

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

Minutes of August 19, 2021

The monthly Board meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board convened on Thursday, August 19, 10:00 a.m., at the Louisiana State Capitol, House Committee Room 5. Present at the meeting were Chairman Ronnie Johns, Julie Berry, Vice-Chair, Harry Avant, Claude Jackson, Julie Lewis, O. Lamar Poole, Jr., Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Ronald Sholes, Ashley Traylor, and ex-officio member Secretary Kimberly Lewis. Absent was ex-officio member Col. Lamar Davis.

The meeting was called to order. It was moved by Ms. Berry to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the July 15, 2021, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sholes and unanimously approved by the Board.

Donna Jackson, Louisiana State Police Gaming Audit Section, provided revenue reports for the riverboats, slots at the racetracks and landbased casino. She also reported on the video poker statistics.

The Board considered Certificate of Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming vessel of Catfish Queen Partnership in Commendam d/b/a Belle of Baton Rouge – No. R011700009. After presentation by Kanick Lewis, Assistant Attorney General (“AAG”), Louisiana Attorney General’s Gaming Division; John Francic, ABS Group, it was moved by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to approve the temporary Certificate of Compliance which expires on September 30, 2021. That motion was seconded by Mr. Avant and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered Certificate of Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming vessel of PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership d/b/a L’Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge – No. R011000801. After presentation by Alonna Murray, AAG, Louisiana Attorney General’s Gaming Division; John Francic, ABS Group, it was moved by Ms. Lewis to approve the Certificate of Compliance which expires on August 31, 2022. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board considered Certificate of Compliance for the Alternate Riverboat Inspection of the gaming vessel of PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership d/b/a Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge – No. R011700193. After presentation by Charlie Picou, AAG, Louisiana Attorney General’s Gaming Division; John Francic, ABS Group, it was moved by Ms. Berry to approve the temporary Certificate of Compliance which expires on September 30, 2022. That motion was seconded by Mr. Sholes and unanimously approved by the Board.

Next, the Board considered the Amended and Reinstated Petition to Amend License Conditions by St. Charles Gaming Company, LLC – No. R011700174. After presentation by Dawn Himel, Deputy Director, Attorney General’s Gaming Division; Jeff Barbin, General Counsel, St. Charles Gaming Company LLC; Jeff Favre, General Manager; and Dan Real, Regional Vice-President, it was moved by Ms. Berry to approve the Amended and Reinstated Petition to Amend License Conditions. That motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton-Acker and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board then considered the transfer of interest in Grand's Palace Casino, LLC d/b/a Kenner Airport Casino – No. 2605515782. After presentation by Earl Pitre, Jr., AAG, Louisiana Attorney General's Gaming Division and Master Trooper James Cannon, Louisiana State Police Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to approve the transfer of interest. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board also considered the transfer of interest in Whispering Pines Plaza & Casino, LLC d/b/a Whispering Pines Casino – No. 4600515433. After presentation by Earl Pitre, Jr., AAG, Louisiana Attorney General's Gaming Division and Investigator William Landry, Louisiana State Police Gaming Enforcement Division, it was moved by Ms. Lewis to approve the transfer of interest. That motion was seconded by Mr. Avant and unanimously approved by the Board.

Next, the Board considered the adoption of the following emergency rules of Louisiana Sports Wagering:

- A. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for LAC Title 42, Part VI, Sections 101 -1303 (Louisiana Sports Wagering)
- B. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for amendment of LAC 42:III.102 (Issuance and Renewal of Licenses by the Department)
- C. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for the amendment of LAC 42:III.104 (Delegation to Chairman)
- D. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for amendment of LAC 42:III.105 (Civil Penalties)
- E. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for amendment of LAC 42:III.107 (Standards of Conduct and Ethical Rules)
- F. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for amendment of LAC 42:III.120 (Application and Reporting Forms)
- G. Consideration of adoption of emergency rules for amendment of LAC 42:III.2737 (Casino Gaming Payment Interception)

After presentation by Dawn Himel, Deputy Director, Attorney General's Gaming Division and Major Chuck McNeal, it was moved by Mr. Jackson to adopt the emergency rules of Louisiana Sports Wagering. That motion was seconded by Mr. Sholes and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board then considered the emergency approvals of the Sports Wagering License Application Form and the Sports Wagering Platform Provider Application Form.

- H. Consideration of Emergency Approval of the Sports Wagering License Application Form
- I. Consideration of Emergency Approval of the Sports Wagering Platform Provider Application Form

After presentation by Dawn Himel, Deputy Director, Attorney General's Gaming Division and Major Chuck McNeal, it was moved by Ms. Hamilton-Acker to adopt the emergency rules of Louisiana Sports Wagering. That motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

The final items on the agenda were two settlements and one appeal. The Board considered the following:

1. **In Re: Sophie Girl, LLC d/b/a Sophie Girl – No. 2900617826 and Easy Money Casino, LLC d/b/a Easy Money Casino – No. 2900517802** (consolidated settlement)

It was moved by Mr. Poole, seconded by Ms. Berry, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the settlement wherein the licensees would pay a civil penalty of \$10,221.00, for failure to supervise their employees as they worked without valid permits, made invalid logbook entries, and accessed video draw poker devices without logging entries.

2. **In Re: Sake, LLC d/b/a The Rusty Nail – No. 3601115419** (settlement)

It was moved by Mr. Avant, seconded by Mr. Sholes, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the settlement wherein the licensee would pay the civil penalty of \$750.00, for failure to timely submit the required annual fee and supporting documents.

3. **In Re: Christina Braxton – No. V00023532** (appeal)

Motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Berry to affirm the Hearing Officer's Decision that the permittee was unsuitable for failure to disclose her criminal history and that ten years has not elapsed between the date of application and successful completion or service of any sentence, deferred adjudication or period of probation or parole for Theft.

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Berry, seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn.