. She has Gaming experience. She  
12 was in the AG's Office, Division of Gaming, for a  
13 number of years, left there and went to the  
14 Department of Corrections, and I stole her from  
15 Secretary LeBlanc but with his blessing.

16           So Heather, thank you. Welcome  
17 aboard. We look forward to working with you, and

18 I know that you are going to meet and get to work  
19 with a lot of these people out here in the  
20 audience; so --

21 MS. HOOD:

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 -- so thank you. To the board  
25 members, I look forward to working with you, and

12

1 we're -- I think we've -- I've gotten to know --  
2 I've gotten to meet everybody at least, and we'll  
3 get to know each other a lot better. So thank  
4 y'all for -- for being here and for the giving of  
5 your time away from your business and your  
6 families, too, to serve on this very, very  
7 important committee.

8 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. We will now take public  
11 comments, if anyone would like to come to the  
12 table and do a public comment this morning. As  
13 you know, the rules of this committee are that we  
14 do not allow public comments as we go through  
15 individual agenda items; so if there's anything  
16 that you would like to have a public comment to  
17 this Board, now is the time to do it. So  
18 Mr. Wade Duty is at the table. And, Wade, good  
19 morning.

20 MR. DUTY:

21 Good morning, Mr. Chairman and  
22 Committee Members. Wade Duty, Executive Director  
23 of the Louisiana Casino Association. My comments  
24 are mercifully brief; so don't panic yet.

25 You'll be asked later this morning to

13

1 consider a body of emergency rules which are  
2 necessary to implement sports wagering. This is a  
3 significant launch for Louisiana gaming. These  
4 are emergency rules. They are not perfect. And  
5 there will be a process whereby permanent rules  
6 will be set in motion. And for the narrow issues  
7 that still remain concerning the industry, we hope  
8 to revisit those during the permanent rule  
9 promulgation process. But we believe these rules  
10 are workable and well within the confines of  
11 statute, and we would encourage your adoption of  
12 them.

13 And, most importantly, I would  
14 sincerely like to thank the efforts of the two  
15 primary agencies -- well, actually, three primary  
16 agencies involved in this process, the staff of  
17 the Gaming Control Board, as the Chairman has  
18 already alluded to, Trudy Smith, now not with us  
19 but certainly had a hand in the initial phases of  
20 this; the Attorney General's Office, through its  
21 Director Chris Hebert and its Deputy Director  
22 Dawn Himel, worked tirelessly on these rules and,  
23 in a very tight, compressed timeline, produced a

24 workable set of product that can get us where we  
25 need to go; and, lastly, Louisiana State Police

14

1 through Major McNeil and Sergeant Lee Lynn. This  
2 is the finest I've ever seen these agencies work  
3 together and with industry in the 20 years I've  
4 been in this position. So, again, thank you for  
5 your work, and we encourage your adoption. Thank  
6 you.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Thank you, Mr. Duty. We greatly  
9 appreciate you and -- and your work with the  
10 association. Any other public comments at this  
11 time?

12 (NO RESPONSE)

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay. Hearing none, we will move  
15 forward with the agenda.

16 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 We have the approval of the minutes  
19 from the July 15, 2021, meeting. I'd like to ask  
20 for a motion that we waive the reading and approve  
21 those minutes. Do I --

22 MS. BERRY:

23 (Indicating)

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Ms. Berry. I have a motion from

15

1 Ms. Berry.

2 MR. SHOLES:

3 Second.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 And from Judge Sholes I have a  
6 second. Is there any objection to that  
7 motion?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Hearing none, the minutes are  
11 approved.

12 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay. Item No. 4 on the agenda is  
15 going to be our revenue reports. And is that  
16 State Police that does this, I think? Okay.

17 MS. THURMAN:

18 Yes, sir, Donna Jackson.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Good morning.

21 MS. JACKSON:

22 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board  
23 Members. My name is Donna Jackson with Louisiana  
24 State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16

1 Good morning, Donna.

2 MS. JACKSON:

3 During July -- oh, I have included in



4 your folders, if you want to follow along with my  
5 script, and I cross-referenced the numbers with --  
6 with the report itself; so it may be easier to  
7 follow.

8           During -- during July, the 13  
9 operating riverboats generated adjusted gross  
10 receipts of \$163,871,722. The state collected  
11 fees totaling \$35,232,420.

12           On page 2, you will see the riverboat  
13 revenue broken down by regional market. The  
14 overall decrease from June was \$2 million, or  
15 1.3 percent. Compared to last July, when  
16 licensees were operating under Phase 2  
17 restrictions, this month's revenues represent an  
18 increase of almost \$27 million, or 19.6 percent.

19           Next is a summary of the July 2021  
20 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans, found on  
21 page 3. Harrah's generated \$25,738,380 in gross  
22 gaming revenue during July. These revenues  
23 represent an increase from last month of  
24 approximately \$1 million, or 4.7 percent, and an  
25 increase of \$12.7 million from the same month last

17

1 year. During July, the State received \$5,095,890  
2 in minimum daily payments.

3           Next I will present the revenues for  
4 slots at the racetracks, found on page 4. During  
5 July, the four racetrack facilities combined  
6 generated adjusted gross receipts of \$32,378,139,

7 an increase of \$1.5 million, or 4.8 percent, from  
8 June 2021 and an increase of \$4.7 million, or  
9 17 percent when compared to July 2020. During  
10 July, the State collected \$4.9 million in fees.

11 I will now move to the video gaming  
12 information. There are currently 12,561 video  
13 gaming devices activated at 1,532 locations. Net  
14 device revenue for July 2021 was \$73,946,556, an  
15 increase of .7 percent when compared to June 2021,  
16 and an increase of \$11.3 million, or 18 percent,  
17 when compared to last July. Total franchise fees  
18 collected during July 2021 were \$22.3 million, a  
19 slight increase when compared to June 2021 and an  
20 increase of \$3.2 million when compared to  
21 July 2020.

22 I've included an additional  
23 tri-colored chart in your folders which shows a  
24 three-year comparison of admissions, revenues, and  
25 state fees to show how this July compares to the

18

1 year prior to COVID-19. As you can see,  
2 admissions for the three casino venues are down a  
3 total of 21 percent from July 2019. Revenues for  
4 all four types of gaming combined in July 2021  
5 totaled approximately \$296 million, up 17 percent  
6 from 2019, while fees are up 18 percent.

7 Are there any questions?

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Are there any questions from the

10 Board?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Ms. Jackson, I have no questions.

14 Thank you for this very detailed report, and,

15 hopefully, as we move through this new surge of

16 COVID that -- hopefully, there's not going to be a

17 huge impact. We hope not, but --

18 MS. JACKSON:

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 -- we're certainly watching it.

22 MS. JACKSON:

23 Yes, sir. Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Thank you very much.

19

1 MS. JACKSON:

2 You're welcome.

3 V. COMPLIANCE REPORTS

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Okay. Next, we have our compliance

6 reports as we move forward. Good morning.

7 MS. MURRAY:

8 Good morning, Chairman Johns and

9 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General

10 Alonna Murray. Today I'll present the staff

11 reports on riverboat and racetrack casino

12 licensees' -- excuse me -- compliance with the

13 employment and procurement conditions for the  
14 second quarter of 2021.

15 I'll begin with riverboats. These reports  
16 are taken from figures reported by the 15  
17 operating riverboats to the Louisiana Gaming  
18 Control Board. In the second quarter of 2021,  
19 approximately 8,417 people were employed by the  
20 riverboat industry. Of that number, 8,232 were  
21 Louisiana residents, 4,917 were minorities, and  
22 4,526 were women.

23 Next, I'll address employment. Twelve  
24 licensees did not meet their total employment  
25 goals, and they are DiamondJacks Casino & Resort,

20

1 which achieved 38 out of a goal of 650; Sam's Town  
2 Hotel & Casino, which achieved 362 out of a goal  
3 of 700; L'Auberge Baton Rouge, which achieved 635  
4 out of a goal of 800; Horseshoe Casino & Hotel  
5 which achieved 657 out of a goal of 1,000;  
6 Boomtown New Orleans, which achieved 408 out of a  
7 goal of 555; Belle of Baton Rouge Casino, which  
8 achieved 155 out of a goal of 450; Treasure Chest  
9 Casino, which achieved 309 out of a goal of 500;  
10 Hollywood Casino, which achieved 288 out of a goal  
11 of 450; Amelia Belle which achieved 156 out of a  
12 goal of 325; Isle of Capri Hotel -- Casino &  
13 Hotel, which achieved 500 out of a goal of 650;  
14 Boomtown Casino Bossier, which achieved 276 out of  
15 a goal of 650; and Eldorado Resort Casino, which

16 achieved 642 out of a goal of 950.

17 All licensees, except for Treasure  
18 Chest Casino and L'Auberge Casino Lake Charles  
19 either met or exceeded their goals in all of the  
20 subcategories under the main category of  
21 employment. Forty-five percent of Treasure Chest  
22 Casino's employees were women, and they have a  
23 goal of 51.86 percent; and 49.8 of L'Auberge  
24 Casino Lake Charles' employees were women, and  
25 they have a 51.86 percent goal.

21

1 Next, I'll address procurement. The  
2 licensees are grouped according to three  
3 subcategories, which appear in your report. Those  
4 subcategories are Louisiana, minority, and female  
5 procurement. Under Louisiana procurement, five  
6 licensees did not achieve compliance with its  
7 voluntary conditions, and those licensees are  
8 Treasure Chest Casino, which achieved 61.2 out of  
9 a goal of 75 percent; Hollywood Casino, which  
10 achieved 77.3 out of a goal of 80 percent; Amelia  
11 Belle Casino, which achieved 55 percent out of a  
12 goal of 80 percent; Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel  
13 achieved 48.9 percent out of a goal of 60 percent;  
14 and Margarita Resort -- Margaritaville Resort  
15 Casino achieved 85.5 percent out of a goal of  
16 90 percent.

17 Under the subcategory of minority  
18 procurement, seven licensees did not achieve

19 compliance with its voluntary conditions, and  
20 those licensees are DiamondJacks Casino, which  
21 achieved 0 percent out of a goal of 10 percent;  
22 Sam's Town Hotel & Casino, which achieved  
23 8 percent out of a goal of 25 percent; L'Auberge  
24 Casino Baton Rouge, which achieved 9.9 percent out  
25 of a goal of 10 percent; Horseshoe Casino Hotel,

22

1 which achieved 13.2 percent out of a goal of  
2 35 percent; Treasure Chest Casino, which achieved  
3 10.1 percent out of a goal of 15 percent; Amelia  
4 Belle Casino, which achieved 18.6 percent out of a  
5 goal of 30 percent; and Isle of Capri Casino  
6 Hotel, which achieved 0.5 percent out of a goal of  
7 10 percent.

8 Under of the subcategory of female  
9 procurement three licensees did not achieve  
10 compliance with its voluntary conditions, and  
11 those licensees are Horseshoe Casino Hotel, which  
12 achieved 19.4 percent out of a goal of  
13 35 percent, Boomtown New Orleans, which achieved  
14 12.9 percent out of a goal of 15 percent. And  
15 Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel, which achieved  
16 2.8 percent out of a goal of 10 percent. Are  
17 there any questions regarding the riverboats?

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Any questions from the Board?

20 Okay. Ms. Hamilton-Acker, please.

21 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

22 Has there been any explanation  
23 provided with regards to those casinos who have  
24 relatively low goals and who have basically not  
25 met it by a very low percentage, specifically

23

1 focusing on the zero percents?

2 MS. MURRAY:

3 Zero percent was held by --

4 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

5 DiamondJacks --

6 MS. MURRAY:

7 -- DiamondJacks.

8 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

9 -- Casino & Resort.

10 MS. MURRAY:

11 Yes. So minority procurement was not  
12 met due to very limited spending during this  
13 period, as the property was closed during the  
14 entire second quarter, and their employment goals  
15 were not met because of COVID-19. That was the  
16 explanation provided to me.

17 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

18 Thank you.

19 MS. MURRAY:

20 You're welcome.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Thank you. Thank you,  
23 Ms. Hamilton-Acker. Any other questions?

24 (NO RESPONSE)

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24

1 Let me just say this: In the course  
2 of the next couple of months, I hope to be  
3 visiting every property in the state. And one of  
4 the things that we do want to discuss as we -- as  
5 we make those visits are these -- these goals. I  
6 can tell you, having served in the -- in the  
7 Legislature, there -- these items right here are  
8 questioned a lot. And so we'll -- we'll just be  
9 visiting with them and -- with them and let them  
10 give us the explanations.

11 I do know, like, the Isle of Capri  
12 has been, you know, closed. DiamondJacks is  
13 closed. COVID is taking a huge hit. Just finding  
14 somebody to work these days has become just a real  
15 challenge just in every aspect of the -- of the  
16 business world. But we will be addressing these  
17 goals. So that's -- that's one of my priorities.  
18 Okay. Okay. Thank you.

19 MS. MURRAY:

20 One more section.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 One more. Okay.

23 MS. MURRAY:

24 Now we're going to the racetracks.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25

1 Oh, yeah. Okay.



2 MS. MURRAY:

3 In the second quarter of 2021,  
4 approximately 1,045 people were employed by the  
5 racetrack casino industry. Of that number, 856  
6 were Louisiana residents, 505 were minorities, and  
7 579 were women. Two racetrack casinos achieved  
8 total compliance this quarter, and they were  
9 Evangeline Downs and Fairgrounds. Delta Downs did  
10 not achieve its Louisiana employment condition.  
11 It achieved 57.2 percent out of the 80 percent  
12 condition, and Louisiana Downs did not achieve its  
13 female employment condition. It achieved 53.9  
14 percent out of the 60 percent condition. And are  
15 there any questions regarding the racetracks?

16 (NO RESPONSE)

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Okay. I see no questions from the --  
19 from the Board.

20 MS. MURRAY:

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Okay. Thank you very much. I  
24 appreciate the really good report.

25 VI. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

26

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. Next, we will move on into the  
3 casino gaming issues. First on the agenda will be  
4 the consideration of Certificate of Compliance

5 concerning the Riverboat Inspection of Catfish  
6 Queen Partnership. Good morning, gentlemen.

7 MR. LEWIS:

8 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
9 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
10 Kanick Lewis, Jr., and with me is Mr. John Francic  
11 of ABSG Consulting. We are here in the matter of  
12 the issuance of a fourth temporary Certificate of  
13 Compliance for Catfish Queen Partnership in  
14 Commendam doing business as the Belle of  
15 Baton Rouge Casino.

16 On March 2, 2021, ABSG began the  
17 initial inspection process for the approval of  
18 Belle of Baton Rouge Casino's annual Certificate  
19 of Compliance. The Board granted a temporary  
20 Certificate of Compliance to the Belle of  
21 Baton Rouge on May 17, a second on June 17, and a  
22 third on July 15, 2021, to give the licensee  
23 additional time to resolve its fire sprinkler pump  
24 discrepancy.

25 The Belle is now requesting an

27

1 additional 30 days to resolve the discrepancy  
2 which remains outstanding. Mr. Francic will now  
3 provide details on the status of the discrepancy  
4 and ABSG's recommendation regarding the issuance  
5 of the fourth temporary Certificate of Compliance  
6 to the licensee.

7 MR. FRANCIC:

8 Good morning, Chairman. Welcome  
9 aboard.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Good morning.

12 MR. FRANCIC:

13 Good morning, Board Members. I'm  
14 John Francic with ABSG Consulting, here to  
15 report -- give you an update on the status of the  
16 Belle of Baton Rouge. Just for your information,  
17 Chairman, I'll kind of just recap where we were to  
18 date on this. As the -- the certificate of  
19 Compliance was -- was going to be issued in May  
20 when it expired, the inspectors discovered, during  
21 their annual servicing report, that their fire  
22 sprinkler pump was not operating to full capacity.  
23 So it was operating at 90 percent.

24 And at first, they thought it was an  
25 obstruction in the sea chest; so they were going

28

1 to get divers down there to clear the sea chest,  
2 but it took a while to put the divers in the water  
3 because the currents were too strong to put the  
4 divers in. So they waited till a safe condition,  
5 and that happened sometime in June. And it was --  
6 there was nothing there obstructing it.

7 So they decided to -- well, we've got  
8 to rebuild the fire sprinkler pump. So those two  
9 options there was to rebuild it or purchase a new  
10 one. And it was decided that it was quicker to

11 rebuild the pump instead of just buying a brand  
12 new pump.

13           So right now, they're just waiting on  
14 parts for the fire sprinkler pump, and that's  
15 where the status is right now. They're still  
16 waiting on it. And due to COVID situations,  
17 pump parts, it's not easy to come by. They have  
18 to special order these.

19           And just to let you know, the pump  
20 itself, if it should fail or not, you know,  
21 operate at full capacity like it's doing right  
22 now, they have means of cross-connecting another  
23 pump into the system to supplement that fire pump  
24 in case it doesn't, you know --

25           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

29

1           So that safety issue is pretty much  
2 addressed --

3           MR. FRANCIC:

4           Correct.

5           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6           -- from that -- for that aspect? And  
7 not being able to get parts is not uncommon right  
8 now for any business so . . .

9           Okay. Are there any -- anything  
10 further?

11          MR. LEWIS:

12          Yes. Is there anything --

13          MR. FRANCIC:

14 No. We recommend that, you know,  
15 another 30 days be given to the Belle of Baton --

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Okay.

18 MR. FRANCIC:

19 -- Baton Rouge.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 All right.

22 MR. LEWIS:

23 And we now present these findings to  
24 the Board and request that upon the Board  
25 accepting the recommendations submitted by ABSG,

30

1 you will move for the issuance of a temporary  
2 Certificate of Compliance to the licensee, which  
3 will expire on September 30, 2021. And should you  
4 have any questions for the licensee,  
5 Captain Danny Jones and Ms. Nathalie Guillory are  
6 present, should you have any questions.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay. Are there any questions from  
9 the board? Okay.

10 MR. SHOLES:

11 Has the Fire Marshal weighed in on  
12 this?

13 MR. FRANCIC:

14 No. That's -- that's the reason for  
15 our inspection, because we're the ones that do the  
16 overall inspections of the boat.

17 MR. SHOLES:

18 All right.

19 MR. FRANCIC:

20 The Fire Marshal will not be involved

21 with that.

22 MR. SHOLES:

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Anything --

31

1 MR. AVANT:

2 You're talking about one pump?

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Let me turn you on, Mr. Avant. There

5 you go.

6 MR. AVANT:

7 We're talking about one pump. Right?

8 MR. FRANCIC:

9 Correct.

10 MR. AVANT:

11 One single pump?

12 MR. FRANCIC:

13 One single pump, yes.

14 MR. AVANT:

15 And it's 90 percent, and you can

16 measure that accurately?

17 MR. FRANCIC:

18 Well, the servicing company that does

19 that, they do -- that's what their job is, to --

20 when they're annually servicing the sprinkler  
21 system on board. And when they test the fire  
22 sprinkler pump, and if it doesn't operate to full  
23 capacity, yeah, they can -- they can know how --  
24 how that capacity is being measured, yes.

25 MR. AVANT:

32

1 So tying in this additional pump, is  
2 that something you can do in five minutes when the  
3 fire starts, or is that something -- you've got to  
4 get a crew, and it takes half a day?

5 MR. FRANCIC:

6 No. It doesn't take that long. It's  
7 a matter of -- and Captain Danny can correct me if  
8 I'm wrong. It's a matter of just turning another  
9 pump on and opening up a couple of valves in that  
10 system to do that.

11 MR. AVANT:

12 Okay.

13 MR. FRANCIC:

14 So it shouldn't take no more than  
15 five, ten minutes at the most.

16 MR. AVANT:

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Thank you, Mr. Avant. Any other  
20 questions from the Board?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Okay. I have no further questions.  
24 Chair would entertain a motion that we issue a  
25 temporary Certificate of Compliance that would

33

1 expire on September 30, 2021.

2 Ms. Hamilton-Acker --

3 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

4 I'll make the motion.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 -- makes the motion.

7 MR. AVANT:

8 (Indicating)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Mr. Avant, seconds that motion. Is

11 there any objection to that motion?

12 (NO RESPONSE)

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Hearing none, that motion is passed.

15 So thank you, gentlemen. Appreciate your time and

16 look forward to working with you.

17 MR. LEWIS:

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Next on the agenda,

21 Certificate of Compliance on the River --

22 Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming

23 vessel PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership doing

24 business as L'Auberge Casino & Hotel in

25 Baton Rouge. So, gentlemen?



1 MS. MURRAY:

2 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
3 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
4 Alonna Murray, and with me is Mr. John Francic of  
5 ABSG Consulting. We are here in the matter of the  
6 issuance of the annual Certificate of Compliance  
7 to PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership doing business as  
8 L'Auberge Baton Rouge.

9 On July 28, 2021, ABSG began the  
10 inspection process for the approval of L'Auberge  
11 Baton Rouge's annual Certificate of Compliance,  
12 and Mr. Francic will now provide the details of  
13 ABSG's inspection.

14 MR. FRANCIC:

15 Good morning, Chairman, --

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Yes, sir.

18 MR. FRANCIC:

19 -- Board Members. John Francic with  
20 ABSG Consulting, here to report the annual  
21 certification for L'Auberge Baton Rouge Casino.  
22 The inspectors Pete Bullard and Jeff Boyle did  
23 attend, on July 28, L'Auberge Baton Rouge Casino  
24 to conduct the annual inspection in accordance  
25 with the State of Louisiana Alternative Inspection

1 Program.

2 The inspectors reviewed fire pump

3 protection measures, life saving equipment, egress  
4 routes, ballast system, and conducted a fire  
5 drill. There were a few deficiencies that were  
6 corrected during the course of the inspection and  
7 were found satisfactory. The 2021 annual survey  
8 as required by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board  
9 is complete, and the recommendation of  
10 ABSG Consulting is that L'Auberge Baton Rouge  
11 Casino be issued a Certificate of Compliance.

12 MS. MURRAY:

13 We now present these findings to the  
14 Board and request that, upon the Board accepting  
15 the report submitted by ABSG, you will move for  
16 the issuance of PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership  
17 doing business as L'Auberge Baton Rouge's annual  
18 Certificate of Compliance, which expires on  
19 August 31, 2022.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay. So as I understand the report,  
22 no -- no compliance issues whatsoever?

23 MR. FRANCIC:

24 No, Chairman.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

36

1 All right.

2 MR. FRANCIC:

3 Everything is good.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 That's good. Any questions from the

6 Board?

7 (NO RESPONSE)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Hearing none, I entertain a motion

10 that we issue a temporary Certificate of

11 Compliance that would expire on August 31, 2022.

12 Do I have a motion?

13 MS. LEWIS:

14 (Indicating)

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Ms. Lewis?

17 MS. LEWIS:

18 Yes, sir.

19 MR. JACKSON:

20 (Indicating)

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 And --

23 MS. BERRY:

24 Jackson.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

37

1 Excuse me. I'm learning names here

2 so . . .

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 Mr. Jackson.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 And seconded by Mr. Jackson. Is

7 there any objection?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Hearing none, that motion passes.

11 Thank you very much again. Okay. Next on the  
12 agenda will be the consideration of Certificate of  
13 Compliance on the Riverboat Inspection, Louisiana  
14 Casino Cruises doing business as Hollywood Casino  
15 Baton Rouge

16 MR. PICOU:

17 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Members  
18 of the Board. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
19 Charlie Picou. With me is Mr. John Francic of  
20 ABSG Consulting. We're here today in the matter  
21 of the issuance of the annual Certificate of  
22 Compliance to Louisiana Casino Cruises, Inc. doing  
23 business as Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge.

24 On June 22, 2021, ABSG Consulting  
25 began the annual inspection process for the

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1 Certificate of Compliance for Hollywood Casino.  
2 Mr. John Francic is -- will now present his  
3 findings to the board -- ABSG's findings to the  
4 Board.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Thank you, Mr. Picou.

7 MR. FRANCIC:

8 Good morning, Chairman, Board  
9 Members. I'm John Francic with ABSG Consulting,  
10 here to report the annual certification for  
11 Hollywood Casino. The inspectors Doug Chapman and

12 Pete Bullard did, on June 22, attend the riverboat  
13 Casino Rouge to do -- conduct the annual  
14 inspection in accordance with the Alternative  
15 Inspection Program for the State of Louisiana.  
16 The inspectors reviewed fire protection  
17 equipment, egress routes, mooring system,  
18 inspected machinery spaces, and conducted a fire  
19 drill. There was one deficiency noted during the  
20 inspection. It was corrected on July 29. The  
21 2021 annual survey, as required by the Louisiana  
22 Gaming Control Board, is complete, and it is the  
23 recommendation of ABSG Consulting that Hollywood  
24 Casino be issued the Certificate of Compliance.

25 MR. PICOU:

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1 We now present these findings to the  
2 Board. I would request that upon the Board's  
3 acceptance of ABSG's report that you issue a --  
4 move for an issuance of the Certificate of  
5 Compliance for Hollywood Casino.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Thank you very much. So the one  
8 issue that was discovered has been complied with.  
9 Is that --

10 MR. FRANCIC:

11 Yes. They corrected everything.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 And everything else is in order.

14 Okay. Any questions from the Board?

15 (NO RESPONSE)

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Hearing none, I --

18 MS. BERRY:

19 (Indicating)

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Ms. Berry makes a motion that we

22 accept the -- the report.

23 MR. SHOLES:

24 (Indicating)

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

40

1 Second by Judge Sholes. Any

2 objection to that motion?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Hearing none, the temporary

6 Certificate of Compliance will be issued and will

7 expire September 30, 2022. Thank you very much,

8 gentlemen.

9 MR. PICOU:

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Appreciate that. And next on the

13 agenda will be our consideration of an Amended and

14 Reinstated Petition to Amend the License

15 Conditions by St. Charles Gaming Company. Good

16 morning. Good morning, Ms. Himel.

17 MS. HIMEL:

18 Good morning. Chairman Johns,  
19 Members of the Board, I am AAG Dawn Himel here in  
20 the matter of the petition of St. Charles Gaming  
21 Company for approval to amend its license  
22 conditions in the approved project.

23 In its 2018 regular session, the  
24 Louisiana Legislature passed Act No. 469, which  
25 provided the opportunity for riverboat licensees

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1 to relocate their gaming operations to a facility  
2 within 1,200 feet of their licensed berth.

3 St. Charles requested to relocate its  
4 gaming operations in 2019. In December of 2019,  
5 this Board approved the relocation and the  
6 approved project as it was presented at that time.  
7 Since that time, due to Hurricane Laura, the  
8 licensee has experienced significant damage to its  
9 property and is, therefore, seeking to amend the  
10 approved project due to the damage.

11 All required documents were submitted  
12 by the licensee to the Division for review and  
13 investigation. If it is the Board's pleasure to  
14 approve St. Charles Gaming's request, a resolution  
15 has been prepared for your consideration. The  
16 licensee will only be allowed to commence gaming  
17 activities at its new landside facility once the  
18 Division has determined that all necessary  
19 staffing, training, security and surveillance,  
20 technical, accounting, and internal control

21 procedures are acceptable. Representatives for  
22 the licensee are here today to provide you with a  
23 presentation.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Himel.

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1 MR. BARBIN:

2 Good morning, Chairman Johns --

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Good morning.

5 MR. BARBIN:

6 -- and Board Members. I'm

7 Jeff Barbin, Phelps Dunbar, representing

8 St. Charles Gaming. As you know St. Charles

9 Gaming has done business as Isle of Capri Casino

10 prior to the hurricane. We're now seeking to

11 amend some license conditions to allow the

12 property to be rebuilt from the substantial damage

13 that was sustained because of the hurricane. And

14 with me are Dan Real, who -- Dan is the Senior

15 Vice President of Regional Operations for Caesars

16 Entertainment -- of course, this property is a

17 subsidiary of Caesars -- and Jeff Favre is the

18 General Manager at the property. And we would

19 like to make a presentation to you this morning

20 with regard to the -- to the requests that we're

21 making.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Thank you, Mr. Barbin. And,



24 gentlemen, good morning. Mr. Real, good morning.

25 Good to see you again.

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1 MR. REAL:

2 You too.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Mr. Favre, good morning. Nice to see

5 you.

6 MR. FAVRE:

7 Good morning, sir, Chairman Johns.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Local faces that I recognize. Good

10 morning.

11 MR. REAL:

12 Great to see you in this building

13 again, now in a different role, obviously. It's

14 great to have you, and welcome aboard. And, Board

15 Members, welcome and thank you for your support.

16 Secretary Lewis, good to see you. Ms. Heather,

17 welcome aboard. Mr. Hebert and Major McNeil,

18 great to see you as well. We appreciate all of

19 the support.

20 This is a little -- I'm just going to

21 be brief and informal. It's been a long 18 months

22 for everybody in this room, but it's been a very,

23 very long 18 months for Jeff and his team in

24 Lake Charles, and I'm just really -- I want to

25 make clear how proud and -- how proud I am of the

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1 team members of that property. It's been very  
2 difficult.

3           We're going to have a commemoration  
4 next week, not a celebration but a commemoration,  
5 of the one-year anniversary of the hurricane, and  
6 we are going to invite our team members all back  
7 to the property. We're going to have gift --  
8 guest cards and gift cards and some other things  
9 that they can use, because I don't know how many  
10 people know, but there are still plenty of blue  
11 tarps on the roofs, and it's been a -- it's been a  
12 long, long year.

13           So it's an emotional thing for me,  
14 because I have, obviously, had other properties  
15 that are back up and running and still have some  
16 issues to face, but seeing our team members back  
17 in Lake Charles, it gives us a lot of hope to get  
18 this property up and running again. And Jeff is  
19 going to show you what that hope looks like.  
20 We're very proud of the project we're putting  
21 together, and I think it's going to make you proud  
22 to be associated with us in the state of  
23 Louisiana. So thank you for all your support.

24           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25           And thank you, Mr. Real. And to the

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1 board members, let me just say this, if I'm in  
2 Calcasieu Parish, I pass by this property every  
3 day. And to see where you were a year ago on

4 August 27 and where you are today is -- in my  
5 mind, is pretty phenomenal, actually. So I'm very  
6 proud of the fact that y'all are the first  
7 property to take advantage of a little piece of  
8 legislation that I happened to actually author,  
9 which I was very proud to do, and it was a result  
10 of the task force that we had created  
11 legislatively to -- to move forward with the  
12 industry.

13 But I remember having evacuated here  
14 to Baton Rouge after Laura -- before Laura hit,  
15 the very first picture that I actually saw was  
16 your riverboat lodged underneath the I-10 bridge.  
17 And, I mean, everybody was so concerned whether  
18 the bridge was damaged, whether we were going to  
19 have an I-10 bridge or not have one, and it would  
20 have been absolutely devastating. But,  
21 fortunately, there was no damage, but it was just  
22 a -- I think it was a picture that went viral all  
23 over the world. And so it was very indicative of  
24 the damage to your entire property.

25 So we appreciate your resilience and

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1 your commitment to move forward. And I'm excited.  
2 I've seen your plans. I'm very, very excited  
3 about what you're doing. So, Mr. Favre, welcome.

4 MR. FAVRE:

5 Welcome, Chairman, Members of the  
6 Board. It's a privilege -- privilege and honor to

7 be here in front of you today. I won't take up  
8 very much of your time. As Dan alluded to and  
9 Chairman Johns, it has been a tough 18 months.  
10 And, you know, I guess, being in the trenches, so  
11 to speak, is -- it's been a challenge. It's been  
12 probably one of the most difficult times of my  
13 career, and I know it has for a lot of my fellow  
14 team members. And I'm looking forward to the day  
15 that we open the doors, because I want the days  
16 behind us to be exactly that, behind us.

17           And I'll go through the dec real  
18 quick just to kind of give you an update of where  
19 we are today and where we came from. What you're  
20 looking at is a north-to-south view, basically  
21 looking from I-10, looking south, a rendering of  
22 what the new property will look like.

