

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021

LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE COMMITTEE ROOM 1
900 NORTH THIRD STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

APPEARANCES

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CHAIRMAN MIKE NOEL
Chairman
Second Congressional District
June 30, 2025

HARRY AVANT
(At-Large)
Fourth Congressional District
June 30, 2024

CLAUDE D. JACKSON
(At Large)
Fourth Congressional District
June 30, 2021

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

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

FRANCESCA HAMILTON-ACKER (Not Present at Roll
Call)
(Attorney)
Third Congressional District
June 30, 2026

NATALIE THURMAN
Principal Assistant

1 APPEARANCES CONTINUED

2

3

TRUDY M. SMITH
Confidential Assistant

4

5

MAJOR CHUCK MCNEAL
Louisiana State Police

6

7

REPORTED BY:

8

SHELLEY G. PAROLA, CSR, RPR
Baton Rouge Court Reporters

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1		PAGE
2	I. CALL TO ORDER	5
3	II. PUBLIC COMMENTS	6
4	III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	6
5	IV. REVENUE REPORTS	7
6	VI. CASINO GAMING ISSUES	
7	A. Consideration of Renewal	
8	Application for the Riverboat	
9	Gaming License of Golden Nugget	
10	Lake Charles, LLC - No.	
11	R016502995	11
12	B. Consideration of Petition of	
13	for Approval of Relocation of a	
14	portion of Gaming Operations for	
15	PNK Lake Charles, LLC, d/b/a	
16	L'Auberge Lake Charles - No.	
17	R011001707	20
18	C. Consideration of Petition of	
19	Jazz Casino Company, LLC, d/b/a	
20	Harrah's New Orleans for	
21	Approval of the Schematic Plans	
22	for Construction Improvements	
23	to the Land-Based Casino - No.	
24	C013600001	31
25	VII. ADJOURNMENT	59

1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right, good
3 morning. We'll go ahead and call the
4 meeting to order. Ms. Thurman, would
5 you call the roll.

6 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

7 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Here.

8 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

9 MR. AVANT: Here.

10 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry? [No
11 response.]

12 Mr. Jackson?

13 MR. JACKSON: Here.

14 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Lagasse? [No
15 response.]

16 Ms. Lewis?

17 MS. LEWIS: Here.

18 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

19 MR. POOLE: Here.

20 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Hamilton-Acker?
21 [No response.]

22 Mr. West?

23 MR. WEST: Here.

24 MS. THURMAN: Colonel Davis?

25 MAJOR MCNEAL: Major McNeal for

1 Colonel Davis.

2 MS. THURMAN: And Secretary
3 Robinson? [No response.]

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: We have a quorum.
5 Before we move on to Public Comments, I
6 do want to announce a slight change on
7 the agenda. We're going to defer Item
8 V, Consideration of Contracts of the
9 Hearing Officer and Court Reporter and
10 defer those to next month.

11 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. At this
13 time, are there any Public Comments on
14 the matters before the Board today?

15 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

16 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay, hearing none,
17 we'll move on to Approval of the
18 Minutes. Everybody's had a chance to
19 review their minutes. Do we have a
20 motion to waive reading and approve the
21 minutes of the February 18th meeting?

22 MR. AVANT: So moved.

23 CHAIRMAN NOEL: By Mr. Avant and
24 seconded by Mr. Poole -- I'm sorry,
25 Mr. West.

1 All in favor say "aye." [Collective
2 "aye."]

3 Any opposed? [No response.] Motion
4 carries. Thank you.

5 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next we'll do
7 Revenue Reports, and we have someone
8 from State Police.

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

13 The gaming licensees continue to
14 operate subject to COVID-19
15 restrictions.

16 During February, the 13 operating
17 riverboats generated Adjusted Gross
18 Receipts of \$112,390,715. This total
19 represents a decrease of \$20 million or
20 15 percent from last month, which had
21 five full weekends compared to this
22 month's four, and a decrease of
23 \$43 million or 27.7 percent from last
24 February, which had 29 gaming days and
25 one additional Saturday. Some of the

1 casinos experienced reduced patronage
2 due to the winter storm, while others
3 had to close for one to three days.

4 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal
5 year 2021 to date are \$941.6 million, a
6 decrease of \$250 million or 21 percent
7 from fiscal year 2020.

8 During February, the State collected
9 fees totaling \$24 million. As of
10 February 28, 2021, the State collected
11 \$202.5 million in fees for fiscal year
12 2021, which is down almost \$54 million
13 from last fiscal year.

14 Next is a summary of the February
15 2021 gaming activity for Harrah's New
16 Orleans. Harrah's generated \$15,756,573
17 in gross gaming revenue during February.
18 These revenues represent an increase
19 from January of \$900,000 or 6 percent,
20 but a decrease of \$10.8 million or
21 40.7 percent from last February.

22 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal
23 year 2021 to date are \$114 million, a
24 decrease of \$80 million or 41 percent
25 from fiscal year 2020.

1 During February, the State received
2 \$4.6 million in minimum daily payments.
3 As of February 28, 2021, the State
4 collected approximately \$40 million in
5 fees for fiscal year 2021.

6 Next I will represent revenues for
7 Slots at the Racetracks. During
8 February, the four racetrack facilities
9 combined generated Adjusted Gross
10 Receipts of \$22,941,114, a decrease of
11 \$4 million or 15.5 percent from last
12 month, and a decrease of \$7.4 million or
13 24.5 percent from last February.

14 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal
15 year 2021 to date are almost
16 \$188 million, a decrease of \$38 million
17 or 17 percent from fiscal year 2020.

18 During February, the State collected
19 \$3.5 million in fees. As of February
20 28, 2021, the State has collected \$28.5
21 million in fees for fiscal year 2021.

22 I will now present the Video Gaming
23 information. There are currently 12,007
24 video gaming devices activated at 1,456
25 locations.

1 Net Device Revenues for February
2 2021 was \$53.6 million, a decrease of
3 \$7.7 million or 12.5 percent when
4 compared to January, and a decrease of
5 \$1.3 million or 2.5 percent when
6 compared to February 2020.

7 Net Device Revenue for fiscal year
8 2021 to date is \$447 million, an
9 increase of \$36 million or 8.6 percent
10 when compared to fiscal year 2020.

11 Total Franchise Fees collected
12 during February were \$16.2 million, a
13 decrease of \$2.4 million when compared
14 to January, and a minimal decrease when
15 compared to February 2020.

16 Total Franchise Fees collected for
17 fiscal year 2021 to date are \$136
18 million, an increase of \$12.7 million or
19 10.3 percent when compared to fiscal
20 year 2020.

21 Overall in February, all four types
22 of gaming combined generated
23 approximately \$205 million in revenue,
24 which is down 23.5 percent from last
25 February. Total fees to the State were

1 down or \$10.8 million or 18 percent.

2 Are there any questions?

3 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any questions for
4 Ms. Jackson? [No response.]

5 I know LSP is working on a
6 comparison number, 2020 compared to
7 2019, and I think next month we'll have
8 a much better picture because you'll
9 have the month of March that we can
10 include.

11 MAJOR MCNEAL: Correct.

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

13 VI. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

14 A. Consideration of the Renewal Application
15 for the Riverboat Gaming License of Golden
16 Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, - No. R016502995

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay, we'll move on
18 to Casino Gaming issues and first up is
19 Consideration of Renewal Application for
20 the Riverboat Gaming License for Golden
21 Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, No.
22 R016502995. We'll have first Ms. Landry
23 from the Attorney General's Office and
24 State, and the Golden Nugget
25 representatives can be available to

1 address the Board also.

2 MS. LANDRY: Good morning, Chairman
3 Noel and Board Members. I'm Assistant
4 Attorney General Lisha Landry appearing
5 with Miss Donna Jackson with the
6 Louisiana State Police Audit Division
7 and Mr. Donnie Gautreaux with the Gaming
8 Enforcement Division.

9 We are in the matter of the renewal
10 of the riverboat gaming license for
11 Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing
12 business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles.

13 Pursuant to Louisiana Revised
14 Statute 27:75.A, the Board is required
15 to act on any renewal application no
16 later than 30 days prior to the
17 expiration of the current license.
18 Riverboat gaming licenses are issued for
19 a five-year term, and Golden Nugget's
20 riverboat gaming license is due to
21 expire May 19th, 2021.

22 The Office of State Police has
23 reviewed the financial circumstances of
24 the licensee and completed its
25 suitability investigations for the

1 licensee, its parent companies and its
2 principals. At this time Ms. Jackson
3 will now report Audit's findings to the
4 Board.

5 MS. JACKSON: Good morning, Chairman
6 Noel and Board Members. My name is
7 Donna Jackson with the Louisiana State
8 Police Gaming Audit Section.

9 Golden Nugget Lake Charles or GNLC
10 seeks the five-year renewal of its
11 gaming license. GNLC is 100 percent
12 owned by GNLC Holding. Fertitta
13 Entertainment, Inc., is the ultimately
14 parent through intermediate
15 subsidiaries.

16 GNLC commenced gaming operations on
17 December 6, 2014. During its six years
18 of operation, GNLC generated
19 approximately \$1.6 billion in AGR and
20 paid \$361 million in state gaming fees.
21 GNLC competes with two other riverboats
22 and one racino in the Lake Charles
23 gaming market. For fiscal years '18-'19
24 and '19-'20, GNLC ranked first in the
25 market with gross receipts of

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

approximately \$320 million and \$259 million respectively.

During 2020, the revenues have been impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as Hurricane Laura, which caused damage to the facility and surrounding area.

For the years 2016-2020, GNLC spent approximately \$114 million for capital expenditures, which includes \$90 million for a new hotel tower which opened in May 2017. The licensee projects it will spend approximately \$55 million for capital expenditures for years 2021 through 2025.

GNLC is party with its parent companies to a Trademark License Agreement, as well as a Shared Services Agreement, which includes a Restaurant Management Agreement. Fees for these agreements approximate \$2 million annually. GNLC also pays an allocation relating to their Corporate Call Center, which for the last six years totaled \$4.6 million.

1 GNLC has a Ground Lease Agreement
2 with the Lake Charles Harbor & Terminal
3 District and has made rental payments of
4 approximately \$8 million from 2015
5 through 2020. They also pay the port a
6 percentage of Net Gaming Proceeds, which
7 totaled approximately \$12 million for
8 the same time period. Finally, GNLC
9 pays the Calcasieu Parish Gaming
10 District a percentage of net gaming
11 proceeds adjusted for the rental
12 calculation to the port. For the years
13 2015 through 2020, the gaming district
14 received \$49.5 million from GNLC. A
15 certain percentage of this amount is
16 disbursed to various local entities.

17 In conclusion, no financial issues
18 came to our attention to preclude the
19 Board from approving the Golden Nugget
20 Lake Charles license for a period of
21 five years effective May 19, 2021.

22 Licensing will now present their
23 findings.

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

25 MR. GAUTREAUX: Good morning,

1 Chairman Noel and Board Members, I'm
2 Donnie Gautreaux with Louisiana State
3 Police Enforcement Division. The
4 Division conducted an investigation in
5 regards to the five-year license renewal
6 of Golden Nugget Lake Charles and its
7 subsidiaries. The investigation
8 included the officers, directors and
9 persons with a 5 percent or more
10 ownership interest in the company's.

11 The investigation consisted of
12 inquiries through federal, state and
13 local law enforcement agencies,
14 computerized criminal history databases,
15 financial and civil jurisdictions and
16 gaming regulatory agencies. At the
17 conclusion of the investigation, no
18 information was discovered which would
19 prohibit Golden Nugget Lake, LLC, its
20 subsidiaries or any of its key personnel
21 to continue to participate in the
22 Louisiana gaming industry.

23 MS. LANDRY: If its the Board's
24 pleasure to renew the riverboat gaming
25 license of Golden Nugget Lake Charles,

1 LLC, a proposed Resolution has been
2 prepared for the Board's adoption and
3 the Board's signature.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Do we
5 have any questions from the Board or
6 State Police or the A.G.'s Office at
7 this point? [No response.]

8 Okay. Anyone from Golden Nugget
9 here? Good morning.

10 MR. HENNIGAN: Good morning,
11 Chairman, Board Members. My name is
12 Greg Hennigan. I'm the General Manager
13 for Golden Nugget in Lake Charles.

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you, Greg. Do
15 you -- I did have one question. I
16 know -- and perhaps you can add a little
17 bit to it. I know in the renewal, it's
18 projected to spend, I believe 50ish on
19 capital expenditures going out five
20 years. Can you describe some of the
21 things that y'all are looking to do with
22 that capital expenditures and
23 improvements.

24 MR. HENNIGAN: Yes, building
25 improvements. We're constantly looking

1 at renewing restaurant themes and
2 remodeling and keeping them up to date
3 which is necessary to keep them
4 attractive to our -- to our guests, a
5 lot of that also has to go -- will be
6 going towards slot capital -- slot
7 machine capital and general improvements
8 of the property.

9 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any other thoughts
10 on what Golden Nugget may be doing in
11 the future as far as to remain
12 competitive?

13 MR. HENNIGAN: Just getting back
14 going, everything back open is a nice
15 first step, but we are -- we are
16 re-theming a couple restaurants, and,
17 you know, we've -- with Landry's
18 corporation we've got about -- we've got
19 a lot of restaurant brands so we're
20 looking at refreshing a couple of those.

21 CHAIRMAN NOEL: How much damage from
22 Hurricane Laura?

23 MR. HENNIGAN: North of
24 \$150 million. We're still working on
25 some of those repairs today.

1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any other questions
2 from the Board for Mr. Hennigan? [No
3 response.]

4 Thank you. All right, now I'll ask
5 if we have a motion to adopt the
6 Resolution -- a motion to adopt?

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

8 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Motion by Mr. Poole.
9 We have a second by Mr. Avant.

10 Read the Resolution.

11 MS. THURMAN: On the 18th day of
12 March, 2021, the Louisiana Gaming
13 Control Board did, in a duly noticed
14 public meeting, consider the license
15 renewal application of Golden Nugget
16 Lake Charles, LLC, d/b/a Golden Nugget
17 Lake Charles. And upon motion duly made
18 and and seconded, the Board adopted this
19 Resolution:

20 Be it resolved that the riverboat
21 casino license of Golden Nugget Lake
22 Charles, LLC, d/b/a Golden Nugget Lake
23 Charles, R016502995, be renewed for a
24 term of five years commencing May 19th,
25 2021, subject to all conditions

1 previously placed on the license.

2 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
3 Louisiana, this 18th day of March 2021.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Would
5 you call the roll, please.

6 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT: Yes.

8 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Berry? [No
9 response.]

10 Mr. Jackson?

11 MR. JACKSON: Yes?

12 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

13 MS. LEWIS: Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

15 MR. POOLE: Yes.

16 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?

17 MR. WEST: Yes.

18 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes.

20 Thank you, the motion carries.

21 B. Consideration of Petition for Approval of
22 Relocation of a Portion of Gaming Operations
23 for PNK Lake Charles, LLC, d/b/a L'Auberge Lake
24 Charles - No. R011001707

25 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Next up is

1 Consideration of the Petition for
2 Approval of Relocation of a Portion of
3 Gaming Operations for PNK Lake Charles,
4 LLC, doing business as L'Auberge Lake
5 Charles, No. R011001707.

6 MR. PICOU: Good morning, Chairman
7 Noel, Members of the Board. I'm
8 Assistant Attorney General Charlie Picou
9 now appearing in the matter of the
10 petition of PNK Lake Charles, LLC, doing
11 business as Lake Charles -- L'Auberge
12 Lake Charles for approval to relocate a
13 portion of its gaming operations to a
14 facility within 1,200 feet of its
15 approved berth site.

16 The licensee has satisfied the
17 relocation requirements set forth in
18 Louisiana Administrative Code 2401(b)2
19 substantial completion of the riverboat
20 vessel and approved project was
21 completed after January 1, 2015, and
22 cost in excess of \$200 million.

23 Furthermore the licensee is
24 requesting to move less than 6 percent
25 of its gaming positions to a facility

1 that will function as a poker room. The
2 licensee is currently operating 2,042
3 gaming positions and is requesting 54
4 positions for the poker room for a total
5 of 2,096 gaming positions, which is
6 below the maximum amount of gaming
7 positions allowed by Louisiana Revised
8 Statue 27:44.

9 All required documents were
10 submitted by the Licensee to the
11 Division for review and investigation.
12 If it is the Board's pleasure to approve
13 the request, a Resolution has been
14 prepared for your consideration.

15 The licensee be allowed to commence
16 gaming activities at its new facility
17 once the Division has determined that
18 all necessary staffing, training,
19 security, surveillance, technical
20 accounting and internal control
21 procedures are acceptable.

22 Representative of the licensee are here
23 to answer any questions and will present
24 an overview of the proposed relocation,
25 but first Sergeant Dallas Brasseaux with

1 of the Louisiana State Police will
2 present the Division's findings.

3 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Sergeant Brasseaux,
4 could we -- I hate to go out of order,
5 but could we have L'Auberge come up and
6 join their presentation, and then you
7 can talk.

8 MR. PIERSON: Sure. Good morning,
9 Chairman Noel and Board Members, so my
10 name is Randy Pierson. I'm the
11 Vice-President of Casino Operations at a
12 L'Auberge Baton Rouge, and Angie
13 Theunisson is Director of Compliance.

14 So thank you for inviting us. We've
15 been asked to come here to talk about
16 our poker room and request approval to
17 open. It's -- the poker room --
18 pre-COVID, we had a poker room, so this
19 is not a new venture for us -- and when
20 COVID hit, with the restrictions we had,
21 we decided this wasn't really a viable
22 option to maintain on the floor, so we
23 removed those five tables, and then we
24 added some slot machines at social
25 distancing pieces and some video poker.

1 We did this while always anticipating
2 that we would be finding a new home for
3 poker. Poker is a really -- it's a
4 viable amenity for us. It is -- as we
5 are a resort, so it something that's
6 always needed and recommended for, and
7 we get requests from guests consistently
8 as to when we're going to get another
9 room, so that's kind of been the
10 decision we made.

11 This is obviously also a source of
12 revenue for us, and we are providing
13 more jobs, so we're currently training
14 some team members to be in that area,
15 and we anticipate that within the next
16 three weeks or so we'd be ready to open
17 in kind if the -- kind of the
18 restrictions dictate.

19 And I know that Chairman Noel,
20 you've seen the location as to where we
21 are. It's approximately 150 up the
22 gaming floor as we have today, and as
23 you can see, we sent this -- the poker
24 room project a little. Hopefully
25 everybody has that, and it's a 1,200

1 square foot facility with six tables, 54
2 spots. We will -- we'll have a security
3 podium outside of the room and so just
4 to maintain that legal age requirement.
5 And then we'll have a cage inside the
6 room as well.

7 And then the next couple pages you
8 can just see some pictures to where we
9 are with construction today. And as we
10 -- so it probably looks better today
11 because were continuing to get it closer
12 and closer. So -- and then the final
13 pages, just a business update, and I'm
14 not going to go through that; but if
15 anybody has any business questions for
16 me on that, I'll be more than willing to
17 talk them through it.

18 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Theunisson, did
19 you have anything to add?

20 MS.THEUNISSON: No, we have been
21 working steadily with State Police every
22 step of the way, and we do have a couple
23 of more approvals to seek out. Once we
24 get prepared, we will submit for those
25 and be ready.

1 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

2 Any questions from the Board for the
3 L'Auberge?

4 MR. AVANT: Has COVID caused this
5 move -- this transition?

6 MR. PIERSON: Yes, sir. So when
7 we -- so just prior to opening, we kind
8 of made a decision, hey, our poker room
9 doesn't make sense on the casino floor
10 just because we wouldn't be allowed to
11 open it. It was a -- there was a
12 desperate need to just have more games
13 on the floor at that point because of
14 the social distancing piece. So we're
15 literally today -- I think we opened
16 with 50 percent and then 25 percent
17 occupancy so it was, like, every other
18 game, kind of like where we are today, I
19 guess, and so there was a need for us to
20 just have more floor space.

21 MR. AVANT: Plus you have more slots
22 now.

23 MR. PIERSON: Yes, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Any other questions?
25 You mentioned that -- I did have

1 one. You mentioned that this project
2 will require some additional staffing?

3 MR. PIERSON: Yes, sir. Yes, sir,
4 we probably are looking at 40 more team
5 members that will be required, and we're
6 consistently hiring. One thing, I think
7 it's mentioned in here too, staffing has
8 always been a challenge. The housing
9 with the hurricanes and things like that
10 have been a challenge for us. So we --
11 the good news is in the gaming
12 department, so slots and table games,
13 hasn't been as big of an issue; however,
14 just finding those, so we've -- we've
15 starting training, and we're comfortable
16 we'll get there.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay. I think State
18 Police, Sergeant Brasseaux, why you came
19 prepared.

20 MR. PIERSON: Thank you.

21 MS. THEUNISSON: Thank you.

22 SERGEANT BRASSEAU: Good morning,
23 Chairman Noel and Members of the Board,
24 Sergeant Dallas Brasseaux with the
25 Louisiana State Police Gaming

1 Enforcement Division. I'm assigned to
2 the Lake Charles field office.

3 The Division received L'Auberge's
4 request to move their poker area from
5 the traditional gaming floor to the --
6 where they had it -- the made it the My
7 Choice Area. During that time they put
8 up partitions around the area -- glass
9 partitions, doors and -- with a frosted
10 covering. They moved table games into
11 that area, and they've added carpet
12 throughout the area. So far the
13 Division sees that they're lacking the
14 surveillance camera coverage and the
15 security that they mentioned.

16 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

17 Any questions from the Board for
18 Sergeant Brasseaux? [No response.]

19 I do know that, of course, should
20 the Board give approval today, the last
21 piece will be for State Police to do a
22 final inspection to make sure all those
23 components -- security surveillance, any
24 other procedural requirements are met
25 before they can actually go live. Upon

1 completion of the project, the Division
2 will do the inspections necessary so
3 they can actually go live.

4 Yes, sir.

5 SERGEANT BRASSEAU: Upon completion
6 of the project, the Division will do the
7 inspections necessary for it to be in
8 compliance with the regulations, and
9 once those inspections are complete,
10 we'll give final approval.

11 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

12 All right. Do we have a motion to
13 adopt the Resolution on this item?

14 MS. LEWIS: I'll move.

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Lewis makes a
16 motion. Do we have a second?

17 MR. JACKSON: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Jackson seconds.

19 Ms. Thurman, could you please read
20 the Resolution into the record.

21 MS. THURMAN: On the 18th day of
22 March 2021, the Louisiana Gaming Control
23 Board did, in a duly noticed public
24 meeting, consider the issue of PNK Lake
25 Charles, LLC's, petition for approval of

1 relocation of a portion of gaming
2 operations, and upon motion duly made
3 and seconded, the Board adopted this
4 Resolution:

5 Be it resolved that PNK Lake
6 Charles, LLC's, request to relocate a
7 portion of its gaming operations to an
8 existing facility that is part of the
9 approved project, as defined by the
10 conditions placed on the riverboat
11 license of PNK Lake Charles, LLC, and
12 located within 1,200 feet of its
13 licensed berth site all in accordance
14 with the plan and supporting
15 documentation submitted by the licensee
16 to the Louisiana State Police Gaming
17 Enforcement Division, and all applicable
18 law, including without limitation,
19 Louisiana Revised Statute 2744 and 67
20 and LAC 42.3, 1701, 2110 and 2401, and
21 to commence gaming operations there at
22 on or after March 19th, 2021, is hereby
23 approved subject to the final inspection
24 and approval of the Division.

25 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge

1 Louisiana, this 18th day of March, 2021.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. Would
3 you please call the roll.

4 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

5 MR. AVANT: Yes.

6 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

7 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

8 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

9 MS. LEWIS: Yes.

10 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

11 MR. POOLE: Yes.

12 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?

13 MR. WEST: Yes.

14 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Noel?

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes. The motion
16 carries. Thank you.

17 C. Consideration Petition of Jazz Casino Company,
18 LLC, d/b/a Harrah's New Orleans for Approval of
19 the Schematic Plans for Construction
20 Improvements to the Land-Based Casino - No.
21 C013600001

22 CHAIRMAN NOEL: All right. Finally
23 on the agenda is Consideration of
24 Petition of Jazz Casino Company, LLC,
25 doing business as Harrah's New Orleans

1 for approval of the Schematic Plans for
2 Construction Improvements to the
3 Land-Based Casino, C013600001

4 MS. MOORE: Good morning, Chairman
5 Noel and Board Members. I'm Assistant
6 Attorney General Charmaine Moore. We
7 are here today in the matter of the
8 petition of Jazz Casino Company, LLC,
9 doing business as Harrah's New Orleans,
10 for approval of its schematic and design
11 plans for the construction of a new
12 hotel and improvements and renovations
13 and improvements to the casino. Both
14 Act 171 of the 2019 regular session of
15 the legislature and the amended and
16 restated operating contract require the
17 casino operator to make a capital
18 investment in the property of at least
19 \$325 million prior to July 15th, 2024.

20 The casino operating contract gives
21 the Board the right to review and
22 approve the schematic and design plans
23 for the capital investment. The plans
24 submitted by the casino operator to the
25 Board and the Division provide for the

1 construction of a new hotel adjacent to
2 the casino for renovations and
3 improvements to the casino floor and for
4 further development of the second floor
5 of the casino.

6 The Resolution prepared for your
7 adoption in addition to providing for
8 their approval of the plans, also
9 provide for the approval of a rebranding
10 of the casino from Harrah's New Orleans
11 to Caesars New Orleans. Although the
12 casino operating contract allows Jazz to
13 change his d/b/a without prior Board
14 approval, we included both an approval
15 of the d/b/a change in the rebranding in
16 the Resolution so that everyone
17 concerned will know that that will
18 happen.

19 There's another provision in the
20 Resolution notifying Jazz and Caesars of
21 the Board's desire to receive budget and
22 work progress information on a quarterly
23 basis. Simir Mowad, the General Manager
24 of Harrah's New Orleans, and Senior
25 Vice-President of Jazz is here today

1 with a slide presentation to take you
2 through the proposed capital investment
3 highlighting the renovations and
4 improvements to the casino property.
5 And Captain Pat Bradley is here from the
6 Enforcement Division of State Police to
7 address the Division's review of the
8 plans.

9 CAPTAIN BRADLEY: Morning, Mr.
10 Chairman, Board. I'm Captain Pat
11 Bradley with Louisiana State Police.
12 The Division has received and reviewed
13 the design plan for the expansion of
14 Harrah's New Orleans, including all the
15 improvements interior and exterior, and
16 will monitor and stay in communication
17 with Harrah's New Orleans and personnel
18 moving forward.

19 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Do we have any
20 questions for the A.G.'s Office or State
21 Police at this point? If not, we'll ask
22 Harrah's to come up and do their
23 presentation. I know everyone has a
24 handout.

25 MR. MOWAD: Good morning, Chairman

1 Noel, Members of the Board. It's a --
2 my name is Simir Mowad. I'm the General
3 Manager of Harrah's New Orleans, and
4 it's my pleasure this morning to walk
5 you through some of the highlights of
6 our design plan.

7 So I'm the somewhat new General
8 Manager at Harrah's New Orleans. I've
9 been -- I've been back since August, but
10 this -- this project, certainly the
11 beginning of it, predates my arrival.
12 In fact, it goes back to my last stint
13 at Harrah's New Orleans that ended in
14 2016, but ultimately, I think, many of
15 you know that our operating contract was
16 set to expire, and we were able to work
17 out a 30-year extension that was signed
18 in April; and ultimately that comes with
19 the privilege to spend \$325 million in
20 capital to help improvements to help
21 transform the property.

22 Some of the highlights of what we're
23 hoping to do is certainly, as you just
24 heard, one of the big ones is to rebrand
25 from Harrah's New Orleans to Caesars New

1 Orleans and bring our -- our best brand
2 to the -- the State of Louisiana and
3 City of New Orleans. We're gonna add a
4 340-room hotel tower right above our
5 current porte cochere. We're going to
6 refresh all of our food and beverage
7 offerings. We'll have the hotel lobby
8 check-in and a lobby bar on the second
9 floor that overlooks the Mississippi
10 River.

11 We have a sports bar that we
12 certainly hope will also house a sports
13 book as some point if -- if that comes
14 to fruition. We'll add 10,000 square
15 feet of meeting space and entertainment
16 venue that's allowed per the operating
17 contract. We'll have a -- we'll redo
18 our porte cochere drop-off area in once
19 the hotel tower is done. We'll add a
20 fitness area for that hotel tower, and
21 then we'll have a refresh of the gaming
22 floor that will be commensurate with the
23 Caesars theme and with the -- with the
24 new food and beverage outlets that we'll
25 introduce.

1 This is just an overview of the
2 property, and it really just lays out
3 sort of where we sit down at the corner
4 of Canal and Poydras and -- and all of
5 the neighbors around us. You know, we
6 have the new Four Seasons we'll be
7 opening across the street in the old
8 World Trade Center building, and then
9 you have really just a lot of quality
10 hotel product around us; and we're
11 looking to -- along with our current
12 Harrah's Hotel, and we're looking to --
13 to make sure that the -- the new Caesars
14 Hotel will be -- you know, fit right in
15 with all of that.

16 This is really detailing where a lot
17 of these updated amenities will sit, and
18 you can see where the new hotel tower --
19 will be over the porte cochere. The
20 state house is where it currently is.
21 It will just get refreshed.

22 The sports bar, there -- there is a
23 bit of debate and discussion right now
24 internally about whether it will sit
25 there or shift to a -- a different

1 position. We're going to replace -- the
2 buffet will be refreshed with a food
3 hall type concept, and then where you
4 see "Beacon," that's our busiest
5 entrance heading right into the French
6 Quarter down on Canal Street, and so
7 we'll add a three-meal restaurant with a
8 patio area over there, and then we'll
9 also have a specialty restaurant in
10 addition that will be right across from
11 the -- the river and the Four Seasons
12 and the Convention Center area.

13 This so this is an overview of what
14 our project will look like at this point
15 when the hotel tower is added and
16 refresh it to -- to have the Caesars
17 theme and the Caesars motif, and so you
18 can see on the inside what about the --
19 current layout of the property looks
20 like from an aerial view, and then you
21 can see what it looks like with the
22 hotel tower added and the -- the Caesars
23 logo and branding facing right down into
24 the French Quarter.

25 This is the Canal Street entrance,

1 our primary entrance where we see the --
2 the lion's share of our admissions,
3 again, coming from the French Quarter
4 and downtown. And the idea here, again,
5 is just to make sure we're reflective of
6 our theme and our branding and to -- we
7 will-- we will build out the -- the
8 apron a little bit so it's a little bit
9 more inviting and easy to access, and I
10 think a real theme you'll see as we go
11 through these pictures is we tried to be
12 very thoughtful about inside/outside.
13 And that's something that we -- the
14 current structure, while its great,
15 definitely has a bit of a compound feel,
16 and you walk around and it's not as
17 inviting as it could be. And then when
18 you also think about our desire to -- to
19 have inside and outside feel like they
20 flow together more. Even with COVID,
21 that's something that is -- is something
22 that we've thought about as well as we
23 think about our restaurants and -- and
24 outdoor dining and things like that.

25 This is -- as you come into that

1 entrance, we would actually push the
2 security podium a little bit, and -- and
3 even to the left would be the entrance
4 to the three-meal restaurant, and -- and
5 another factor is that -- the
6 restaurants would be available to all
7 ages, as opposed to now, you have to be
8 21 years old to enter the facility in
9 order to dine at one of the restaurants
10 that's inside the building.

11 And I will tell you, I have let our
12 design and construction folks know that
13 the security podiums, the barriers
14 aren't going to work. You know, if I
15 can get over, it's probably not a good
16 thing, and we'll make sure that's all
17 secured and appropriate and approved by
18 LSP as we move forward.

19 This is just a refresh of some of
20 outdoor decks, and, in fact, this one is
21 something that we'll be adding that will
22 be a part of that three-meal restaurant,
23 again, just so you we can have the
24 inside/outside.

25 And then this is a -- a view of the

1 current smoking deck where we have some
2 outdoor gaming, and we would just
3 refresh this for the theme and update
4 it.

5 This is our Poydras Street/South
6 Peters entrance, and currently our steak
7 house sits here, you can see, just to
8 the right. Current -- you have to
9 currently go inside. We don't have any
10 outside area. And, again, this would be
11 accessible to all ages, and you'd be
12 able to sit out on the patio and dine.
13 The interesting part is too, the
14 building as -- as the design folks have
15 worked with it, there are elements of it
16 that lend nicely to the Caesars theme.
17 So if you look at the inset picture, the
18 changes aren't dramatic to the building,
19 and it's really just as you bring in the
20 color schemes and branding. It really
21 does carry the Caesars theme very well
22 and the brand.

23 And then this is just as you walk
24 into that the entrance, and you get the
25 views of the floor. The decor may

1 change a little bit just as we continue
2 to refine the design it, but the idea
3 that this will all be refreshed and
4 treated is really the most part.

5 And then this is just an aerial
6 view. You can see the steak house there
7 and where the outdoor tables will go,
8 and we really feel like that will be a
9 win in terms of people finding that
10 restaurant more attractive. This is the
11 convention center entrance, and
12 ultimately it's where we hope to -- to
13 position our food hall. You know, we'll
14 have multiple concepts that just
15 meet certain -- they'll hit all the
16 different culinary highlights that we
17 want to make sure we're offering for
18 everyone. And, again, as you enter the
19 building, this area will be accessible
20 to all ages. Just a few more views of
21 that, and you'll see where we built the
22 apron out a little bit just to make it a
23 little more inviting.

24 Then is the new hotel tower, and the
25 goal here was, we have a cap on the

1 height, which 196 feet the tower has to
2 stay under, and so we try to design to
3 still make it like it's, you know,
4 soaring and has a sense of height to it
5 while still maintaining the cap that we
6 have allowing for views for our
7 neighbors.

8 This is the view just at the ground
9 level with the porte cochere, and then
10 just as you're pulling in and you sense
11 are the Caesar's theme and then go into
12 the entrance; and, again, you don't have
13 the best view of it here, but even if
14 you will look inside this main entrance,
15 there are escalators that are to the
16 right and the left, and those will bring
17 you up to the second floor of the hotel,
18 which is ultimately where the lobby
19 check-in for that hotel tower is, prior
20 to the entrance to the casino floor is
21 opposed to that.

22 And then this is our rendering of
23 the bar up on that second floor which
24 will give you a view of the river and,
25 you know, out into the French Quarter;

1 and then this is the design of the hotel
2 room, where this is consistent with the
3 design of the hotel room at our Caesars
4 properties. This is one of the suite
5 views where I -- you know, just more
6 space inviting. We're excited about the
7 ability to add suites as well with the
8 Caesars theme. With now international
9 flights into New Orleans, we really feel
10 like we're going to be able to draw a
11 whole other level of customer to the
12 city and to Caesars New Orleans that
13 previously maybe we just didn't check
14 that box in terms of bringing them in.

15 And then this is just a view of some
16 the finishes in the restroom. And just
17 back to that aerial overview that kind
18 of sets the stage for where we're hoping
19 to go as -- as we make this significant
20 investment into -- into the property
21 downtown.

22 That's the -- that's the highlights
23 of the presentation that you-all
24 received and certainly available to
25 answer any questions that you might

1 have.

2 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you.

3 Real quick, I did want to recognize,
4 Ms. Hamilton-Acker is here.

5 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Poole, do you
7 have a question?

8 MR. POOLE: Yeah, yeah, I have a
9 question.

10 Mr. Simir, thank you for being here
11 today.

12 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir.

13 MR. POOLE: What is Caesars' plans
14 for the whole sports book operation or
15 the sports bar at the moment, assuming
16 that sports book passage happens here in
17 the State of Louisiana? Will that look
18 anything like what a Las Vegas sports
19 books would look like?

20 MR. MOWAD: Certainly when you think
21 Caesars sports and the Caesars sports
22 book -- and, you know, it's funny,
23 myself and my boss, our former GM, Dan
24 Real, were talking about this yesterday,
25 and we certainly have a vision in our

1 head that is born out of when walk into
2 the sports book at Caesars Palace.
3 That's partly where the location becomes
4 important. It's also worth noting that
5 not just if the sports books are
6 approved but also how they are approved
7 in the sense of what's allowed and what
8 isn't will have some bearing on what the
9 final product ends up looking like. But
10 we're certainly aware that it's a
11 driver.

12 Some of our competitors and sister
13 properties around the state, ours might
14 look a lit bit different, a little bit
15 more robust in the sense of we see --
16 you know, the City of New Orleans is a
17 place that is similar to Las Vegas where
18 bachelor parties, groups of guys, groups
19 of gals come in, bachelorette parties to
20 do things like that, and the sports book
21 can be a big part of it? It might not
22 just be a more of local types
23 destinations. We have a few different
24 versions of it, quite frankly, just sort
25 of waiting and see where that goes.

