

Board Meeting
April 17, 2023

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023

LASALLE BUILDING
617 NORTH THIRD STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

1 APPEARANCES

2 RONNIE S. JOHNS, CHAIRMAN
3 (At-Large)
4 June 30, 2025

5 JULIE BERRY, VICE-CHAIRMAN
6 (CPA)
7 Third Congressional District
8 June 30, 2024

9 CLAUDE D. JACKSON
10 (At-Large)
11 Fourth Congressional District
12 June 30, 2027

13 O. LAMAR POOLE, JR.
14 (Economic/Community Planner)
15 Sixth Congressional District
16 June 30, 2025

17 JULIE A. LEWIS
18 (Investigative and Law Enforcement)
19 Fifth Congressional District
20 June 30, 2024

21 FRANCESCA HAMILTON-ACKER
22 (Attorney)
23 Third Congressional District
24 June 30, 2026

25 RONALD J. SHOLES
(Public/Business Administration)
Second Congressional District
June 30, 2026

ASHLEY A. TRAYLOR
(At-Large)
First Congressional District
June 30, 2027

FARIDA HERNANDEZ
Principal Assistant

KEVIN RICHARD, SECRETARY
Department of Revenue

REPORTED BY:

MAJOR CHUCK McNEAL
Louisiana State Police

KARLA H. MAYERS, CCR
U.S. Legal Support

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1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Well, good morning, ladies and
4 gentlemen. Thank you for being with us today. I
5 would like to call to order the April 17, 2023,
6 meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.
7 Ms. Hernandez, would you call the roll, please?

8 MS. HERNANDEZ:

9 Chairman Johns?

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Here.

12 MS. HERNANDEZ:

13 Mr. Avant?

14 (NO RESPONSE)

15 MS. HERNANDEZ:

16 Ms. Berry?

17 MS. BERRY:

18 Here.

19 MS. HERNANDEZ:

20 Mr. Jackson?

21 MR. JACKSON:

22 Here.

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 Ms. Lewis?

25 MS. LEWIS:

1 Here.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 Mr. Poole?

4 MR. POOLE:

5 Here.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ:

7 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

8 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

9 Here.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ:

11 Mr. Sholes?

12 MR. SHOLES:

13 Here.

14 MS. HERNANDEZ:

15 Ms. Traylor?

16 MS. TRAYLOR:

17 Here.

18 MS. HERNANDEZ:

19 Colonel Davis?

20 MAJOR McNEAL:

21 Major McNeal for Colonel Davis.

22 MS. HERNANDEZ:

23 And Secretary Richard?

24 MS. TEMPLET:

25 Heather Templet for Secretary

1 Richard.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 We have a quorum.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Thank you, Ms. Hernandez. We do have
6 a quorum this morning. So, ladies and gentlemen,
7 thank you for coming to the LaSalle Building
8 today. This is not our normal venue for meeting.
9 The Louisiana Legislature is in session right now,
10 and we have been displaced for this meeting not
11 only today but also for the May -- May meeting,
12 also.

13 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 So, Members, we'll now move into
16 public comments. If there are any public comments
17 to come before this Board today, now is the time
18 to step forward and speak before the Board. Do I
19 have any public comments?

20 (NO RESPONSE)

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Seeing none, we will move into the
23 approval of minutes.

24 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

1 I would ask for a motion to waive the
2 reading and approve the minutes of the March 16,
3 2022, board meeting.

4 MR. POOLE:

5 (Indicating)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Mr. Poole has made that motion.

8 MS. BERRY:

9 Second.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Ms. Berry has seconded that motion.

12 Is there any opposition to that motion?

13 (NO RESPONSE)

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Hearing none, that motion carries.

16 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Okay. Moving to revenue reports.

19 Ms. Jackson, good morning.

20 MS. JACKSON:

21 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
22 Members. My name is Donna Jackson with Louisiana
23 State Police, Gaming Audit Section.

24 In March the 14 operating riverboats
25 generated adjusted gross receipts of \$166,605,157.

1 The State collected fees totaling \$35,820,109
2 during March. Fiscal year to date adjusted gross
3 receipts are \$1,315,000,000, a decrease of
4 2 percent from last fiscal year. As of March 31,
5 2023, the State collected almost \$283 million in
6 fees for fiscal year 2023.

7 Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue
8 broken down by regional market. This month's
9 revenues represent an increase from February of
10 approximately \$22.3 million, or 15.5 percent, but
11 a decrease of .5 percent compared to the same
12 month last year.

13 Next is a summary of the March 2023
14 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans, found on
15 page 3. Harrah's generated \$22,026,226 in gross
16 gaming revenue. These revenues represent a slight
17 increase from last month of 1.8 percent but a
18 decrease of 3.5 percent from last March. During
19 March the State received \$5.5 million in minimum
20 daily payments. Fiscal year to date adjusted
21 gross receipts are \$197 million, an increase of
22 24 percent from last fiscal year. As of March 31,
23 2023, the State collected \$48.8 million in fees
24 for fiscal year 2023.

25 Next I'll present the revenues for

1 slots at the racetracks. During March the four
2 racetrack facilities combined generated adjusted
3 gross receipts of \$29,711,852, an increase of
4 \$2.4 million, or 8.8 percent, from February but a
5 decrease of \$1.5 million, or 4.8 percent, when
6 compared to the same month last year. During
7 March the State collected fees totaling
8 \$4.5 million. Fiscal year to date adjusted gross
9 receipts are \$237.5 million, a decrease of
10 \$4.9 million, or 2 percent, from last fiscal year.
11 As of March 31, 2023, the State has collected
12 \$36 million in fees for fiscal year 2023.

13 I will now move to the video gaming
14 information. There are 12,088 video gaming
15 devices activated at 1,402 locations. Net device
16 revenue for March 2023 was \$73,602,852, an
17 increase of \$7.3 million, or 11 percent, when
18 compared to February 2023 and a decrease of
19 \$7.4 million, or 9 percent, when compared to last
20 March. Total franchise fees for March 2023
21 totaled \$22.3 million. Fiscal year to date net
22 device revenue is \$586.5 million, a decrease of
23 \$35 million, or 5.6 percent, when compared to last
24 fiscal year. As of March 31, 2023, the State has
25 collected \$177.8 million in franchise fees for

1 fiscal year 2023.

2 Next I will present the March revenue
3 for sportsbook. During March the 18 retail
4 sportsbooks accepted \$26 million in sports wagers,
5 resulting in net proceeds of \$3.5 million and
6 \$308,000 in state taxes. The eight mobile
7 sportsbook operators accepted \$223 million in
8 sports wagers, resulting in net proceeds of
9 approximately \$26 million and \$3.3 million in
10 taxes paid to the State.

11 Finally, for daily fantasy sports,
12 gross revenues for March were \$675,000, with net
13 revenue of approximately \$70,000 in taxes of
14 \$5,600.

15 And just as information, I also
16 included two additional charts in your chart
17 folders that aggregate all gaming. One shows
18 March numbers and then fiscal year to date, and
19 the second one compares the calendar years 2021 to
20 2022, or vice versa, and it shows the difference
21 by type of gaming, just for your information.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Well, thank you, Ms. Jackson. Any
24 questions on revenue for Ms. Jackson? Any
25 questions from the Board?

1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 I have no questions. I would like to
4 make note, I continue to follow the numbers on
5 sports betting pretty closely. I think we're now
6 about 17 months into legalized sports betting in
7 Louisiana, maybe 14 months of it being mobile. We
8 have now exceeded \$3 billion in wagers and we now
9 have generated, I think, over \$44 million in state
10 taxes. So those are pretty rounded-off numbers
11 but pretty staggering numbers. So any other
12 questions? Judge?

13 MR. SHOLES:

14 I'm rather curious. How do we
15 compare to the other states that have
16 sportsbooks -- in revenue? Do we know, and is it
17 possible to determine?

18 MS. JACKSON:

19 I could find that information for
20 you.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 I think we can get those numbers
23 for -- for us.

24 MR. SHOLES:

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 I don't follow other states very
3 closely, but I -- I guarantee you we're one of the
4 most successful states. Any other questions from
5 the Board?