23           We will be requesting permission to  
24 rebrand to Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles from  
25 Isle of Capri Casino Hotel today; so that's why

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1 you see Horseshoe. When we presented here back in  
2 December of '19, it was presented as Eldorado.  
3 Even though we -- we knew that we were in the  
4 process of acquiring Caesars, we could not make  
5 that announcement, because we did not own the  
6 Horseshoe brand. So now that we do, it's public  
7 knowledge for the first time to make that  
8 announcement. So we do intend to become a  
9 Horseshoe.

10           What you're looking at is what --  
11 what was presented back in December of '19 and  
12 then present day. Present day, this picture -- we  
13 tried to -- we tried to get it as up to date as we  
14 possibly could, but there's been a lot of progress  
15 since then, and you'll see this a little bit  
16 further along. But, you know, the difference is  
17 quite significant, especially if you get your eyes  
18 up close to it. Some of these pictures really  
19 don't do it justice.

20           Next one, existing site plan. Just  
21 an aerial view of the site, and this will come in  
22 handy as we move along. It kind of gives you a  
23 visual of what the property looked like back when  
24 we presented in December of 2019, not what we  
25 looked like post Laura and certainly not what we

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1 look like today.

2           So this is the proposed site plan.  
3 Essentially, what we presented back in December  
4 of '19 is the same today as it was back then, with  
5 the exception that a Sportsbook being added into  
6 it. The warehouse in the very back, the pink  
7 piece, that's an addition, and the water --  
8 chilled water plant, the blue piece in the back,  
9 is an addition. Those were not presented back in  
10 December of '19. Everything else remains the same  
11 within that orange footprint that we presented in  
12 December of 2019.

13           And then the other request that we  
14 will have today is the demolition of the  
15 Inn Hotel, which is at the very top of the dec  
16 page. And the reason for that is because the  
17 significant cost to renovate that particular hotel  
18 was extraordinary, and it made more sense to put  
19 the dollars into the existing Tower Hotel to make  
20 that a first-class product and to match the  
21 existing upgrades and enhancements that we were  
22 doing along with the landside facility. So even  
23 though it's a reduction in rooms, we think it is  
24 the right decision moving forward, and we just  
25 have to do a very good job of yielding those

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1 rooms.

2           Proposed floor plan, so now you take  
3 that site plan that was in orange and you put the  
4 footprint of what exists inside it, and you can  
5 kind of take a look at everything that is there.  
6 We are going to approximately 955 electronic table  
7 games and slot machines, approximately 48 table  
8 games, 10 poker tables. We will have a circular  
9 bar, which is that lobby bar, which is kind of to  
10 the bottom right. Brew Brothers will be a  
11 restaurant/taphouse with the Sportsbook component  
12 built into it. The garage is connected. The  
13 existing pavilion is connected. The Tower Hotel  
14 is connected. Everything, with the exception of  
15 the Inn Hotel, will be connected to our new

16 landside facility.

17           We are still working through the food  
18 and beverage concepts with some local vendors to  
19 try and incorporate them into our business plan.  
20 That is work in progress. We are not in a  
21 position yet to disclose that publicly, but we  
22 hope to be there within the next month or two.

23           Just some pictures. We're 85 percent  
24 with our roofs being complete. The only -- only  
25 reason why we're not 100 percent is in the top

50

1 left, you see the rotunda piece that kind of  
2 sticks out like it's a big chimney, we -- we  
3 really had a struggle and challenge trying to  
4 figure out what to do with that. And, quite  
5 honestly, I'm not sure if we've figured out what  
6 we're doing with it yet today, but -- but that's  
7 the only piece that is left, and it's just because  
8 trying to figure out what to do with that rotunda  
9 to keep water from being able to impede or intrude  
10 has been a challenge for us, and that's what we're  
11 trying to work through. But that will be complete  
12 here very shortly once we, you know, figure out  
13 exactly what it is that we're going to do with  
14 that -- that piece of the roof.

15           We had to put in a new lift station.  
16 So we have a south and a north. This is the north  
17 one. These pictures really don't do it much  
18 justice, because, I mean, everyone of us in the

19 room could fit in the lift station and probably  
20 another room this size. It's that big. And a lot  
21 of work has gone into the civil work. And, by the  
22 way, it's very difficult to -- to do the civil  
23 work when you get rained on as much as we've been  
24 getting rained on. So we've had about 40 percent  
25 of the workdays since we've been in the field with

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1 rain. So it makes it really hard to do dirt work  
2 and a lot of this utility work when it's raining  
3 so much.

4           Just, basically, the fill that came  
5 in. Just the site plan looking at all of the dirt  
6 coming in. We raised the elevation to be at the  
7 100-year floodplain and above the high watermark  
8 for Hurricane Rita; so that's why we brought in so  
9 much fill, 45,900 pounds. I think they made a  
10 little joke in here. I think we could feed our  
11 parish 75 times and the state three times over  
12 with -- with the amount of dirt that we brought  
13 in. But a lot of dirt.

14           And you'll see here, as we move  
15 forward to concrete, that -- the bottom left  
16 picture is the south wall of the new casino that  
17 ties into the existing garage, and the picture to  
18 the right is the elevator bays that will allow you  
19 to go from the garage into the new casino.

20           Kind of a busy slide here, but what  
21 we're trying to demonstrate, basically, is the



22 pour sequence. What's in yellow is the only piece  
23 that is not poured at this time, and the reason  
24 it's not poured is because there's a massive crane  
25 there right now, and that crane is helping erect

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1 the steel. And it's working its way back to the  
2 right. And, eventually, when it works its way out  
3 of the yellow, then we will come back in and form  
4 that up and complete the concrete pour, and that  
5 will be 100 -- 100 percent complete. We're at 85  
6 percent complete today.

7         And here are some pictures of some of  
8 the pours taking place. Again, you know, we're --  
9 we're not as far along as we -- we were hoping to  
10 be due to the rain, but I can tell you that I'm  
11 very impressed with where we are today considering  
12 the fact that we have had so much rain and trying  
13 to work around it and get this dirt work done and  
14 get the concrete poured.

15         This is the steel erection sequence.  
16 Again, kind of busy. But your slide shows 31  
17 percent. That was approximately a week and a  
18 half, almost two weeks ago that that was done, and  
19 today we are at -- right at 40 percent of the  
20 steel erected. So we're almost halfway there.  
21 Again, that's the whole reason why the crane is  
22 staying in the middle of that yellow section on  
23 the previous slide is to erect all these major  
24 steel beams.

25 Now you can see some of the steel

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1 work actually being erected. That's tying into  
2 the garage. And, as already explained now, you'll  
3 see that crane on the bottom left slide in the  
4 middle. That is the one -- that is that yellow  
5 piece that I was speaking to earlier. That is the  
6 last piece that we will have to pour the concrete  
7 in once it works its way backing out, which we  
8 hope to have done here hopefully within the next  
9 several weeks.

10 The only reason for this picture is  
11 really to show you, for those of you that have  
12 been to the property, we had the rock formations  
13 going up the escalators. May not seem like a big  
14 deal, but the demolition of those was -- was quite  
15 a -- quite a challenge. And that has since been  
16 done. And if you look in the middle, you can kind  
17 of see a recessed floor. That recessed floor is  
18 no longer recessed. We came in and formed that up  
19 and poured concrete in there and made it flat.  
20 And that will all become part of our -- our food  
21 court area, or common food area, extending it out  
22 from the existing venues that are now into --  
23 closer to those escalators.

24 This the new chilled water plant that  
25 I was speaking of earlier. Pictures do not do

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1 this justice. You really have to see it in

2 person, because it's massive and quite impressive  
3 from an engineering standpoint. This new plant  
4 will service the entire property from a  
5 conditioned air standpoint and a vast improvement  
6 of what -- what we will have compared to what we  
7 have today, or what we had in the past.

8           A new warehouse. We have built  
9 approximately a 1,400 square foot warehouse. We  
10 have received our Certificate of Occupancy from  
11 the Fire Marshal. We are currently moving into  
12 this warehouse, which will help us facilitate a  
13 lot of the logistics in -- in the changes that we  
14 are making and moving things around.

15           This is just, basically, the  
16 statement and conditions, and which Ms. Himel  
17 alluded to earlier, and the changes, you know,  
18 not -- not anything significant except for the  
19 removal of the Inn Hotel, the 240 rooms I spoke of  
20 earlier.

21           And now we move into what the  
22 property will look like moving forward. The top  
23 left is the High Limit VIP lounge. The bottom  
24 right is looking at that lounge from an interior  
25 view. I'm not going to spend much time. We can

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1 just go through them. To the left, the poker  
2 room. Now you're looking at a shot from the  
3 casino floor. The one on the top left is  
4 actually -- you're looking at this from the casino

5 floor, looking at the hotel front desk  
6 registration -- the new hotel front desk  
7 registration.

8           And the bottom right is what we call  
9 the circle bar, which half of it -- so the piece  
10 that you're looking at is the left side as you're  
11 looking at it, and that's in the casino. And then  
12 the right side is right outside of the hotel front  
13 desk registration. There is a barrier in between  
14 those that will not allow people, or in particular  
15 minors, to -- to gain access. So that has been  
16 taken into consideration that no minors will be  
17 allowed to enter -- enter in from the hotel side  
18 into the casino side. You will have to go to one  
19 of the casino ID points in order to gain access to  
20 the floor.

21           This is Brew Brothers Restaurant &  
22 Bar. It is going to be located on the casino  
23 floor adjacent to the casino floor. And  
24 Brew Brothers is basically the brothers of the  
25 Eldorado founder, Don Carano's sons. You have

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1 four of them. It's basically Gary, Gene, Glen,  
2 and Greg. So that's the story behind that.

3           And here is the Sportsbook that will  
4 be incorporated into Brew Brothers right off of  
5 the casino floor. And this is Asian Noodle Bar,  
6 which is right to the left of the High Limit VIP  
7 room, which will be right off the casino floor. I

8 think that's it.

9 Tower Hotel room model. This is just  
10 some of the personality traits/design qualities  
11 into the -- into the new hotel design. You know,  
12 we're building a first-class property that --  
13 that, I believe, complements, you know, the  
14 strongest, healthiest gaming market within  
15 Louisiana. And, you know, you have some great  
16 assets there now, and I believe that we only add  
17 to that once this project is completed. And it's  
18 something that -- that I will be proud of, my team  
19 will be proud of, the company will be proud of,  
20 and I believe you will be proud of as well.

21 You know, this is what a regular room  
22 will look like. Now, "regular room" -- we have  
23 several different kinds, but one is -- we have two  
24 beds, one bed. There's not much difference there.  
25 But this is a standard room. Go back to that.

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1 You can show the bridge. We have the bridge in  
2 the left side of it. You can see that in the  
3 background, the wall covering.