1 MR. POOLE: So you feel like the
2 decision about what happens in the
3 state, all that will drive the
4 development and you won't be forced to
5 make a decision on there prior to --

6 MR. MOWAD: No, we -- what we have
7 planned out originally is a sports bar
8 that can be converted to a sports -- but
9 the sports bar, is still relevant in the
10 City of New Orleans, especially Saints
11 games, the college games, all the
12 different traffic, NCA tournaments,
13 things like that. I think we're the
14 Final Four host next year, I believe,
15 hopefully.

16 So all of that factors in. We have
17 currently planned a multi-functional
18 space that we will be able to pivot into
19 what we believe is appropriate. It's
20 interesting, even in the sense of how do
21 we design it and we lay it out, we're
22 trying to be a little noncommittal right
23 now, in the sense of it will be a
24 shelled out space that will be flexible.

25 MR. POOLE: Thank you. I appreciate

1 it.

2 MR. AVAST: How many rooms do you
3 have?

4 MR. MOWAD: 450.

5 MR. AVANT: So this is an
6 additional?

7 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir.

8 MR. AVANT: What about parking?

9 MR. MOWAD: I mean, ultimately our
10 two parking garages, which are on 501
11 and 601, Convention Center garages, so
12 we have a plethora of parking, and
13 ultimately the hotel may just soak up
14 more of that parking as opposed to now
15 we even -- whatever goes unused
16 internally, we have spaces that we sell.
17 It's a traditional parking garage.

18 MR. AVANT: No problem with the
19 parking.

20 MR. MOWAD: No, sir. The, you know,
21 valet might get a little more
22 challenging. As I did find out that as
23 we drive pilings for a 340-room hotel,
24 all of the spots underneath may not be
25 available, but ultimately -- you know,

1 that's more of an internal problem. The
2 guests will never perceive how we figure
3 that out.

4 MR. AVANT: Thank you.

5 MR. MOWAD: Absolutely.

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I believe, Mr. West.

7 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir.

8 MR. WEST: Live Entertainment venue,
9 is that taken out now when you move
10 these restaurants?

11 MR. MOWAD: No, sir, the film war
12 will still be upstairs where it is now,
13 and then even as we have the convention
14 space that we'll add where we can even
15 do -- have some flexibility of our own
16 if we so desire to use it. And then on
17 top of that, we have enough space up
18 there also where we'll still be talking
19 to third parties about different
20 entertainment options as well. But the
21 Philmore, we're in regular contact with
22 them, and much like a lot of us, they're
23 just waiting for appropriate recovery
24 where the restrictions allow them to
25 successfully execute on shows. That was

1 a big success for us, prior to COVID, in
2 the sense of all the traffic that they
3 drove.

4 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Ms. Lewis, I think
5 you have a question.

6 MS. LEWIS: Are you at liberty to
7 discuss the types of restaurants that
8 are going into the food hall? Will it
9 be Vegas style and some of those brand
10 names?

11 MR. MOWAD: I would tell you that I
12 think Caesars is well renowned for the
13 brands and the names that we're
14 associated with, and you can absolutely
15 expect that some of those associations
16 will be carried over. At the same time,
17 we're also planning to have a diverse
18 option of restaurants, and that includes
19 who the operators, both -- not only some
20 of our international associations, but
21 most importantly some local
22 associations.

23 MS. LEWIS: Thank you.

24 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir.

25 CHAIRMAN NOEL: With regard to the

1 overall project short-term -- and I
2 guess short-term meaning the
3 construction phase itself and, you know,
4 long-term after construction is
5 completed -- what's the impact on
6 employment for Caesars, for Harrah's but
7 also, you know, construction and third
8 party type of employment.

9 MR. MOWAD: Absolutely. So
10 short-term it's really interserting,
11 more so I would argue because of -- of
12 COVID and how that recovery looks
13 relative to when construction starts.
14 You know, rough time lines that I'm not
15 a hundred percent committing to, but our
16 goals right now are we're starting demo
17 late summer. We're driving pilings, you
18 know, early fall, and so from there as
19 recovery continues to happen; and
20 certainly we recognize that right now
21 our employment, our mandates have --
22 we've been given the chance to be
23 relaxed. It's something where we think
24 about the outlets we're going to open
25 and how we'll employ the correct number

1 of people while also safely doing that
2 as we work through construction. And
3 we're definitely considering how we
4 figure that out. It's a complex problem
5 right now. Even in February, as you
6 know, Chairman Noel, our admissions were
7 down 66 percent, and just because of the
8 nature of the business in the City of
9 New Orleans, you know, tourism has been
10 so hard hit, and so, you know, I'm proud
11 of the way our company has handled
12 everything in the sense of even for the
13 employees that are still on furlough,
14 we're paying their benefits to this day;
15 and we have a plan to get back to full
16 employment when it is so appropriate.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Okay. Any other
18 questions? Mr. West, I see your button
19 is pressed it, but that's -- okay.

20 One of the last questions I had, you
21 know, we're looking at a \$325 million
22 project. I'm really pleased to see the
23 comprehensive approach as opposed to
24 just putting up a hotel. I mean, again,
25 you're branding, you're doing the casino

1 and adding a number of things. What's
2 the approximate -- out of that 325, what
3 is the approximate cost for the casino
4 refresh?

5 MR. MOWAD: So we -- we submitted a
6 rough budget, and even I'd love to
7 answer that question non-publicly.
8 That's why we submitted it in advance
9 just in terms of where those buckets fit
10 dollars wise. While the lion share of
11 the money, meaning over half is being
12 spent on the hotel, it's broken out, and
13 even I have a copy of it and can review
14 it with you immediately following this.

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: I am familiar with
16 the number, and what I wanted to bring
17 out was, it is a fairly significant
18 number.

19 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir. There's no
20 question that where we see -- look, the
21 hotel is an awesome amenity that we're
22 able to add, and it's something that
23 helps our business strategy. The
24 biggest piece of all of that is making
25 the project Caesars New Orleans, and

1 when you walk into what is now Harrah's
2 New Orleans -- we were actually having
3 this discussion yesterday of, when do
4 you flip from Harrah's to Caesars? And
5 the answer is when you walk in, it's got
6 to feel like Caesars New Orleans.