6 (NO RESPONSE)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Hearing none, Ms. Jackson, thank you
9 very much for your --

10 MS. JACKSON:

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 -- great work once again.

14 V. CONSIDERATION OF HEARING OFFICER CONTRACT

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Okay. Item No. V on the agenda is
17 the consideration of our hearing officer contract.
18 Today we will consider the contract of our hearing
19 officer, Judge Suzan S. Ponder, for the period of
20 July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

21 Members, I think in your packet you
22 have a copy of the contract. This is just a
23 renewal -- a one-year renewal of Judge Ponder's
24 contract for the Hearing Office. Judge Ponder has
25 agreed to stay on for an additional year with us.

1 She has done an exceptional job for this Board.
2 Very professional and very, very pleased with her
3 work. Do I have any questions on the contract
4 before you?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Hearing none, if I could have a
8 motion to approve the contract for our hearing
9 officer, Suzan Ponder.

10 MS. BERRY:

11 (Indicating)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Ms. Berry has --

14 MR. JACKSON:

15 Second.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 -- made a motion to approve this
18 contract, and Judge --

19 MR. JACKSON:

20 Second.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 -- Mr. Jackson has -- has seconded
23 that motion. Is there any discussion on the
24 motion? Is there any objection to that motion?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Hearing none, that motion carries and
3 the contract is hereby approved.

4 VI. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. We now move into the casino
7 gaming issues. Our first presentation today will
8 be an update and presentation on Louisiana
9 Riverboat Gaming Company, LLC, doing business as
10 DiamondJacks Casino & Resort. Gentlemen,
11 Mr. Barbin, good morning.

12 MR. BARBIN:

13 Good morning.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Gentlemen, why don't y'all come up to
16 the table. I would ask everyone to please speak
17 directly into the microphone. It's not very
18 sensitive. But good morning.

19 MR. BARBIN:

20 Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 And welcome to Louisiana.

23 MR. NORTON:

24 Thank you.

25 MR. STEWART:

1 Thank you.

2 MR. BARBIN:

3 Jeff Barbin here representing the
4 buyers of DiamondJacks Casino, which is LRG
5 Investors, and to my far right is Rob Norton, who
6 is the President of Cordish Gaming Group; and next
7 is Joe Billhimer, who is the Executive Vice
8 President and COOO of -- just two O's -- COO of
9 Cordish Gaming Group; and to my right -- immediate
10 right is Mark Stewart, who is the General Counsel
11 of the Cordish Group.

12 You may recall at last month's
13 special meeting, or earlier this month, the Board
14 extended the deadlines for DiamondJacks to reopen
15 the facility, and the reason for the extension was
16 to facilitate the purchase of the project by the
17 Cordish Gaming Group. And so we're here today to
18 give you a brief presentation on the new scope of
19 the project and to introduce you to the Cordish
20 Gaming Group.

21 And I will say we made our initial
22 submissions for applications earlier last week,
23 and, you know, we're ready to go. As soon as you
24 tell us to go, we're ready to go. And so we
25 wanted to come today to give you a brief

1 introduction. And I'll turn it over now to Rob
2 Norton, who will walk you through it.

3 MR. NORTON:

4 Thank you, Jeff. We're very excited
5 to be here today, and we're going to just run you
6 through a little bit about our company, and then
7 I'll walk you through what we have planned. Just
8 keep in mind, please, as we go through today the
9 presentation, it's still very conceptual, as we've
10 only been working on this for about a month or so.
11 And so things will continue to adjust as we -- as
12 we refine the plans, but we're excited to show you
13 where we are as of right now.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Okay. Thank you.

16 MR. STEWART:

17 Good morning. All right. There we
18 go. Good morning. As you've heard, my name is
19 Mark Stewart. Thrilled to be here.

20 You have in front of you some
21 information about the Cordish Companies. We are a
22 nearly 115-year-old, family-owned and operated
23 business. David Cordish's grandfather, Louis,
24 formed the company, and David followed his father
25 into the company, becoming our Chairman and CEO in

1 1968. He has served in that role ever since and
2 is vim and vigor and right on it every day of the
3 week. We have four generations now into the
4 company, with David's sons, John, Blake, and Reed,
5 all taking leadership positions in the company.
6 And, actually, I can say that we have a fifth
7 generation since one of David's grandsons has been
8 a licensed dealer at Maryland Live Casino & Hotel.
9 Family is in our DNA, and we bring it to
10 everything that we do in terms of our team members
11 and our guests.

12 Cordish Companies is a diverse
13 company that is involved in the full spectrum of
14 development opportunities. You can see them in
15 front of you, obviously gaming but also
16 entertainment districts, hotels, restaurants,
17 sports-anchored districts, all of them, and this
18 is really one of the things that sets the Cordish
19 companies apart.

20 As you, no doubt, are aware, in
21 recent years many gaming companies have tried to
22 evolve into non-gaming amenities, but the Cordish
23 Companies began there and built a strong
24 foundation in those areas first, then moved into
25 the gaming space, and this has really enabled us

1 to create an exceptional quality of experience for
2 our guests. The other aspect of our company that
3 is unique is that we don't just develop. We
4 operate our facilities with our employees, and
5 that enables us to continue to reinvest to refresh
6 those projects.

7 What you see before you here on this
8 slide is reflective of the fact that urban
9 redevelopment is really one of our core tenets,
10 and it leads back to David Cordish's experience
11 working in both the Carter and Reagan
12 Administrations, leading an office that was
13 dedicated to transformative public-private urban
14 redevelopment, and he brought that to the
15 company, -- excuse me -- which has led to the
16 Cordish Companies receiving an unprecedented seven
17 Urban Land Institute Awards for Excellence. This
18 is really the gold standard in this development
19 space, and it's more than any other developer has
20 received.

21 One of those projects which received
22 an award is the Power & Light District in Kansas
23 City, and this project opened about 15 years ago.
24 It's comprised of more than 10 city blocks, 50
25 dining and retail establishments, and it now has 3

1 luxury residential apartments, one -- the third to
2 open in September and a fourth under construction.

3 We have over a billion dollars invested
4 here in this project. We have over 1,000 team
5 members employed in relation to it. And you may
6 have seen it recently during both the World Cup
7 soccer tournament and the Super Bowl last year.
8 They frequently feature on the national
9 broadcast our Live block entertainment district at
10 Power & Light District.

11 The slide before you is Ballpark
12 Village in St. Louis, and it's an excellent
13 example of our sports-anchored entertainment
14 projects. This is actually the first time that a
15 professional sports venue was master-planned with
16 a mixed-use development from the start. And we
17 have great partnerships here with the Cardinals,
18 with Live By Loews, and one of our hotels. We
19 have commercial office space, where
20 PricewaterhouseCoopers is located, and a host of
21 retail, dining, entertainment opportunities.

22 In 2018 we opened Texas Live. It is
23 a fantastic example of what Live and the Cordish
24 Companies can do. We've partnered with the Texas
25 Rangers on this project. We have over 200,000

1 square feet of dining, retail, and entertainment
2 space. You can see there the Live By Loews Hotel,
3 which is a 300-room hotel that also has conference
4 space. And we have, additionally, a 900-room
5 hotel, or almost-900-room hotel, and convention
6 center under construction, as well as a
7 residential tower, and the Medal of -- National
8 Medal of Honor Museum, which the Cordish Companies
9 and our partners were selected through a
10 competitive competition to -- to develop. We're
11 very excited about the tremendous opportunities
12 for synergies between Texas Live and Live Casino
13 Hotel Louisiana.

14 Here is a view of the interior of the
15 Texas Live Entertainment District, where we have
16 12 dining and retail venues, as well as a
17 5,000-capacity music venue.

18 Next slide is a great depiction of
19 our Live By Loews Hotel. As I mentioned, it's a
20 300-room hotel with some conference space. And
21 you can see the great detail -- this is not a
22 rendering. It is an actual photograph of a
23 feature of the Live By Loews Hotel looking out at
24 AT&T Stadium -- the great attention to detail that
25 we put in the design, and we try to create

1 incredible visual moments throughout our
2 districts.