4 So every room will be renovated, all  
5 public corridors. Everything in that hotel will  
6 be a complete renovation, including the  
7 conditioned air, windows, everything. So, I mean,  
8 it's -- it's quite -- quite a -- you know, an  
9 extensive project. We've just completed the  
10 design work and bid it out, and I don't even

11 think we've awarded the bid yet to the contractor.  
12           So, I mean, it's just -- you've got  
13 to remember, when we presented back in December  
14 of '19, it was for the land casino. So all that  
15 design work has been done. But everything on land  
16 we had to get redesigned, or designed, because it  
17 was not part of the scope. So some of that is  
18 still in the works; some of that just got  
19 completed. This is a bathroom remodel. And then  
20 this is a suite -- this is what a suite remodel  
21 will look like. Our suites are on the ninth and  
22 tenth floors of the hotel.

23           This is the schedule. We are looking  
24 to be completed in September of '22. I certainly  
25 would have liked to have seen that earlier, but,

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1 like I said, we are behind because of the rain,  
2 but we believe this is a realistic and doable  
3 date. If the rain would ever back off of us a  
4 little bit, I think we can catch up some ground.  
5 And once we get it roofed in and blocked in, I  
6 believe we can -- we can gain some ground.

7           And with that, I appreciate your time  
8 today. Thank you.

9           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10           Okay. Well, thank you, Mr. Favre.  
11 And I understand that part of this resolution is  
12 that you will be selling the existing riverboat?  
13 Do you --

14 MR. FAVRE:

15 Yes -- yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Do you have a potential buyer for  
18 that now or --

19 MR. FAVRE:

20 Yes, sir, we do. We have it under  
21 contract with KDG Gaming. Jeff, I'll let you  
22 answer most of it, but it's under contract.

23 MR. REAL:

24 It's just a license gaming supplier  
25 in Louisiana that's authorized to purchase the

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1 gaming equipment and the vessel.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Just curious who would buy a  
4 boat like that; so . . .

5 MR. FAVRE:

6 I don't have much to say.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Okay. I will tell you, I'm very  
9 familiar with the -- with the Inn, as, I guess, we  
10 call it, the hotel that you're asking to demolish.  
11 And, as I remember, having been there since it was  
12 originally built, y'all -- when y'all acquired the  
13 property, it was not really in good shape at that  
14 time. And I know for a fact what Hurricane Laura  
15 did to it, and it probably would cost you more to  
16 fix it up than to -- than to build a brand new one

17 at some point in time so . . .

18 MR. FAVRE:

19 That's a fact.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Yeah. So -- but I am excited about  
22 what you're doing to renovate the Tower Hotel,  
23 which is your nicer -- your nicer hotel rooms, and  
24 I think that would be adequate for your -- for  
25 your operation.

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1 MR. BARBIN:

2 And Chairman Johns, we do have a  
3 master plan, in addition to this, for the property  
4 for the future. So --

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Right.

7 MR. BARBIN:

8 -- we definitely have opportunities,  
9 if we do as well as we hope we're going to do.  
10 And we've talked about that already. So we're  
11 committed. Creasers is committed, obviously the  
12 State of Louisiana with everything we're doing in  
13 New Orleans and throughout, but this is one of our  
14 top projects.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Well, I will tell you that the  
17 project -- and I remember the original plans that  
18 y'all had shared with me when I was still in the  
19 Senate and where you are today. I know y'all



20 greatly enhanced your -- your amenities, your  
21 project, and you're spending more money on it, and  
22 we greatly appreciate that.

23 Are there any questions from the  
24 Board for our presenters here this morning?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. I hear -- there are no  
3 questions. I would entertain a motion that we  
4 would adopt this resolution. Ms. Himel, is there  
5 anything else that we need to add?

6 MS. HIMEL:

7 (Shaking head)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Nothing? Okay.

10 MS. HIMEL:

11 No, just adopting a resolution --

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. We have the document in front  
14 of us, which is the resolution. This will be a  
15 resolution that we will adopt, and we will have a  
16 roll call vote on this -- on this resolution.

17 Do I have a motion to adopt the  
18 resolution?

19 MS. BERRY:

20 (Indicating)

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Ms. Berry.

23 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

24 (Indicating)

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 And then I have a second from Ms. --

2 oh, okay -- Ms. Hamilton-Acker. Okay. Thank you

3 very much. Okay. Ms. Thurman, would you call the

4 roll and a vote yes will be to -- or vote yea will

5 be to adopt the resolution.

6 MS. THURMAN:

7 Mr. Avant?

8 MR. AVANT:

9 Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN:

11 Ms. Berry?

12 MS. BERRY:

13 Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN:

15 Mr. Jackson?

16 MR. JACKSON:

17 Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN:

19 Ms. Lewis?

20 MS. LEWIS:

21 Yes.

22 MS. THURMAN:

23 Mr. Poole?

24 MR. POOLE:

25 Yes.

1 MS. THURMAN:

2 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

3 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

4 Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN:

6 Mr. Sholes?

7 MR. SHOLES:

8 Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN:

10 Ms. Traylor?

11 MS. TRAYLOR:

12 Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN:

14 Chairman Johns?

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Yes. By unanimous vote, the  
17 resolution is adopted. Gentlemen, thank you very  
18 much for your presentation. Thank you for your  
19 commitment to -- to the industry, and we look  
20 forward to working with you.

21 MR. REAL:

22 That's great. And everybody has an  
23 open invitation if you ever want to visit, because  
24 there's a lot going on. So we would love to have  
25 you.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Well, I'm going to be the first one

3 over there so . . .

4 MR. FAVRE:

5 Thank you. Have a great day.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Thank you very much, too. Okay. I'm

8 sorry. I need to go back. We need to ask

9 Ms. Thurman to read the resolution into the

10 record. My apologies.

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 On the 19th day of August 2021, the

13 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly

14 noticed public meeting, consider the issue of

15 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC's petition to

16 amend license conditions, and upon duly -- motion

17 duly made and seconded, the Board adopted this

18 resolution:

19 Be it resolved that St. Charles

20 Gaming Company, LLC's request to amend its

21 conditions of the approved project, as defined by

22 the conditions placed on the riverboat license of

23 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC, which are

24 attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

25 located within 1,200 feet of its licensed berth

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1 site, all in accordance with the plan and

2 supporting documentation submitted by the licensee

3 and all applicable law, and to commence gaming

4 operations thereat upon completion, subject to the

5 final inspection and approval of the Division, is

6 hereby approved to the extent reflected in the  
7 attached conditions.

8 Be it further resolved that  
9 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC's request to amend  
10 the property description of the approved project  
11 is hereby approved and reflected in the attached  
12 property description.

13 Be it further resolved that  
14 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC's request to sell  
15 the Grand Palais vessel is hereby approved.

16 Be it further resolved that  
17 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC's request to  
18 operate under the trade name Horseshoe Casino  
19 Lake Charles, to change its d/b/a from Isle of  
20 Capri Casino Hotel Lake Charles to Horseshoe  
21 Casino Lake Charles, and to use the brand  
22 Horseshoe in various iterations are hereby  
23 approved, subject to any required approvals of the  
24 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement  
25 Division.

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1 Be it further resolved that: 1., no  
2 gaming operations shall commence until the entire  
3 approved project has been substantially completed  
4 and ready for occupancy and use in the opinion of  
5 the Board and until the Division has determined  
6 that all necessary staffing, training, security  
7 and surveillance, technical, accounting, and  
8 internal control procedures are acceptable.

9 Substantially complete, or substantial completion,  
10 shall mean the state in progress of the work when  
11 the approved project is sufficiently complete in  
12 accordance with the contract documents such that  
13 it can be occupied and utilized for its intended  
14 use.

15 No. 2, St. Charles Gaming Company,  
16 LLC, shall abide by the following standards for  
17 construction of the approved project: A, no later  
18 than 90 days from this resolution's date to submit  
19 architectural blueprints and a detailed plan of  
20 design and construction of the approved project to  
21 the Board for review and acceptance. The plans  
22 and specifications shall comply with all  
23 applicable laws and regulations, including, but  
24 not limited to, environmental, fire, and safety  
25 codes. Failure to meet this deadline or to timely

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1 receive an extension from the Board may result in  
2 forfeiture of all privileges to the license;

3 B, to enter into all necessary  
4 contracts for construction of the approved project  
5 and to submit copies of the contracts to the Board  
6 no later than 90 days after the passage of a board  
7 resolution accepting the plans and specifications.

8 All contracts related to the approved project  
9 shall be let only by St. Charles Gaming Company,  
10 LLC, or its parent company;

11 C, to complete construction of the

12 approved project and commence gaming operations in  
13 the facility or to recommence gaming operations  
14 upon a vessel within 24 months of this  
15 resolution's date. Failure to meet this deadline  
16 or to receive an extension may result in  
17 forfeiture of all privileges to the license;

18           And, D, to submit a work-in-progress  
19 report on the construction of the approved project  
20 to the Board by the 20th of every month. Said  
21 report shall include a detailed narrative on the  
22 status of all work up to date -- up to the date of  
23 the report, a progress payment report listing all  
24 payments made up to the date of the report.

25           Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,

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1 Louisiana, this 19th day of August 2021.

2           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3           Thank you, Ms. Thurman. So let the  
4 record reflect that the resolution has been read  
5 into the record, that a roll call vote was taken,  
6 and, by unanimous vote, the resolution has been  
7 adopted. Thank you very much.

8 VII. VIDEO GAMING ISSUES

9           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10           Okay. Let's move into video gaming,  
11 please. And first on the agenda will be the  
12 Grand Palace Casino doing business as  
13 Kenner Airport Casino. Good morning, Mr. Pitre.

14           MR. PITRE:

15 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board  
16 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General  
17 Earl Pitre, Jr., appearing before the Board in the  
18 matter of the transfer of membership interest in  
19 Grand's Palace Casino, LLC doing business as  
20 Kenner Airport Casino, a Type 5 video gaming  
21 licensee.

22 On January 12, 2020, Moira  
23 Collins Dorsey died. At the time of her death,  
24 Mrs. Dorsey was married to Marc George  
25 Dorsey, Sr., who was a 25 percent member of the

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1 licensee. The membership interest in the licensee  
2 was community property.

3 In her will, Ms. Dorsey put the  
4 residuary of her estate, which included her 12.5  
5 percent membership interest in the licensee  
6 through community property, in trust for her three  
7 children, Marc George Dorsey, Jr., Ashton Michael  
8 Dorsey, and Brennan Collins Dorsey.

9 Master Trooper James Cannon conducted  
10 an investigation of the transfer of ownership  
11 interest. He also conducted the updated  
12 suitability checks on Marc George Dorsey, Sr. He  
13 will present the Office of State Police's findings  
14 to the Board.

15 MASTER TROOPER CANNON:

16 Good morning, Chairman, Members of  
17 the Board. I'm Master Trooper James Cannon with



18 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement  
19 Division. I investigated the transfer that  
20 occurred in the licensee due to the death of  
21 Moira Collins Dorsey. Marc George Dorsey, Sr.,  
22 previously met suitability on this license as a  
23 member of the licensee. I conducted the updated  
24 suitability check on him. I found no information  
25 that would preclude him from continuing to

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1 participate in the video gaming industry.

2           The three children of Moira Dorsey  
3 are not required to submit to suitability because  
4 they do not own more than five percent membership  
5 interest in the licensee and they do not have  
6 significant influence over the licensee. I found  
7 no information that would preclude the continued  
8 licensing of Grand's Palace Casino, LLC doing  
9 business as Kenner Airport Casino.

10           MR. PITRE:

11           The Office of the Attorney General  
12 has reviewed the file compiled as a result of the  
13 investigation conducted by the Office of State  
14 Police. Our review indicates that no information  
15 has been found which would preclude approval of  
16 the transfer.

17           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18           Okay. Thank you very much for your  
19 presentation. Are there any questions from the  
20 Board?

21 MR. JACKSON:

22 Motion to approve.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 You have a motion?

25 MR. JACKSON:

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1 Yes, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Motion -- we have a motion to  
4 approve from Mr. Jackson. Do I have a second?

5 MS. LEWIS:

6 (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 From Ms. Lewis. Is there any -- any  
9 other comments, any questions?

10 (NO RESPONSE)

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 If none, all in favor of the motion  
13 to adopt this -- this recommendation -- is there  
14 any objection, should I say? Any objection?

15 (NO RESPONSE)

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Hearing none, the recommendation is  
18 adopted. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

19 MR. PITRE:

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Appreciate it. Okay. Next, we have  
23 Whispering Pines Plaza & Casino doing business as

24 Whispering Pines Casino.

25 MR. PITRE:

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1 Chairman Johns, Board Members, I'm  
2 Assistant Attorney General Earl Pitre, Jr.,  
3 appearing before the Board in the matter of the  
4 transfer of membership interest in Whispering  
5 Pines Plaza & Casino, LLC doing business as  
6 Whispering Pines Casino, a Type 5 video gaming  
7 licensee.

8 On April 29, 2021, the licensee  
9 entered into an active redemption of membership  
10 interest with Jerry W. Travis and redeemed his  
11 four percent membership interest. As a result of  
12 this redemption, Joe F. Penn is the sole member of  
13 the licensee. Criminal investigator  
14 William Landry conducted the updated suitability  
15 check on the relevant persons associated with the  
16 licensee. He also conducted the investigation of  
17 the transfer of membership interest. He will  
18 present the Office of State Police's findings to  
19 the Board.

20 MR. LANDRY:

21 Good morning. Welcome,  
22 Chairman Johns.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Good morning.

25 MR. LANDRY:

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1 And good morning, Board Members.  
2 Investigator William Landry with Louisiana State  
3 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division. I conducted  
4 the updated suitability check on Joseph Penn and  
5 Patricia S. Penn. Both of them had previously met  
6 suitability under this license, and I found no  
7 information that would prevent them from  
8 continuing participation in the gaming industry.  
9 I also conducted the investigation of the transfer  
10 of membership interest and found that the -- no  
11 information that would preclude the continued  
12 licensing of Whispering Pines Plaza & Casino, LLC  
13 doing business as Whispering Pines Casino.

14 MR. PITRE:

15 The Office of the Attorney General  
16 has reviewed the file compiled as a result of the  
17 investigation conducted by the Office of State  
18 Police. Our review indicates that no information  
19 has been found which would preclude approval of  
20 the transfer.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Any questions from the Board?

23 (NO RESPONSE)

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Do I have a motion that we adopt this

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1 recommendation?

2 MS. LEWIS:

3 (Indicating)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
5 Ms. Lewis makes a motion to adopt.

6 MR. AVANT:  
7 (Indicating)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
9 Mr. Avant seconds that motion. Is  
10 there any objection to that motion?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
13 Hearing none, that recommendation to  
14 transfer of membership interest is adopted.

15 MR. PITRE:  
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
18 Gentlemen, thank you very much.  
19 Appreciate your work.

#### 20 VIII. EMERGENCY RULEMAKING

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
22 Okay. We're going to move into  
23 Item No. VIII, which I am very excited about. And  
24 we're going to be discussing the emergency  
25 rulemaking on sports betting. And Ms. Himel?

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1 Good morning --

2 MS. HIMEL:  
3 Good morning.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:  
5 -- again.

6 MS. HIMEL:

7 Good morning again, Chairman Johns,  
8 Members of the Board. I'm Assistant Attorney  
9 General Dawn Himel here in the matter of emergency  
10 rulemaking procedures for Items VIII, A through G.

11 During the 2021 regular session, the  
12 Louisiana Legislature passed Act 8 -- Act 440,  
13 which directs the Gaming Control Board to adopt  
14 emergency rules pertaining to sports wagering as a  
15 matter of imminent peril to public health, safety,  
16 and welfare. The proposed rules codify Acts 80,  
17 435, and 440 of the 2021 Regular Legislative  
18 Session and Act 215 of the 2020 Regular  
19 Legislative Session pertaining to Louisiana Sports  
20 Wagering Act.

21 A motion to adopt the rules is  
22 needed. If so approved, the emergency rules shall  
23 become effective Monday, August 23, 2021, and  
24 shall remain in effect for the maximum period  
25 allowed by the APA and by law unless extended or

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1 rescinded.

2 And I will say that I do appreciate  
3 Mr. Duty's comments regarding our efforts and our  
4 collaboration on this, and I sincerely appreciate  
5 industry. We had over 90 stakeholders involved as  
6 far as making comments. Because these are our  
7 emergency rules, it doesn't follow the normal  
8 promulgation procedure. So there is no time  
9 period for public comment. So we wanted to ensure

10 that what was put out there and what was presented  
11 to the Board was in a posture that was workable  
12 for the industry to make sure that sports wagering  
13 could get off the ground prior to rule  
14 promulgation.

15 Now, these are emergency rules. So,  
16 if you do so adopt them today, they will be  
17 effective on the effective date in the notice of  
18 intent, which is Monday; however, after that,  
19 because they're only effective for 180 days,  
20 unless extended, we will have to come back quickly  
21 with regular rules. So you will see me,  
22 hopefully, in the next month, maybe September  
23 agenda, with the normal notice of intent that you  
24 guys are used to seeing, where you guys will  
25 initiate the rulemaking process. There will be a

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1 public comment period. There will be a chance for  
2 oversight committee hearings, and they will be  
3 formally adopted, and those will be the permanent  
4 rules.

5 I strive for perfection; so I won't  
6 take offense to Wade's comment that these weren't  
7 perfect, but we will continue to -- to work on  
8 them and to make sure that the permanent rules are  
9 how they need to be for strict regulation while  
10 allowing the industry to operate as it needs to  
11 operate.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Major, good morning.

14 MAJOR McNEIL:

15 Good morning. Major Chuck McNeil,  
16 State Police. I'm here in case of any questions  
17 y'all had about the process after -- starting  
18 August 23. I'm here to answer those -- any  
19 questions, if you have any.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Well, thank you. I just want to say  
22 publicly to everyone involved in this, to  
23 Ms. Himel, to Mr. Hebert, and to Major McNeil and  
24 y'all's staff, this is incredible. This is --  
25 this is a lot of hard work that went into -- to

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1 putting this together and very comprehensive. I  
2 can tell you, as we left the Legislative Session  
3 on June 10, I don't think that any of us had an  
4 inkling that we would be adopting these this  
5 quickly, and I mean that in all sincerity.

6 But it's been the number one question  
7 asked of me as the new chairman as to when is  
8 sports betting coming. And I said -- you know, I  
9 guess my question has been, "Just sit back and  
10 wait. It's" -- "it's being worked on, and it's  
11 going to come, and it's going to be done in a very  
12 compliant manner." So I greatly appreciate it.

13 I want everybody in the room to  
14 understand that these are emergency rules. There  
15 will be more -- as Ms. Himel indicated, there will



16 be permanent rules coming. And I just want  
17 everybody to know that we -- this is -- this is  
18 brand new territory for us here in Louisiana. We  
19 are behind the curve with our neighbors to the --  
20 to the east of us in Mississippi, but we're going  
21 to try and play catch-up very quickly.

22           And so are there any questions from  
23 the Board?

24           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25           Ms. Lewis -- Ms. Berry. Excuse me.

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1           MS. BERRY:

2           That's okay.

3           CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4           I got my Julies mixed up.

5           MS. BERRY:

6           Ms. Himel, did I hear you say that  
7 these emergency rules are good for 180 days?

8           MS. HIMEL:

9           Yes. There is a new law that was  
10 passed in the 2021 Session regarding emergency  
11 rules, and they can be valid for up to 180 days.  
12 They are not valid after that. You guys are  
13 allowed to present them one more time for --  
14 so that we can --

15          MS. BERRY:

16          As an extension?

17          MS. HIMEL:

18          As an extension. But our hope is

19 that we have regular rules promulgated and final  
20 and effective by that 180 days.

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Okay. That was my question, to see  
23 if there was a possible extension in case you ran  
24 into some issues.

25 MS. HIMEL:

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1 You can initiate the same emergency  
2 rules another time; so --

3 MS. BERRY:

4 Okay.

5 MS. HIMEL:

6 -- we will have one more shot, if  
7 not.

8 MS. BERRY:

9 I'm counting on your perfection.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Thank you, Ms. Berry. I will share  
13 with the Board that we did do a very comprehensive  
14 Zoom meeting with the entire industry. Everybody  
15 was invited to attend. We took comments. We took  
16 recommendations. I say, "We did." The staff at  
17 the AG's Office and State Police did. And, I  
18 guess, not everybody got what they wanted, but  
19 everybody got heard, and I think some of those  
20 recommendations were -- were actually taken into  
21 consideration and actually adopted. So we tried

22 to make it a very fluid, a very open, and a very  
23 transparent process for -- for our state. So we  
24 thank you very, very much for your work on this.  
25 I know it was some late hours; so . . .

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1 So the procedure on this is that  
2 we're going to adopt Sections A through G of  
3 the -- of the emergency rules that are before you.  
4 Are there any other questions from the Board?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Hearing none, I would adopt -- I  
8 would ask for a motion to adopt these --

9 MR. SHOLES:

10 So moved.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Okay. Judge Sholes makes a motion  
13 that we adopt Sections A through G. Is there a  
14 second?

15 MR. JACKSON:

16 Second.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Mr. Jackson has seconded that  
19 motion. Is that -- excuse me. That motion. In  
20 Senate hearings, there was always a lot of  
21 emotions so . . .

22 We do have a motion to adopt and  
23 second the motion. Is there any objection to that  
24 motion?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Hearing none, that motion has been  
3 adopted. So do we need to approve Sections H  
4 through I? Any further comments on those sections  
5 or anything?

6 MS. HIMEL:

7 No. As far as the rules, since  
8 they've --

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. Or the rules. Okay.

11 MS. HIMEL:

12 -- been adopted, we can move on.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 So I would entertain a motion that we  
15 adopt Sections H and I.