7 Obviously, I'm a Caesars employee, have
8 been for a long time, so I get that I'm
9 drinking the Kool-Aid. But when you
10 walk in to Caesars Palace, right, I
11 think that there's a reason it's the
12 most famous casino in the world, right,
13 because you know you're at Caesars
14 Palace.

15 And that's what Harrah's New Orleans
16 has to feel like, and so the idea that
17 we can throw up a new hotel tower and
18 call it Caesars, I would reject that
19 idea and certainly our brand team would
20 reject that idea. And so that's the
21 goal of our project. We have -- while
22 we do get national business that flies
23 in and stays in the hotels, we also get
24 a ton of regional drive in business,
25 and, you know, even in the city you have

1 all the hotel rooms, you have Airbnb,
2 BRBO, all that stuff, people are going
3 to be able to stay in our hotel, so
4 that's what's driving that investment.

5 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Are you rebranding
6 the current Harrah's hotel, or will that
7 still stay Harrah's?

8 MR. MOWAD: So we're -- while I'm
9 not ready to put a stake in the ground
10 on that, our ideas is probably to leave
11 that as the Harrah's Hotel, and that way
12 you're not asking what Caesars -- where
13 you're staying at. You know you're
14 staying at the Caesars Tower. But I may
15 come back and have an alternate
16 suggestion on that. We shall see.

17 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Sure. Any last
18 questions? [No response.]

19 So at this point, I will see if we
20 have a motion to adopt the Resolution.

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

22 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Motion by Mr. Poole.

23 MR. WEST: I'll second.

24 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. West seconds.

25 Ms. Thurman, could you read the

1 Resolution into the record.

2 MS. THURMAN: On the 18th day of
3 March 2021, the Louisiana Gaming Control
4 Board, in a duly noticed public meeting,
5 did consider the issue of Jazz Casino
6 Company, LLC's, request for approval of
7 the schematic plans for the \$325 million
8 capital investment provided for in
9 Louisiana Revised Statute 27:241.A.2(b),
10 and Section 9.33 of the amended and
11 restated casino operating contract dated
12 April 1st, 2020, and upon motion duly
13 made and seconded, the Board adopted
14 this Resolution:

15 Be it resolved that the schematic
16 plans for the \$325 million capital
17 investment to include the construction
18 of certain improvements to the land
19 based casino, including the construction
20 of a new hotel, are hereby approved.

21 Be it resolved that pursuant to
22 Section 9.33(a)II of the Casino
23 Operating Contract, the Board hereby
24 notifies Caesars Entertainment, Inc.,
25 and Jazz Casino Company, LLC, that in

1 regard to the capital investment, A, at
2 least 30 days prior to the commencement
3 of construction, Caesars and the casino
4 operator shall submit to the Board a
5 comprehensive budget for the capital
6 investment, and, B, beginning 90 days
7 after the commencement of construction
8 and quarterly thereafter, Caesars and
9 the casino operator shall submit a
10 written report that provides a
11 reasonable summary of the then current
12 status of the capital investment work
13 and capital investment expenses as those
14 terms are defined in the COC as well as
15 a then current development budget for
16 the capital investment.

17 Be it resolved that as provided in
18 Section 8.7 of the Casino Operating
19 Contract, the rebranding of the casino
20 property as well as the d/b/a of Jazz
21 Casino Company, LLC, from Harrah's New
22 Orleans to Caesars New Orleans, is
23 hereby approved.

24 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge
25 Louisiana, this 18th day of March 2021.

1 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Avant?

2 MR. AVANT: Yes.

3 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Jackson?

4 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

5 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Lewis?

6 MS. LEWIS: Yes.

7 MS. THURMAN: Mr. Poole?

8 MR. POOLE: Yes.

9 MS. THURMAN: Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

10 MS. HAMILTON-AKER: Yes.

11 MS. THURMAN: Mr. West?

12 MR. WEST: Yes.

13 MS. THURMAN: And, Chairman Noel?

14 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Yes. The motion
15 carries. Thank you.

16 MR. MOWAD: Chairman Noel, I'd like
17 to say, I know this has been a -- as I
18 mentioned earlier, a long time in the
19 making, and I definitely want to offer
20 our sincere and profuse thanks to you,
21 the Board, your staff that worked so
22 hard on all of this, along with the
23 Attorney General's Office and the
24 Louisiana State Police.

25 A State Police, because it -- it

1 hasn't been -- like I said, I remember
2 this being talked about when I was
3 working for the company in New Orleans
4 in 2016 and really appreciate everyone's
5 efforts.

6 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Thank you. And no
7 doubt that the staff and the Board and
8 the Attorney General's Office and LSP
9 really carried the heavy load.

10 MR. MOWAD: Yes, sir. So thank you.

11 VII. ADJOURNMENT

12 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Right. Do we have a
13 motion adjourn?

14 MR. AVANT: So moved.

15 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Avant moves. Do
16 we have a second?

17 MR. JACKSON: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN NOEL: Mr. Jackson seconds.

19 All in favor? [Collective "aye."]

20 Any opposed? [No response.] We're
21 adjourned.

22 Thank you.

1 REPORTER'S PAGE

2
3 I, SHELLEY PAROLA, Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the
5 officer before whom this sworn testimony was
6 taken, do hereby state:

7 That due to the spontaneous discourse of this
8 proceeding, where necessary, dashes (--) have been
9 used to indicate pauses, changes in thought,
10 and/or talkovers; that same is the proper method
11 for a Court Reporter's transcription of a
12 proceeding, and that dashes (--) do not indicate
13 that words or phrases have been left out of this
14 transcript;

15 That any words and/or names which could not
16 be verified through reference materials have been
17 denoted with the word "(phonetic)."
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 SHELLEY PAROLA
25 Certified Court Reporter #96001
Registered Professional Reporter

1 STATE OF LOUISIANA

2 PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

3 I, Shelley G. Parola, Certified Court
4 Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter, do
5 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
6 correct transcript of the proceedings on March 18,
7 2021, as taken by me in Stenographic machine
8 shorthand, complemented with magnetic tape
9 recording, and thereafter reduced to transcript,
10 to the best of my ability and understanding, using
11 Computer-Aided Transcription.

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

18 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 29th day of
19 April, 2021.

20
21 _____
22 SHELLEY G. PAROLA, CCR, RPR

23 CERTIFICATE NO. 96001
24
25