3 The picture before you is the master
4 plan for Texas Live. As indicated, it's a
5 \$4 billion master plan. We and our partners have
6 approximately \$2.5 billion already completed, and
7 we have a billion dollars under construction
8 currently. So that's a brief snapshot of Live and
9 our over 25 operating facilities that welcome
10 55 million annual visitors.

11 Live means so much to us. It's more
12 than just a brand. It infuses everything we do,
13 and to us it's about creating incredible
14 experiences, infectious energy that brings people
15 together. But a picture tells a thousand words,
16 they say; so we created this video to try and
17 capture the essence of the Live brand.

18 (VIDEO PLAYED)

19 MR. STEWART:

20 And with that, allow me to turn it
21 over to Joe Billhimer to speak a little more in
22 detail about the Cordish Gaming Group.

23 MR. BILLHIMER:

24 Yeah. I'm going to start off with
25 just showing you our Cordish -- Cordish Gaming

1 Group leadership team. Of note, Rob, myself, and
2 Suzanne have actually operated in this market.
3 Previously, I was here in '97 opening Casino
4 Magic, again in 2010 and 2011 with Eldorado, and I
5 look forward to coming back to the
6 Bossier-Shreveport market with our project.
7 You'll see our leadership team is in this area
8 quite a bit, and you'll be -- you'll come to know
9 all of them.

10 We have the pleasure of kind of
11 leading a Cordish culture through this team, and
12 I'm going to walk you all through a couple of our
13 properties -- existing properties, but the
14 backbone of what we do and how we operate is
15 through our team members; so I'm going to start
16 with a little bit of -- let you hear from them
17 real quickly.

18 (VIDEO PLAYED)

19 MR. BILLHIMER:

20 Great. So I'm going to walk you
21 through our properties. This is our -- this is
22 our Live Maryland property, as you can see, voted
23 best gaming overall resort, best casino, best
24 hotel, best casino player magazine. We have over
25 4,000 slot machines at this facility, 188 live

1 table games, over 300 guest rooms, and a
2 75,000-square-foot multi-use concert and event
3 center.

4 This is the mother ship of our
5 property, and this is where our DNA in gaming was
6 actually started; so as I go through these slides,
7 you'll start to see the level of quality. This is
8 our hotel lobby as you come into the facility.
9 Keep going.

10 This will just give you an idea of
11 the interior of the casino. To your right is high
12 limits, with a high limit bar, casino floor on the
13 left. Sports & Social, which you'll hear a little
14 bit later from Rob, is a Cordish-developed concept
15 that we have actually opening across the country
16 in non-casino venues as well, but we have this in
17 all of our casinos as of now.

18 Our hall, the live entertainment
19 venue, we -- you know, this is a large venue. We
20 can seat up to 5,000 folks for an event. We
21 actually have Jerry Seinfeld and Kevin Hart coming
22 up in the few months. A beautiful, beautiful
23 room.

24 This will just show you one of our
25 luxury suites. We call this the West Wing, with

1 expansive views looking back over towards
2 Baltimore from Arundel Mills.

3 I failed to mention, too, in that
4 particular project that you just looked at, we
5 doubled our invest -- our original investment from
6 what we started with on that project. So we
7 consistently reinvest into the properties.

8 Now you have up before you is Live
9 Philadelphia. Very close to me in that I was
10 charged with opening this property and another one
11 in Pittsburgh during COVID. We were able to keep
12 that project moving in the -- in the midst of
13 COVID with some very creative construction
14 methodology to keep everyone safe and actually
15 opened both these properties during COVID. This
16 casino has 2,000 slots, over 100 live table games,
17 over 208 guest rooms, and a 25,000-square-foot
18 event center.

19 You'll see here a porte cochere
20 entry. This is, in the ceiling there, -- you saw
21 that in the previous slide for the hotel lobby --
22 a Jennifer Steinkamp art piece that, actually, you
23 are underneath when you come into the facility.
24 Again, just pictures really showing you the decor
25 and kind of our style.

1 A center bar, a hub of activity. We
2 have live entertainment seven days a week at the
3 facility. Up in the upper left corner, you see
4 again Sports & Social, -- again, that's a
5 Cordish-developed concept -- our partners in
6 Pennsylvania, our FanDuel. And in the upper right
7 you see our steakhouse and Luk Fu, which is
8 another Asian concept, authentic cuisine, that is
9 a Cordish-developed concept, too, that we will be
10 bringing to Bossier.

11 This depicts a standard room in a
12 couple of our suites. Again, you can pay
13 attention to the quality and the details. It's
14 just really how we do things.

15 Pittsburgh. This is -- by statute it
16 is limited to 750 slots and 40 table games. And
17 when I say that, it's -- it's a smaller casino,
18 but when I show you the slides, you'll see, again,
19 we don't take that for -- we don't -- we don't
20 just look at it as a small, mini casino. We
21 actually put a lot of time and effort and set the
22 standard for what are called Category 4s in
23 Pennsylvania. And since opening we've actually
24 added a 7,000-square-foot event center in which we
25 do a lot of community events there.

1 Showing the high limit area, as well
2 as the casino floor. Again, you'll see a
3 consistent pattern here of quality and what we
4 have in our DNA and how we build things.

5 This is Sports & Social. This is
6 actually off the casino floor. This is a pretty
7 neat view, because you're actually standing just
8 adjacent to our gaming floor.

9 And when I go to the next slide, this
10 is actually Sports & Social Restaurant, which
11 looks down over that two-story, very, very big
12 screen. To the right there you'll see the entry
13 to Sports & Social. We also have a PBR Cowboy Bar
14 there as well, which we also hope to bring to the
15 Bossier market.

16 All the things that we've talked
17 about, the -- you know, the Cordish family, the
18 culture of our team members, and the quality of
19 our assets have also led us to lead one of the
20 premier players clubs in the country. We have
21 been recognized quite a few times as at least the
22 top two players clubs in America, and we think
23 this a very important part of how we do business
24 at Live.

25 Again, I will tell you that all of

1 these awards that you see up here that we've
2 achieved over the last eleven years and the last
3 two and a half years in Pennsylvania are a result
4 of the quality, the assets we build, the culture
5 that we bring and that our -- that our team
6 members actually deliver.

7 With that, I'll let you hear a little
8 bit about our commitment to the community, because
9 that's all part of exactly what we do.

10 (VIDEO PLAYED)

11 MR. BILLHIMER:

12 So with that, I'll turn it over to
13 Rob Norton. But, again, I think that's evidence
14 that we don't just check a box in our -- in our
15 efforts within the community. We don't just write
16 a check. We actually participate, and we
17 contribute with our -- with our time.

18 I'll turn it over to Rob now to talk
19 about our exciting Louisiana property.

20 MR. NORTON:

21 All right. I get the fun part. So I
22 think it was important to give just a little bit
23 of a background on who we are as a company and
24 kind of what the Live brand means and the -- and
25 the family culture that we bring in. I don't know

1 if Mark said it, but, you know, this is a private,
2 family-run company, and so everything we do really
3 comes from that DNA of creating an environment
4 where we are warm, welcoming, and we have fun at
5 what we do day in and day out.

6 So with that in mind, how do we bring
7 that to Louisiana, to the Bossier City market?
8 You guys are familiar -- Jeff, go ahead and go
9 forward.

10 You're familiar with the -- with the
11 starting point. This is the original Isle of
12 Capri and most recently DiamondJacks. What Joe
13 didn't share is, after Hurricane Katrina, this
14 actually became my home for six months as Isle of
15 Capri relocated their office to the ballroom of
16 DiamondJacks back then, and I lived there for six
17 months while we tried to restart that company back
18 then after the -- after that disaster; so I know
19 this property intimately, and we're really excited
20 about what we have coming forward.

21 So let's talk about the vision. So,
22 obviously, our goal is to bring the casino on
23 land, but that's just part of it. We've spent a
24 lot of time talking about creating the night life,
25 the energy, the attitude. And so when we take --

1 we're going to take a tour through the facility in
2 just a moment, and we'll share with you how we
3 accomplish that. So next slide, Jeff.

4 We'll start with kind of the basics.
5 This will be, in almost all regards, a larger
6 scale project than what Foundation had proposed
7 originally. We expect that we'll be spending more
8 money, opening more F&B operations, creating more
9 jobs; and, you know, hopefully, that translates
10 into more gross revenue and more taxes for the
11 state as well.