16 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

17 So moved.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Ms. Hamilton-Acker makes a motion  
20 that we adopt those rules. Do I have a second,  
21 please?

22 MS. LEWIS:

23 I'll second.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Ms. Lewis has seconded that motion.

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1 Excuse me. And is there any objection to that

2 motion?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Hearing none, that motion has been  
6 adopted. So, again, to the AG's Office, to State  
7 Police, to the industry, thank you very much. A  
8 new day in Louisiana. We're going to move forward  
9 and do it -- do it as fast as we can but do it in  
10 a very compliant manner. So thank you very, very  
11 much.

12 MS. HIMEL:

13 Thank you.

14 MAJOR McNEIL:

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Ms. Robinson, I forgot to recognize  
18 you as you came in this morning.  
19 Secretary Robinson, thank you for joining us this  
20 morning. We appreciate you being here.

21 SECRETARY ROBINSON:

22 Thank you, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Good to see you again.

25 SECRETARY ROBINSON:

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1 It's good to finally be here.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Yes, it is.

4 IX. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENTS & APPEAL

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. We're going to move forward on  
7 our proposed settlements and appeals. Let me  
8 remind the public and the industry that no new  
9 evidence may be introduced at the table this  
10 morning on any of these recommendations. And so  
11 we would be glad to take a comment, but no new  
12 evidence will be taken into consideration.

13 Okay. First on the agenda will be  
14 Sophie Girl's doing business as Sophie Girl and  
15 Easy Money Casino.

16 MS. MURRAY:

17 All right. Good morning,  
18 Chairman Johns --

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Good morning.

21 MS. MURRAY:

22 -- and board members. I'm Assistant  
23 Attorney Alonna Murray here in the matter of the  
24 settlement of Sophie Girl, LLC doing business as  
25 Sophie Girl and Easy Money Casino, LLC doing

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1 business as Easy Money Casino.

2 This settlement addresses the  
3 following violations made by the Type 5 and Type 6  
4 licensees: The employment of persons in the  
5 capacity of certified technicians, one of whose  
6 permit was expired and two other employees who did  
7 not hold valid certified technician permits; two

8 employees making logbook entries even though they  
9 did not have an active certified technician  
10 permit; three video poker devices not having  
11 logbooks; one video poker device having a logbook  
12 that belonged to a different device; 107 invalid  
13 logbook entrees were made; video poker devices had  
14 been accessed 669 times without entries being  
15 documented in the logbooks; and the licensee's  
16 failure to ensure compliance with gaming law by  
17 not supervising their employees as they worked  
18 without valid permits, made invalid logbook  
19 entries, and accessed the video draw poker devices  
20 without logging in entries.

21 The settlement amount is \$10,221, and  
22 it takes into consideration all the factors  
23 surrounding the violations committed in this case.  
24 And the parties have discussed the matter and has  
25 agreed to resolve it for the stated amount.

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1 Settlement has been signed by the hearing officer  
2 and is now before the Board for final approval. I  
3 would be happy to answer any questions you may  
4 have at this time.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. Are there any questions from  
7 the Board?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. Are there any comments from

11 the licensee?

12 MS. ROVIRA:

13 I don't have any further comments.

14 Allison Rovira on behalf of the licensee, and my

15 client is in agreement with the settlement.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Okay. Thank you very much for being

18 here with us today.

19 MS. ROVIRA:

20 Sure.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay. Any questions from the Board?

23 (NO RESPONSE)

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Hearing none, I will take a -- I'll

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1 accept a motion that we accept the -- this

2 settlement.

3 MR. POOLE:

4 So moved.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 So moved by Mr. --

7 MR. POOLE:

8 Poole.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 -- Poole. Okay. Thank you.

11 MS. BERRY:

12 (Indicating)

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:



14 And second by Ms. Berry. We have a  
15 motion to accept the settlement. Is there any  
16 objection to that motion?

17 (NO RESPONSE)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Hearing none, that motion is adopted.  
20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. ROVIRA:

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Appreciate it.

25 MS. MURRAY:

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1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Thank you for being here today. Next  
4 on the agenda will be The Rusty Nail.

5 MS. MURRAY:

6 Good morning, Chairman Johns and  
7 Board Members. I am Assistant Attorney General  
8 Alonna Murray here in the matter of the settlement  
9 of Sake, LLC doing business as The Rusty Nail.  
10 The settlement addresses the Type 1 licensee's  
11 failure to timely submit the required annual fee  
12 and supporting documents.

13 On March 9, 2020, the Division mailed  
14 a video gaming advisory notice to the licensee  
15 informing them of the requirement to submit the  
16 annual fee and forms no later than June 30, 2020.

17 On May 13, 2021, the Division received the  
18 required annual renewal forms and fee. The civil  
19 penalty contained in the settlement is \$750, which  
20 is an amount consistent with violations of this  
21 type. The settlement has been signed by the  
22 hearing officer. It is now before the Board for  
23 final approval. And I will be happy to answer any  
24 questions you may have at this time.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 Okay. Are there any comments from  
2 the licensee?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Hearing none, any questions from the  
6 Board?

7 (NO RESPONSE)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Okay. The Board is clear. I  
10 entertain a motion that we accept this settlement  
11 offer.

12 MR. AVANT:

13 (Indicating)

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Mr. Avant has made a motion that we  
16 accept the settlement. And a second --

17 MR. SHOLES:

18 Second.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 -- by Judge Sholes. Are there any  
21 other further questions?

22 (NO RESPONSE)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Hearing none, is there any objection  
25 to that motion?

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1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 No objection. That motion passes,  
4 and the settlement is accepted.

5 MS. MURRAY:

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 And next on the agenda, we will have  
9 an appeal concerning Ms. Christina Braxton. Good  
10 morning.

11 MS. JAMES:

12 Good morning. Good morning, Chairman  
13 and Board Members. I'm Lekiesha James on behalf  
14 of the Division in the matter of Christina  
15 Braxton.

16 MS. BRAXTON:

17 Oh, I'm sorry. I'm Christina  
18 Braxton. First off, good morning to you and the  
19 rest of the Board. Thank you for allowing me to  
20 be here. My first appeal, the reason I was  
21 denied, my background was called into question.  
22 The things that were on my background were not

23 mine, and I discussed that with the Board. But at  
24 the end of the appeal -- I mean the hearing, my  
25 character was called into question about my

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1 surroundings and who I surrounded myself with, and  
2 I just wanted to be clear about that.

3 Yes, I have made mistakes in my past.

4 Yes, I've been around the wrong people, but I have  
5 three beautiful children. My life is all about  
6 them, all about them. Everything I do is for my  
7 children. I respect the law. I'm a law-abiding  
8 citizen. I do everything I'm supposed to do. I  
9 respect all of the aspects of the law. I've been  
10 in jobs where I have had to handle -- I'm sorry --  
11 have had to handle money.

12 MS. JAMES:

13 Objection. I'm objecting now because  
14 Ms. Braxton is attempting to introduce and present  
15 evidence and testimony that was not previously  
16 presented to the hearing officer at the hearing.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Okay. And, Ms. Braxton, that is the  
19 rules of the -- of the board.

20 MS. BRAXTON:

21 Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 And that's why we have a hearing  
24 officer.

25 MS. BRAXTON:

1 Okay.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 We do -- I fully respect -- and I  
4 thank you for being here today, and I fully  
5 respect the fact that you recognize the fact that  
6 mistakes have been made and that -- and we  
7 certainly don't want to call your character into  
8 question at all, but we have to go by the facts.

9 MS. BRAXTON:

10 Yes, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 And we have to go by what state law  
13 actually says.

14 MS. BRAXTON:

15 Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 So I would like, if you could,  
18 briefly to explain to the -- to the Board what --  
19 the background on what's in statute and why the  
20 license has to be denied.

21 MS. JAMES:

22 Yes.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Okay.

25 MS. JAMES:

1 So, once again, I'm Assistant  
2 Attorney General Lekiesha James on behalf of the

3 Division. And so we are here before you today  
4 because Ms. Braxton filed an appeal in response to  
5 the hearing officer's decision to -- in response  
6 to the hearing officer's finding that she's  
7 unsuitable for and disqualified from holding a  
8 video draw poker employee permit. And it's the  
9 Division's position today that the hearing officer  
10 was correct.

11           Based on the hearing officer's  
12 findings, there are three main points for you all  
13 to remember. Ms. -- one, Ms. Braxton failed to  
14 meet her burden of proving her suitability at the  
15 hearing; two, Ms. Braxton fails to meet the  
16 statutory standards for suitability; and, three,  
17 that the hearing officer found that Ms. Braxton is  
18 disqualified from applying right now.

19           Now, regarding the burden of  
20 suitable -- the burden of proof, under Louisiana  
21 gaming law, it is the applicant, which would be  
22 Ms. Braxton, who must prove that she is suitable  
23 to hold a video draw poker gaming permit. At the  
24 time of the hearing, Ms. Braxton was present, and  
25 she had an opportunity to present evidence and

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1 witnesses. She testified on her own behalf, but  
2 she offered no evidence to prove that she meets  
3 the suitability standards.

4           Now, looking at the statutory  
5 qualifications for suitability, gaming law

6 requires that an applicant be of good moral  
7 character, honesty, and integrity. The evidence  
8 proved that Ms. Braxton has been arrested four  
9 times in the last ten years. Two of them were  
10 crimes involving theft. Evidence showed that for  
11 one of the arrests, Ms. Braxton stole merchandise  
12 from Walmart, and the other arrest report  
13 indicated that Ms. Braxton stole a person's wallet  
14 after he had been in a car accident, then  
15 illegally used his card to make purchases. Those  
16 events alone do not display the qualities of good  
17 moral character, honesty, and integrity as  
18 required in gaming law.

19           Now, in October of 2015 when  
20 Ms. Braxton was arrested for the crime of theft,  
21 evidence was presented at the hearing to show that  
22 Ms. Braxton accepted an amended charge of  
23 attempted theft and that the sentence was not  
24 completed until January of 2016. The hearing  
25 officer determined that Ms. Braxton is -- is

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1 prohibited from applying for a permit until 2026.

2           Now, gaming statute further requires  
3 that an applicant not have a criminal record,  
4 habits, or associations that pose a threat to the  
5 public interest or to the effective regulation of  
6 video draw poker. Under video gaming law, an  
7 applicant may be found suitable -- I'm sorry -- an  
8 applicant may be found unsuitable based not only

9 on the applicant's own criminal activity and  
10 history but also on one's associations with  
11 persons who engage in criminal activity.

12 So, in addition to her criminal  
13 history, Ms. Braxton admitted under oath at the  
14 hearing that she is associated with persons who  
15 engage in illegal activity. She tried to blame  
16 them for her behavior; however, one must be  
17 responsible for one's own actions. And this is  
18 important, because you must understand that the  
19 holder of a video poker draw employee permit must  
20 be free of negative outside influences that could  
21 affect their ability to uphold the laws and  
22 integrity of gaming.

23 So Chairman and Board Members, the  
24 issue before this Board today is whether the  
25 hearing officer was correct in finding that

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1 Christina is unsuitable to participate in the  
2 gaming industry. Gaming is strictly regulated,  
3 and it is a privilege, not a right, to hold a  
4 gaming employee permit.

5 Now, Ms. Braxton does not meet the  
6 statutory requirements for holding a video draw  
7 poker employee permit. Her criminal history  
8 creates a barrier that we cannot ignore. Further,  
9 it's important to note that there's no amount of  
10 new evidence that will erase the fact that  
11 Ms. Braxton was arrested on two separate occasions



12 for crimes involving theft and that she has  
13 established habits of associating with individuals  
14 who engage in criminal activity. The Board is  
15 constrained by law and has the legal obligation to  
16 uphold the integrity and protect the integrity of  
17 the gaming industry.

18 It's Ms. Braxton's burden to prove  
19 her suitability, which she failed to do so at the  
20 hearing. According to the hearing officer's  
21 findings, she's not eligible to apply right now,  
22 and, even if she were eligible to apply, the  
23 evidence shows that she is not suitable to  
24 participate in the gaming industry. A reversal of  
25 the hearing officer's finding would be contrary to

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1 law. A remand is not appropriate, as there is no  
2 new evidence Ms. Braxton can present that will  
3 qualify her for a permit.

4 So for all of these reasons and in  
5 accordance with law, the Division respectfully  
6 requests that the -- that the Board affirm the  
7 hearing officer's finding that Christina Braxton  
8 is unsuitable for and disqualified from holding a  
9 video draw poker employee permit.

10 MS. BRAXTON:

11 May I --

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 So -- okay. One second, Ms. Braxton.

14 So the statutes do require a ten-year waiting

15 period, as I understand?

16 MS. JAMES:

17 So it's a ten-year waiting period

18 from the completion of a sentence from a crime of

19 theft.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay.

22 MS. JAMES:

23 So her -- her -- the charge was

24 October 2015. Her sentence was actually completed

25 in January 2016.

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Right.

3 MS. JAMES:

4 So it would be ten years from that

5 period.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Okay. So 2026 would be the --

8 MS. JAMES:

9 The earliest.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 -- first date legally, according to

12 our statutes, to make application.

13 MS. JAMES:

14 To make application, yes.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Make application at that point.

17 Okay. Ms. Braxton, I'm sorry I interrupted you

18 but --

19 MS. BRAXTON:

20 No, it's -- it's fine.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Okay.

23 MS. BRAXTON:

24 I just wanted to say I don't -- I

25 don't know anything about the law. I didn't go to

99

1 school for that. I have -- I have no idea how to

2 do or go about any of these things.

3 The theft charge she is speaking of

4 was not my charge. My kid's father did that.

5 When I found out about it, I contacted the

6 victims, and I paid them what he took from them.

7 When I found out that was on my background in

8 court, they dismissed the charges. Why they were

9 still on my background, I have no idea. The only

10 reason it's still there is because I'm a single

11 mom, and I can't expunge the charges at this time

12 because of the payments.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay.

15 MS. JAMES:

16 Objection.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Thank you, Ms. Braxton.

19 MS. JAMES:

20 She's going into additional

21 information that wasn't at the hearing.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Right. We --

24 MS. BRAXTON:

25 We spoke about that.

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Unfortunately, Ms. Braxton, we can  
3 only go by what's in the record and what -- what's  
4 actually part of your -- of your record. And  
5 that's what the hearing officer, I think, took  
6 into consideration so . . .

7 Okay. Are there any questions from  
8 the Board? Any questions?

9 MR. SHOLES:

10 I have one question.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Okay.

13 MR. SHOLES:

14 And I'm not contesting what the  
15 hearing officer did. But just as -- as to the  
16 statute, it deals with arrests and not  
17 convictions. Is that correct?

18 MS. JAMES:

19 No. So the statute -- the -- which  
20 statute? I'm sorry.

21 MR. SHOLES:

22 You're saying that she -- based upon  
23 what I read, she -- there were no convictions,

24 only arrests. Am I right?

25 MS. BRAXTON:

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1 No, I was never arrested. I'm sorry  
2 to interrupt, but I was never actually arrested  
3 for any of it.

4 MS. JAMES:

5 So there -- so there were arrests,  
6 and there were -- and they -- some of the arrests  
7 were dismissed. Some of the arrests were only  
8 dismissed after she played -- after she paid court  
9 costs. And then her final arrest for theft was  
10 reduced, and the -- the completion of that  
11 sentence reduction and the -- the requirements  
12 were -- so it was theft. It was reduced to  
13 attempted theft, and part of that conviction and  
14 part of that reduction to attempted theft is she  
15 had to pay a fine. She had to pay court costs.  
16 She had unsupervised probation, and it wasn't  
17 completed until January of 2016.

18 Now, gaming law requires us to look  
19 at not only the arrest and the conviction and the  
20 dismissal or nondismissal, but we have to look at  
21 all the underlying facts that surrounded the  
22 arrest, that surrounded the conviction, and we  
23 have to take that into consideration, so not only  
24 convictions, arrests, because that gives us more  
25 of an understanding as to whether or not they meet

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1 the suitability requirements, because habits also  
2 must be considered.

3 MR. SHOLES:

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Thank you, Judge. Okay. So any  
7 other questions?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. I'm going to ask for a motion  
11 on this matter, and the motion will be to -- to  
12 uphold the decision of the hearing officer. Do --  
13 are there any further questions, discussion? Do I  
14 have a motion? Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

15 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

16 Chairman Johns, I have a question  
17 with regards to what ability do we have as a Board  
18 to delay this for further investigation?

19 MS. JAMES:

20 So the Board -- the Board does have  
21 the opportunity to remand the case to the hearing  
22 officer; however, the Division would strongly  
23 object to a remand, as there is no amount of new  
24 evidence that could change the fact that she was  
25 arrested. She did have criminal associations that

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1 do pose a threat to the gaming industry.

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

3 I understand, Attorney James, but

4 what I'm hearing is something that is completely  
5 different, and I don't know whether or not it's  
6 the truth or -- but what I'm hearing is that there  
7 were not any arrests, and I'm wondering if there's  
8 any administrative errors that might be at issue  
9 here, if there are some administrative errors in  
10 terms of records being inaccurate. I would be a  
11 little bit more comfortable with upholding the  
12 decision of the officer if that has been verified.

13 MS. JAMES:

14 I understand your -- your hesitation;  
15 however, it's just a matter of Ms. Braxton not  
16 understanding that an arrest can mean a physical  
17 citation. So if you get a ticket, it's also  
18 considered a type of arrest. And so she's just  
19 confused because all the time she wasn't actually  
20 brought to jail, but the citation is a type of  
21 arrest.

22 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

23 And is that what you're  
24 contending is --

25 MS. JAMES:

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1 Yes.

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

3 -- what occurred here?

4 MS. JAMES:

5 Yes.

6 MS. BRAXTON:

7 Can I say something?

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Just one second, Ms. Braxton. I'm  
10 going to ask Mr. Hebert from the Attorney  
11 General's Office to --

12 MR. HEBERT:

13 Well, I'm just confused with the  
14 regard to the question regarding the arrest.  
15 We -- factually, and you can read off the dates,  
16 there were arrests. There -- there's no factual  
17 question as to whether or not there were arrests.  
18 How many arrests were there total?

19 MS. JAMES:

20 Four.

21 MR. HEBERT:

22 Yes.

23 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 Okay. Ms. Braxton, out of a courtesy  
2 to you, I'll allow you -- if you wanted to say  
3 something, and then we're going to move on  
4 so . . .

5 MS. BRAXTON:

6 The two theft charges that are on my  
7 background, the first one caused the second one to  
8 be what it was. When I spoke with the Court, they  
9 said if that was not there present on my



10 background --

11 MS. JAMES:

12 I'm going to object again because --

13 MS. BRAXTON:

14 -- they were going to dismiss it. I

15 have witness that I could not have there that day.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 Again, Ms. Braxton, we can't take new

18 evidence in -- into consideration in this

19 discussion. That's got to be presented at -- and

20 that was presented at the hearing officer.

21 Okay. The Board is clear. Do I have

22 a motion to uphold the decision of the hearing

23 officer?

24 MS. LEWIS:

25 I move.

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1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Ms. Lewis makes a motion that we

3 uphold that decision. Is there a second?

4 MS. BERRY:

5 (Indicating)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 And Ms. Berry has seconded that

8 motion. I'm going to call the roll on this, if we

9 could. Okay? A motion -- excuse me. A vote of

10 yea will be to uphold the decision of the hearing

11 officer.

12 MS. THURMAN:

13 Mr. Avant?

14 MR. AVANT:

15 Yes.

16 MS. THURMAN:

17 Ms. Berry?

18 MS. BERRY:

19 Yes.

20 MS. THURMAN:

21 Mr. Jackson?

22 MR. JACKSON:

23 Yes.

24 MS. THURMAN:

25 Ms. Lewis?

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1 MS. LEWIS:

2 Yes.

3 MS. THURMAN:

4 Mr. Poole?

5 MR. POOLE:

6 Yes.

7 MS. THURMAN:

8 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

9 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

10 Yes.

11 MS. THURMAN:

12 Mr. Sholes?

13 MR. SHOLES:

14 Yes.

15 MS. THURMAN:

16 Ms. Traylor?

17 MS. TRAYLOR:

18 Yes.

19 MS. THURMAN:

20 Chairman Johns?

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Yes. Okay. By unanimous vote, the  
23 motion has passed to uphold the decision of the  
24 hearing officer. Ms. Braxton, I can just ask --  
25 thank you for being here today, and I just wish

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1 you the best of luck. Okay. Is there any further  
2 business to come before the Board?

3 MS. JAMES:

4 No. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. I have no further questions.  
7 Thank you for -- for your indulgence with the new  
8 chairman today. I greatly, greatly appreciate it.  
9 I look forward to working with you, and I promise  
10 you there will be no more motions on emotion.

11 X. ADJOURNMENT

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. I would ask for a motion that  
14 we adjourn.

15 MS. BERRY:

16 (Indicating)

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Made by Ms. Berry.

19 MS. LEWIS:

20 (Indicating)

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Seconded by Ms. Lewis. And any

23 objection to that motion?

24 (NO RESPONSE)

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

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1 Hearing none, we are adjourned.

2 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 11:37 A.M.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I, Karla H. Mayers, a Certified Court  
Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, do  
3 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and  
correct transcript of the proceedings held at this  
4 Louisiana Gaming Control Board meeting on the 19th  
day of August, 2021, as set forth in the forgoing  
5 109 pages.

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

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

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

advisory opinions of the board.

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

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

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Karla H. Mayers, CCR