12 So, as you see the plan here, similar
13 to what you've seen in past board meetings, you
14 know, our plan is to create a land-based facility
15 that connects the hotel to a parking garage,
16 different than what you may have seen before, as
17 you'll see that our -- the majority of our
18 construction, or a lot of that construction, is
19 coming forward to come meet people, not getting
20 behind the parking deck. So this is just giving
21 you an overall view.

22 So let's go ahead and go through the
23 arrival sequence. So as you first approach the
24 property, you'll be taken through the port -- the
25 drive lanes through the porte cochere. We have

1 kind of -- as you can see, it's still conceptual,
2 so a couple of different possibilities of how that
3 might look. But we are -- we have an iconic
4 arrival sequence that we -- that we definitely
5 would like to engage that will bring you into an
6 interior luxury, kind of glamour arrival process,
7 which would put you between the hotel and the
8 casino and allow you to pick veering to your left
9 to walk into the casino or veering to the right to
10 go take part in the -- in the hotel.

11 When you decide to go into the
12 casino, you're generally going to be met with Live
13 finishes and colors. That's a lot of reds and
14 golds, natural stones, coloring, very meaningful
15 pathways and attention to detail as we go through.

16 So, you know, you saw a possible
17 rendering. Really when you look at our casino
18 spaces, though, we're going to keep pulling from
19 the inspiration of what we've already done and
20 been successful in as far as creating the color
21 palettes and the -- and the overall warmth and
22 feel of the space.

23 We do anticipate having some sort of
24 center bar or center feature similar to the
25 Philadelphia model where we would, you know,

1 engage with entertainment and some kind of night
2 life attitude that would energize the whole floor.

3 We will have some sort of fine dining
4 restaurant, not to be named yet. Again, these
5 fine dining -- this fine dining establishment will
6 have a very upscale and trendy look with a -- with
7 a balance of comfortable and contemporary. This
8 is -- what you saw on that screen are the actual
9 images of our steakhouse in Philadelphia on the
10 top two, and then the bottom right is the patio,
11 which we'll -- we anticipate having a patio in
12 Bossier City. That's the patio from our Maryland
13 Live Steakhouse.

14 As Mark mentioned, being -- our main
15 feeder market being out of the Dallas/Fort Worth
16 area -- we have Texas Live there, and so we wanted
17 to bring two powerhouses from our Texas Live
18 operation to Bossier City. We think that it will
19 help with the connectivity of the two brands and
20 help drive more action between the two locations.

21 And so the first is PBR -- PBR Cowboy
22 Bar. PBR is an absolute powerhouse nightclub
23 concept that we would -- that we would activate
24 that east side of the casino with. I mean, you
25 can see this is the actual images of PBR in our

1 Pittsburgh casino.

2 And then right next to it we would
3 anticipate bringing the Sports & Social. As you
4 heard, we have more than 20 of these Sports &
5 Socials under construction around the country
6 right now. Inside the casino spaces, it becomes
7 an elevated sports-watching experience that we add
8 sports betting into; so you're going to get great
9 food, great watching experience, plus you'll have
10 the opportunity to bet on your favorite teams.
11 And these images are real images from our Maryland
12 location. And that's the one we would probably
13 take most of our inspiration from.

14 We do anticipate bringing a high-end
15 gaming salon into the market, both slots and
16 tables. And, you know, you can -- we've got a
17 couple of images we're starting to work around
18 with what that might look and feel like; but,
19 again, we're going to look at some of our existing
20 high limit spaces, which are on the next slide,
21 and give you a sense and a feel for kind of what
22 that design motif might look like.

23 We anticipate bringing in an
24 authentic Asian restaurant. We have these at each
25 of our two larger facilities. We do not have one

1 of these in Pittsburgh, but we will bring
2 something like this. This is -- again, these are
3 images of our Philadelphia Asian restaurant, and
4 so we anticipate bringing something like this to
5 the Bossier City market.

6 And then we'll have at least one
7 more, probably two more concepts as you head into
8 the hotel lobby. This will be where we have our
9 multi-meal venue and some sort of breakfast
10 offering and maybe one more offering, that's yet
11 to be developed but in process, where we can
12 create a little bit more of a -- of an attitude
13 within that lobby and carry some of the energy
14 that we're going to have in the casino into the
15 hotel space. And so these are images of a couple
16 of our different concepts from Maryland and how --
17 kind of the -- how they are designed and what they
18 look like.

19 And then, of course, we have nearly a
20 600-room hotel that we are needing to reactivate,
21 and that comes with, you know, roughly 2,500
22 square feet of event space. And so we will plan
23 to repurpose, or rebuild, refinish that event
24 space, bring it up to a Live standard type of
25 room, and we will focus on bringing entertainment

1 back to the market and seeing what we can do to
2 grow the convention and visitors space.

3 So the next couple of slides are the
4 images of our Pittsburgh and our Texas Live
5 ballroom spaces and prefunction areas, and this
6 is -- these are the inspirational directions that
7 we would come at for the Bossier City ballrooms.
8 Those are the prefunction areas.

9 And as you head into the hotel --
10 you've already seen some fantastic images between
11 our Live Casino in Maryland and in Philadelphia,
12 what the hotel will probably look like as we go
13 into the lobby area. You know, it's going to be a
14 blend of sophistication and comfort, you know, so
15 it feels a little bit residential in a way. You
16 see the furniture laid out, but you will -- you'll
17 be able to feel the palpable level of high-end
18 finish and refinement as you come into that hotel.

19 And then these are the renderings of
20 the -- of where we are with the Bossier hotel
21 design now. So this is our first pass of
22 renderings for the space. Hard to really get a
23 sense of it. So, if we flip to the next page,
24 you'll see what those look like in actual photos,
25 a very similar finish from our Philadelphia and

1 Texas facilities. The top two are, I think, the
2 regular rooms, and the bottom are the suites.

3 And that is -- that is the
4 presentation that we have for you today. I
5 hope -- I hope you are as excited as we are about
6 what we're bringing to the market, pending
7 approval. And we are excited to be here, and
8 we're happy to take any questions you might have,
9 Chairman.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Well, gentlemen, thank you.
12 Impressive. I will share with you and the public
13 that your reputation in other states that you do
14 business is exemplary. I've made my phone calls,
15 and, to quote, another regulator said we would be
16 very fortunate in Louisiana to have Cordish in our
17 operations here. So thank you for your commitment
18 to this.

19 I will tell you that community
20 involvement is a big deal here in Louisiana.
21 We -- I had an old saying when I was over in the
22 Senate. I don't want to see a warehouse full of
23 slot machines. You know, we want to -- we want to
24 see amenities. We want to see first-class
25 operations, and we definitely want to see

1 community involvement. And that's just, I think,
2 the nature of Louisiana. I think we're a very
3 giving state. We're very cultural -- culturally
4 involved in a lot of things, and we like to take
5 care of our own; so we appreciate that commitment
6 to the -- your community involvement.

7 We'll -- I know in some of your other
8 locations, you have a collaboration with Loews
9 Hotel. Is that going to be part of the Bossier
10 operation?

11 MR. NORTON:

12 In our casino projects, we typically
13 do not brand the hotels; so right now it's not
14 likely that it will be branded, but we explore
15 every option when we go into these types of
16 markets. And with Loews being in Dallas, we'll
17 definitely review that, but right now the casinos
18 don't typically get flagged.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. How many -- how many employees
21 do you project right now? Now, I'm not going to
22 hold you to this, okay, but do you have a
23 projection of what it's going to take to operate
24 this facility?

25 MR. NORTON:

1 Yeah. We're in the process of
2 building that out right now, and I think -- I'm
3 always leery to throw out a number at this
4 stage, Chairman, but I think we would be somewhere
5 north of 600.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Okay. By the way, you're welcome to
8 spend all the money you want. We greatly -- we'll
9 take that. We appreciate that. Any questions
10 from our board members? Judge?

11 MR. SHOLES:

12 Surely, today probably isn't the time
13 to ask this, but on your next appearance, I would
14 like to hear something about the income of your
15 team members, the minimum salaries that we can
16 expect to see people earn in Louisiana. And
17 finally, Live, does it have any relationship with
18 Live Nation?

19 MR. NORTON:

20 We actually do business with Live
21 Nation in a number of ways, but it's actually a
22 separate brand; so we are -- other than the -- we
23 hold a lot of concerts -- we do almost as many as
24 Live Nation across our brand -- and we use them
25 sometimes for booking, there is no other

1 affiliation.

2 MR. SHOLES:

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Okay. Any questions from the Board?

6 Any comments, anybody?

7 MS. BERRY:

8 I just want to make a comment.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. Ms. Berry?

11 MS. BERRY:

12 I just want to say that, in addition

13 to what the Chairman said about community

14 involvement and personal involvement in the city

15 itself, I was very impressed how you mentioned

16 several times the word "family," and I think

17 Louisiana is a big, big, big family state. And if

18 you're working with your family, sometimes it can

19 be a detriment, but it sounds like y'all's is --

20 y'all have it on. So I think the patrons of your

21 casino will appreciate the family involvement,

22 especially if they're treated like family. So I

23 was impressed by that.

24 MR. NORTON:

25 Thank you.

1 MR. STEWART:

2 Well, you know, just to reflect how
3 significant that family is a part of it, one
4 additional story, we have an event planned this
5 summer --

6 MR. NORTON:

7 September. September.

8 MR. STEWART:

9 -- in September where our highest
10 players across -- a whole host of our players
11 across our players club of all our properties get
12 to come to David Cordish's house and spend some
13 time with him and his wife, Suzi, and, you know,
14 it will be a great day.

15 MR. NORTON:

16 David is inviting about 600 of his
17 closest friends to his house for a dinner party;
18 so . . .

19 MS. BERRY:

20 That's interesting. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 I would like to, once again, mention,
23 and I did at the last special board meeting we
24 did, that we do have letters of support for this
25 project from the Mayor of Bossier City, Tommy

1 Chandler, and also from the President of the
2 Bossier Parish Police Jury. And I know that you
3 gentlemen have met with both of those entities,
4 and I appreciate you taking the time to do that.
5 It's very important. But we will enter those
6 letters into the public record -- of support.

7 One last question, I guess, I have
8 is, so how will this seamless operation -- with
9 Foundation doing work right now, you going through
10 the suitability process the next few months, do
11 you see this slowing down construction at any
12 point?

13 MR. NORTON:

14 So I think, Chairman, when we met
15 with you, we talked a little bit about the history
16 that we have with Foundation. You know, I was
17 part of the same management leadership group with
18 Isle of Capri that -- that Greg, Les, and Don were
19 a part of. We worked out of the same offices.
20 Joe actually was a part of Foundation at one
21 point; so there is a -- there is a natural rapport
22 that has -- that we've started with and one of the
23 reasons why we were able to come to this
24 agreement, because of those relationships.

25 When we -- when we move forward, we

1 have every intention to try to keep this project
2 moving forward. There is a point where we are
3 concerned that there could be a delay and thus the
4 nature of the extensions that we requested, and
5 that really starts to come when we -- if we
6 haven't gotten licensed, at a point when we're
7 ready to start building out the interior spaces
8 where we are -- you know, our brand and how we do
9 things becomes so important. But we believe right
10 now, based on all the projections, that we hope to
11 mitigate that or minimize it to nothing, but we'll
12 see how the next couple of months go.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 All right. Well, just dot your i's
15 and cross your t's with State Police, and I know
16 that they're going to bend over backwards to -- to
17 get this moving as quickly as possible.

18 MR. NORTON:

19 Right. It was our goal to have our
20 application filed and turned in before we met with
21 you here today, and we have -- it's -- from what I
22 understand, it is materially, if not completely,
23 filed, but our -- as we get requests back for
24 additional information, we heard loud and clear
25 that our responsiveness is the important part to

1 that; so we will be all over it.

2 MR. BILLHIMER:

3 Yeah. And to your first point, too,
4 we meet with Foundation probably twice a week, if
5 not three times a week, going over the
6 construction plans. Demolition continues. I
7 think we're well over 200 dumpsters of material
8 that has come out of that building; so we really
9 do hope to keep that pace.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Members, right -- sitting right
12 behind these gentlemen are the team from
13 Foundation Gaming, and I just want to publicly say
14 thank you, Foundation, for stepping up to the
15 plate months ago, accepting this incredible
16 challenge. I know what a challenge it was,
17 because I've been there and looked at the
18 property, and I thank you, Foundation, for your
19 commitment. You're a first-class company. You're
20 welcome back to Louisiana any time. So thank you
21 very, very much. We greatly appreciate your
22 commitment to the state of Louisiana. So, Greg,
23 Les, Don, thank you. Ms. Boles, thank you.

24 MR. NORTON:

25 And, Chairman, we are excited to --

1 that they will be continuing a relationship with
2 us going forward, as they are part of the new
3 structure with us, and we intend to bring every
4 ounce of knowledge they have of this market into
5 the benefit of this property.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Okay. Members, any further
8 questions, comments?

9 (NO RESPONSE)

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Rob, thank you. Bill, thank you.
12 Mark, thank you. And, Mr. Barbin, thank you. We
13 look forward to working with you and very closely,
14 and we're excited to have you in Louisiana. Good
15 luck to you.

16 MR. NORTON:

17 Thank you.

18 MR. BILLHIMER:

19 Thank you.

20 MR. STEWART:

21 Thank you very much.

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Members, we have no action to be
24 taken on this today. This was strictly a
25 presentation.

1 Okay. We will now move into Item
2 No. B. We have the consideration of request for
3 the approval of a debt transaction for Churchill
4 Downs Louisiana Horseracing Company, LLC, doing
5 business as Fair Grounds Racing Course.

6 MS. JACKSON:

7 Good morning.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Ms. Jackson, good morning.

10 MS. JACKSON:

11 Chairman Johns, Board Members, my
12 name is Donna Jackson with Louisiana State Police,
13 Gaming Audit Section.

14 In a notice letter dated February 3,
15 2023, and by correspondence amending the notice
16 dated February 17, Churchill Downs Louisiana
17 Horceracing Company, LLC, notified the Board of
18 its -- of the intent of its parent company,
19 Churchill Downs, Incorporated, to amend its
20 existing credit agreement to increase the amount
21 of its Term A loans by \$500 million.

22 After a review of the proposed
23 transaction by the Attorney General's Office and
24 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section, it
25 was determined that the proposed amendment of

1 Churchill Downs' existing credit agreement
2 required Board approval.

3 Additionally, when the license
4 notified the Board of the proposed debt
5 transaction, it also requested that Churchill
6 Downs be allowed to close the financing,
7 conditioned on later Board approval.

8 On February 17, 2023, Chairman Johns,
9 by letter, advised the licensee that the financing
10 could be closed pending Board approval, subject to
11 the following conditions: that the licensee would
12 not pledge any collateral or execute any
13 guarantees until -- until Board approval; and,
14 that neither Churchill Downs, Incorporated, nor
15 any of its subsidiaries would pledge any of its
16 ownership interests in the licensee until Board
17 approval of the proposed financing was obtained.

18 On February 24, 2023, Churchill Downs closed on
19 the financing. This matter is now before the
20 Board for its consideration and approval.

21 The purpose of this transaction is to
22 repay borrowings outstanding under its revolving
23 credit facility. JPMorgan Chase will remain the
24 administrative agent under the credit facility.
25 The guarantors and collateral are substantially

1 similar to Churchill's existing credit agreement
2 previously approved by the Board. As of
3 December 31, 2022, Churchill Downs was in
4 compliance with all applicable covenants of its
5 existing credit agreement.

6 In conclusion, no financial issues
7 came to our attention to preclude the Board's
8 approval of this transaction. The Attorney
9 General's Office has prepared a resolution for
10 your consideration, if it is the Board's decision
11 to approve the debt transaction.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Jackson. And
14 they've lived up to that commitment of our
15 conditions.

16 MS. JACKSON:

17 Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 And you have not found -- Auditing
20 has not found any reason not to approve this?

21 MS. JACKSON:

22 No, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 So, Members, any questions for
25 Ms. Jackson? Any questions?

1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 If not, I would entertain a motion to
4 adopt the resolution that's going to be read.
5 Judge Sholes has moved that we adopt the following
6 resolution, and Ms. Hamilton-Acker has seconded
7 that motion. And, Ms. Hernandez, would you read
8 the resolution for us?

9 MS. HERNANDEZ:

10 In the Matter of Churchill Downs
11 Louisiana Horceracing Company, LLC, doing business
12 as Fair Grounds Race Course, Request for Approval
13 of Modification to Previously Approved Debt
14 Transaction.

15 On the 17th day of April 2023, the
16 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly
17 noticed public meeting, consider the Churchill
18 Downs Louisiana Horceracing Company, LLC, doing
19 business as Fair Grounds Race Course request for
20 Approval of Modification to a Prior Approved Debt
21 Transaction, and upon duly made and seconded, the
22 Board adopted this resolution:

23 Whereas, on June 16, 2022, the Board
24 approved certain debt transactions to be entered
25 into by and between Churchill Downs and JPMorgan

1 Chase, N.A., under its existing credit agreement,
2 for the purpose of new debt financing of
3 Churchill Downs, Inc., as more particularly set
4 forth in the Resolution adopted by the Board and
5 its -- executed by its Chairman on that date; and

6 Whereas, on February 17, 2023,
7 Churchill Downs, Inc., requested Board approval to
8 enter into new debt financing pursuant to its
9 credit agreement and effectuated by Incremental
10 Joinder Agreement No. 2; and

11 Whereas, the proposed debt
12 transaction of Churchill Downs, Inc., requires
13 prior Board approval.

14 Now, therefore, be it resolved that
15 Churchill Downs, Inc.'s request to increase the
16 amount of its Term Loan A facility by
17 \$500 million, in the total aggregate principal
18 amount of \$1.3 billion, in accordance with the
19 credit agreement and transactions contemplated
20 thereby and hereby approved.

21 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
22 Louisiana, this 17th day of April 2023.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Thank you, Ms. Hernandez. We have a
25 motion by Judge Sholes, seconded by

1 Ms. Hamilton-Acker, to adopt this resolution.

2 And, Ms. Hernandez, would you call the roll,

3 please?

4 MS. HERNANDEZ:

5 Mr. Avant?

6 (NO RESPONSE)

7 MS. HERNANDEZ:

8 Ms. Berry?

9 MS. BERRY:

10 Yes.

11 MS. HERNANDEZ:

12 Mr. Jackson?

13 MR. JACKSON:

14 Yes.

15 MS. HERNANDEZ:

16 Ms. Lewis?

17 MS. LEWIS:

18 Yes.

19 MS. HERNANDEZ:

20 Mr. Poole?

21 MR. POOLE:

22 Yes.

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

25 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

1 Yes.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 Mr. Sholes?

4 MR. SHOLES:

5 Yes.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ:

7 Ms. Traylor?

8 MS. TRAYLOR:

9 Yes.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ:

11 And Chairman Johns?

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Yes. By unanimous vote this adopt --
14 this resolution is hereby adopted.

15 Okay. Moving to Item C, the
16 consideration of petition for the approval of the
17 change of trade name of Louisiana Casino Cruises,
18 LLC, doing business as Hollywood Casino Baton
19 Rouge.

20 MS. LANDRY:

21 Hi. Good morning, Chairman Johns and
22 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
23 Lisha Landry here to present Louisiana Casino
24 Cruises, LLC's request for approval to change its
25 trade name.

1 The Board has previously approved the
2 licensee's request to relocate its gaming
3 operations to a landside facility. The
4 licensee -- the licensee anticipates that
5 construction of the approved project will be
6 complete and gaming operations will commence in
7 the facility later this year.

8 In connection with the opening of the
9 landside facility, the licensee filed a petition
10 requesting Board approval to change its trade
11 name, brand name, and d/b/a from Hollywood Casino
12 Baton Rouge to The Queen Baton Rouge. The
13 licensee is seeking Board approval now so the
14 licensee can order gaming equipment, supplies, and
15 other marketing materials to coincide with its
16 landside facilities opening later this year.

17 This request is strictly a trade name
18 change to the licensee. The licensed entity will
19 remain Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC, and
20 ownership and management of the property will also
21 remain the same.

22 Please note that the change in trade
23 name, brand name, and d/b/a to The Queen Baton
24 Rouge will become effective upon the licensee's
25 completion of the landside facility and

1 commencement of gaming operations in the facility.
2 The licensee's Statement of Conditions will also
3 be updated to reflect the licensed entity as
4 Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC, doing business as
5 The Queen Baton Rouge at that time as well.

6 If the Board approves the licensee's
7 request, a resolution has been prepared for the
8 Board's adoption and the Chairman's signature.

9 And we have representatives from the
10 licensee that are available to answer any
11 questions that the Board may have.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Thank you, Ms. Landry. Any questions
14 for Ms. Landry? Any comments from Hollywood?
15 Gentlemen, thank y'all for being here today.

16 MR. BARBIN:

17 No, unless you need us to.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 No comments? Okay. Strictly a name
20 change for the new facility. And, by the way, I
21 will share with the Board and the public that we
22 toured the ongoing project just a little over a
23 week ago. It's going extremely well. It's going
24 to be first-class, and it's going to be a great
25 addition to the Baton Rouge market. So thank

1 y'all for your commitment to that project. We're
2 excited about it.

3 If I have no questions, I would
4 entertain a motion to adopt the resolution.

5 MR. POOLE:

6 (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Mr. Poole has made that motion to
9 adopt the resolution.

10 MS. BERRY:

11 Second.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 And Ms. Berry has seconded that
14 motion. And, Ms. Hernandez, if you would, read
15 the resolution, please.

16 MS. HERNANDEZ:

17 In the Matter of Louisiana Casino
18 Cruises, LLC, doing business as Hollywood Casino
19 Baton Rouge.

20 On the 17th day of April 2023, the
21 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly
22 noticed public meeting, consider the Petition for
23 Approval of Change of Trade Name filed by
24 Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC, doing business as
25 Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge, and upon motion duly

1 made and seconded, the Board adopted this
2 resolution:

3 Whereas, the Board previously
4 approved the Licensee's request to relocate its
5 gaming operations to a newly constructed landside
6 facility to be included as a part of the Approved
7 Project; and

8 Whereas, the Licensee is seeking
9 Board approval to change its trade name, brand
10 name, and doing business as to The Queen -- The
11 Queen Baton Rouge in order to purchase gaming
12 equipment, supplies, and marketing materials to
13 coincide with the opening of its landside
14 facility.

15 Now, therefore, be it resolved that
16 the Licensee's request to operate under the trade
17 name The Queen Baton Rouge, to change its doing
18 business as from Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge to
19 The Queen Baton Rouge, to use its brand name The
20 Queen Baton Rouge in various iterations, all
21 effective upon the Licensee's substantial
22 completion of construction of the Approved Project
23 and the commencement of gaming operation in the
24 facility, are hereby approved, subject to any
25 further approvals of the Louisiana State Police,

1 Gaming Enforcement Division.

2 Be it further resolved that the
3 licensee is authorized to begin ordering and
4 purchasing any necessary gaming equipment,
5 supplies, and marketing materials under the name
6 or various iterations of The Queen Baton Rouge to
7 coincide with the operating of its landside
8 facility.

9 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
10 Louisiana, this 17th day of April 2023.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Thank you, Ms. Hernandez. We have a
13 motion by Mr. Poole, seconded by Ms. Berry, to
14 adopt this resolution. And, Ms. Hernandez, would
15 you call the roll, please?

16 MS. HERNANDEZ:

17 Mr. Avant?

18 (NO RESPONSE)

19 MS. HERNANDEZ:

20 Ms. Berry?

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Yes.

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

1 Yes.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 Ms. Lewis?

4 MS. LEWIS:

5 Yes.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ:

7 Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE:

9 Yes.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ:

11 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

12 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

13 Yes.

14 MS. HERNANDEZ:

15 Mr. Sholes?

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 Yes.

18 MS. HERNANDEZ:

19 Ms. Traylor?

20 MS. TRAYLOR:

21 Yes.

22 MS. HERNANDEZ:

23 And Chairman Johns?

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Yes. So by unanimous vote this

1 resolution is hereby adopted.

2 Okay. Item No. D, the consideration
3 of a Temporary Certificate of Compliance for
4 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC, doing business as
5 Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles. Mr. Gathe, good
6 morning.

7 MR. GATHE:

8 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
9 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General Jeremy
10 Gathe here in the matter of the issuance of the
11 Temporary Certificate of Compliance for
12 St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC, doing business as
13 Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles.

14 On January 19, 2023, the Board
15 approved the licensee's request for issuance of a
16 Temporary Certificate of Compliance, with an
17 expiration date of April 17, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.
18 The Board granted a Temporary COC because the
19 Licensee only received a Temporary Certificate of
20 Occupancy from the State Fire Marshal due to
21 several deficiencies at the licensee's landside
22 facility.

23 On March 27, 2023, the State Fire
24 Marshal conducted a follow-up inspection with the
25 licensee to assess whether the licensee had

1 corrected all its previously cited deficiencies
2 for issuance of a full Certificate of Occupancy.
3 After the inspection at the licensee's landside
4 facility, the State Fire Marshal reported that
5 several of the deficiencies were still not
6 corrected. The State Fire Marshal granted the
7 licensee temporary occupancy pending correction of
8 its cited deficiencies and scheduled a
9 reinspection of the licensee's landside facility
10 for full occupancy for May 8, 2023.

11 Generally, if there are deficiencies
12 noted by the Fire Marshal that are not life safety
13 concerns or for which there are temporary
14 safeguards allowing the Fire Marshal to issue a
15 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, then the Board
16 may grant a Temporary COC.

17 If it is the Board's pleasure to
18 extend the Temporary Certificate of Compliance for
19 the Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles, a resolution
20 has been prepared to grant a Temporary Certificate
21 of Compliance until May 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.,
22 to remedy any discrepancies.

23 And there are representatives from
24 the licensee that are present today to answer any
25 of the Board's questions.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. Thank you, Mr. Gathe.

3 Members, I've had extensive conversations with
4 Horseshoe. There are some supply chain issues
5 here, but the area that you're talking about is --
6 I think, it's an area that's not even open to the
7 public, and the Fire Marshal has agreed that this
8 is not a life safety issue at this time. But are
9 there any questions? Any questions from the
10 Board?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Mr. Barbin, do you have anything else
14 to add?

15 MR. BARBIN:

16 (Shaking head)

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Members, I would ask that we -- I
19 would recommend that we adopt this resolution. Do
20 I have a motion to --

21 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

22 (Indicating)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Ms. Hamilton-Acker has moved that we
25 adopt this resolution.

1 MS. LEWIS:

2 (Indicating)

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Ms. Lewis has seconded that motion.
5 And, Ms. Hernandez, would you read the resolution,
6 please?

7 MS. HERNANDEZ:

8 In the Matter of St. Charles Gaming
9 Company, LLC, doing business as Horseshoe Casino
10 Lake Charles, Temporary Riverboat Gaming Landside
11 Facility Certificate of Compliance.

12 On the 17th day of April 2023, the
13 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly
14 noticed public meeting, consider the issue of
15 St. Charles Company, LLC, doing business as
16 Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles' Temporary Riverboat
17 Gaming Landside Facility Certificate of
18 Compliance, and upon motion duly note -- duly made
19 and seconded, the Board adopted the Resolution.

20 Be it resolved that this Licensee's
21 request for a Temporary Riverboat Gaming Landside
22 Facility Certificate of Compliance is hereby
23 approved, with an expiration date of May 15, 2023,
24 at 11:59 p.m.

25 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,

1 Louisiana, this 17th day of April 2023.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Thank you, Ms. Hernandez. We have a
4 motion by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to adopt this
5 resolution, seconded by Ms. Lewis. And,
6 Ms. Hernandez, would you call the roll, please?

7 MS. HERNANDEZ:

8 Ms. Berry?

9 MS. BERRY:

10 Yes.

11 MS. HERNANDEZ:

12 Mr. Jackson?

13 MR. JACKSON:

14 Yes.

15 MS. HERNANDEZ:

16 Ms. Lewis?

17 MS. LEWIS:

18 Yes.

19 MS. HERNANDEZ:

20 Mr. Poole?

21 MR. POOLE:

22 Yes.

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

25 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

1 Yes.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 Mr. Sholes?

4 MR. SHOLES:

5 Yes.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ:

7 Ms. Traylor?

8 MS. TRAYLOR:

9 Yes.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ:

11 And Chairman Johns?

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Yes. By unanimous vote this
14 resolution is hereby adopted.

15 Moving along to -- Item No. E will be
16 the consideration of the request for an extension
17 of time to submit architectural blueprints and
18 plan of design and construction for the Approved
19 Project of Catfish Queen, LLC, doing business as
20 the Belle of Baton Rouge Casino.

21 MR. BARBIN:

22 Good morning, Chairman --

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Good morning, Mr. Barbin.

25 MR. BARBIN:

1 -- and Board Members. I'm Jeff
2 Barbin, representing the Belle of Baton Rouge.
3 And to my immediate right is Terry Downey, who is
4 the CEO of Queen Casino; and to my left is Bruce
5 Woods, who is the General Manager of that
6 facility; and to my far right is Stacy Stagg.

7 We're here today -- last board
8 meeting we requested an extension to submit
9 revised plans and specs on the project. You might
10 recall that we did previously file plans and specs
11 on the Belle relocation to landside, but since
12 that time the scope of the project has increased,
13 and so we ask you to hold off approving those
14 plans and specs until we have time to confirm that
15 the scope could be increased. And today we're
16 just going to present to you that scope increase,
17 and I'll turn it over to Terry Downey.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Good morning, Mr. Downey.

20 MR. DOWNEY:

21 Good morning. So I believe we are
22 here bearing good news. The scope request would
23 be to build out the entire hotel, 250 rooms,
24 compared to the 90 that was approved before. It
25 would also go from 350 slots from prior to now 650

1 slots. And the good news is the budget for the
2 property would go from 35 million to 91 million,
3 plus contingency; so it would be right around a
4 \$100 million project right now. We think we
5 could -- you know, with approvals through the next
6 few months, that we could be on the ground by
7 October of '23, and we would seek completion in
8 October of '24. I would love to entertain any
9 questions anyone might have.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Well, Mr. Downey, thank y'all for
12 your commitment on this. This is incredible news
13 for Baton Rouge and for the gaming market. So
14 you're going from 90 rooms to 250 plus -- 254, I
15 think it was, or 250 --

16 MR. DOWNEY:

17 Right around 250.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 -- rooms, which is much needed in the
20 Downtown Baton Rouge area, and basically doubling
21 the size of your gaming operation. So we -- and
22 spending a lot more money; so . . .

23 MR. DOWNEY:

24 Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

1 We -- we greatly appreciate that
2 commitment. So any questions? How about that,
3 Mr. Poole? In Baton Rouge, huh?

4 MR. POOLE:

5 Yeah, I'm just certainly glad to hear
6 about the hotel; so -- it's a major reinforcement.
7 We appreciate it.

8 MR. DOWNEY:

9 Great. We're really excited about
10 it.

11 MR. POOLE:

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 And for the Board, I will tell you
15 we were -- staff and the Attorney General's
16 Office, State Police, were out there about a week
17 ago, and we did some touring, and they accepted
18 one heck of a challenge in redoing that hotel.
19 It's -- it was in a lot worse condition than, I
20 think -- than y'all even thought it was going to
21 be.

22 MR. DOWNEY:

23 And, truthfully, that's led to the
24 increase in scope and, you know, the money it was
25 going to cost to renovate it. It just kept

1 multiplying, and then it made more sense to do the
2 entire hotel at once.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Well, we look forward to working with
5 you on that, and we appreciate that commitment.

6 Any further questions? Any further comments?

7 MR. DOWNEY:

8 None.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. Mr. Poole, I know, would love
11 to make this motion this morning.

12 MR. POOLE:

13 I would.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 And do I have a second?

16 MS. TRAYLOR:

17 (Indicating)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Ms. Traylor, who is near Baton Rouge,
20 would like to second that motion of the
21 resolution. And, Ms. Hernandez, would you read
22 the resolution, please?

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 In the Matter of Catfish Queen, LLC,
25 doing business as Belle of Baton Rouge.

1 On the 17th day of April, 2023, the
2 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly
3 noticed public meeting, consider the request by
4 Catfish Queen, LLC, doing business as -- of Baton
5 Rouge -- for approval for an extension of time
6 submitted -- to submit revised architectural
7 blueprints and plans of design and construction of
8 the Approved Project in regards to the Board's
9 Resolution for Approval of Relocation of Gaming
10 Operations and for a Modification of License
11 Conditions, and upon motivation [sic] duly made
12 and seconded, the Board adopted this resolution:

13 Whereas, on September 15, 2022, the
14 Board adopted a Resolution, as amended on
15 November 17, 2022, and February 16, 2023, which
16 required the Licensee to submit architectural
17 blueprints -- blueprints and a detailed plan of
18 design and construction of the Approved Project to
19 the Board by February 17, 2023, for review and
20 acceptance.

21 Whereas, on February 13, 2023, the
22 Licensee submitted its architectural blueprints
23 and a detailed plan of design and construction of
24 the Approved Project for Board review and
25 acceptance.

1 Whereas, the licensee has requested
2 an extension of time to submit revised
3 architectural blueprints and a detailed plan of
4 design and construction to reflect the expanded
5 scope of the Approved Project.

6 Now, therefore, be it resolved that
7 the Licensee shall submit its revised or new
8 architectural blueprints and a detailed plan of
9 design and construction of the Approved Project to
10 the Board by May 16, 2023, for review and
11 acceptance.

12 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
13 Louisiana, this 17th day of April 2023.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Thank you, Ms. Hernandez. We have a
16 motion by Mr. Poole to adopt this resolution,
17 seconded by Ms. Traylor. And, Ms. Hernandez,
18 would you call the roll?

19 MS. HERNANDEZ:

20 Ms. Berry?

21 MS. BERRY:

22 Yes.

23 MS. HERNANDEZ:

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

1 Yes.

2 MS. HERNANDEZ:

3 Ms. Lewis?

4 MS. LEWIS:

5 Yes.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ:

7 Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE:

9 Yes.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ:

11 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

12 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

13 Yes.

14 MS. HERNANDEZ:

15 Mr. Sholes?

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 Yes.

18 MS. HERNANDEZ:

19 Ms. Traylor?

20 MS. TRAYLOR:

21 Yes.

22 MS. HERNANDEZ:

23 And Chairman Johns?

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Yes. By unanimous vote this

1 resolution is hereby adopted. Thank you very much
2 for your commitment. We greatly -- greatly
3 appreciate working with y'all on this project.

4 MR. DOWNEY:

5 Thank you.

6 MS. STAGG:

7 Thank you.

8 MR. WOODS:

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Thank y'all. Good luck going back
12 home, Mr. Downey.

13 VII. VIDEO POKER ISSUE

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Okay. Moving along. We're moving to
16 video poker, consideration of transfer of interest
17 in the following truck stop: The Red River Casino
18 LLC, doing business as Red River Casino.

19 Mr. Pitre, good morning.

20 MR. VERRETT:

21 Good morning, Chairman.

22 MR. PITRE:

23 Good morning, Chairman Johns.

24 Chairman Johns and Board Members, I am Assistant
25 Attorney General Earl Pitre, Jr., appearing before

1 the Board in the matter of the transfer of
2 membership interest in Red River Casino, LLC,
3 doing business as Red River Casino, a Type 5 video
4 gaming licensee. The truck stop is located in
5 Bossier Parish.

6 On January 25, 2023, Bilal-Ahmed
7 Rupani transferred his 50 percent membership
8 interest in the licensee to Gulhamrasool Rupani.
9 Gulhamrasool Rupani became the sole member of the
10 licensee after the transfer of the membership
11 interest.

12 Criminal Investigator Glenn Verrett
13 conducted the updated suitability check on the
14 associated person. He also conducted the
15 investigation of the transfer of membership
16 interest. He is present and will present the
17 Office of State Police's findings to the Board.

18 MR. VERRETT:

19 Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Board
20 Members. I'm Criminal Investigator Glenn Verrett
21 with the Gaming Enforcement Division.

22 I conducted the suitability check on
23 Gulhamrasool Rupani. He previously met
24 suitability -- suitability under various video
25 gaming licenses, and I found no information that

1 would preclude him from continuing to participate
2 in the gaming industry. I also conducted the
3 investigation of the transfer of membership
4 interest and found no information that would
5 preclude the continued licensing of the licensee.

6 MR. PITRE:

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

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 All right, gentlemen. Thank you for
15 your work on this. Any questions from the Board?
16 Any questions?

17 (NO RESPONSE)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 I would entertain a motion --

20 MR. JACKSON:

21 (Indicating)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Mr. Jackson has moved that we approve
24 this transfer.

25 MS. LEWIS:

1 (Indicating)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 And I have a second by Ms. Lewis. Is
4 there any discussion on the motion? Is there any
5 opposition to the motion?

6 (NO RESPONSE)

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Hearing none, this motion carries,
9 and we have approved the transfer of interest.

10 Thank you, gentlemen.

11 MR. PITRE:

12 Thank you, sir.

13 VIII. PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Okay. Last on the agenda, we have a
16 proposed settlement. We have today Pat's Pub,
17 LLC, doing business as Pat's Pub.

18 MS. NATHAN:

19 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
20 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
21 Andrea Nathan, here in the matter of the
22 settlement for Pat's Pub, LLC, doing business as
23 Pat's Pub, which holds a Type 1 video draw poker
24 gaming license.

25 This settlement addresses the

1 licensee's failure to timely submit its annual
2 licensee form, fee, and supporting documents to
3 the Division on or before the July 1, 2022,
4 deadline. The licensee did not make the annual
5 submission to the Division until October 4, 2022;
6 giving rise to a violation of gaming law.

7 Under the terms of this settlement,
8 the licensee has agreed to pay a civil penalty in
9 the amount of \$750, which is in line with
10 violations of this type. The settlement was
11 signed by the hearing officer and is now before
12 the Board for final approval.

13 And I would be happy to answer any
14 questions you may have at this time.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Okay. Any questions for Ms. Nathan?

17 (NO RESPONSE)

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 Thank you for your work, Ms. Nathan,
20 on this. Do I have a motion that we accept this
21 settlement?

22 MR. SHOLES:

23 (Indicating)

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Judge Sholes has moved that we

1 second -- that we approve the settlement.

2 MS. BERRY:

3 (Indicating)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Ms. Berry has seconded that motion.

6 Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there

7 any opposition to the motion?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Hearing none, that motion carries and

11 we approve the settlement. Thank you, Ms. Nathan.

12 MS. NATHAN:

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Okay. We -- ladies and gentlemen, we

16 will be back in this room again for the May 15 --

17 the Monday -- the May 15 board meeting. In June

18 we will move back to the State Capitol, when the

19 Legislature goes home.

20 IX. ADJOURNMENT

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 So, Mr. Jackson, I think, has made

23 the motion to adjourn. Is that correct,

24 Mr. Jackson?

25 MR. JACKSON:

1 This didn't go long enough. I'll
2 make a motion.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Mr. Jackson has moved that we
5 adjourn. Is there a second?

6 MS. BERRY:

7 (Indicating)

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Ms. Berry has seconded that. Is
10 there any opposition?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Hearing none, we are hereby
14 adjourned. Thank y'all very much for being with
15 us today.

16 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 11:17 A.M.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Karla H. Mayers, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings held at this Louisiana Gaming Control Board meeting on the 17th day of April, 2023, as set forth in the foregoing 77 pages.


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

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

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

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

This certification is valid only for this transcript accompanied by my original electronic signature on this page.


Karla H. Mayers, CCR
Certificate No. 94023

Board Meeting
April 17, 2023

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	\$35,820,109	10	
	9:1	19:24	
	\$36	100	
	10:12	25:16	2
\$1,315,000,000	\$4	11	9:4,7 10:10
9:3	22:5	10:17	49:10
\$1.3	\$4.5	115-year-old	2,000
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