

Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting
July 20, 2023

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL
HOUSE COMMITTEE ROOM 1
900 NORTH 3RD STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

APPEARANCES

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

JULIE BERRY, VICE-CHAIRMAN
(CPA)
Third Congressional District
June 30, 2024

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

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

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
(Attorney)
Third Congressional District
June 30, 2026

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

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

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APPEARANCES (CONTINUED)

HEATHER HOOD
Principal Assistant

CAPTAIN J.B. SLATON
Louisiana State Police

REPORTED BY:

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

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Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting
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1 I. CALL TO ORDER

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Good morning, everyone.
4 Welcome to the July 20, 2023, board meeting of the
5 Louisiana Gaming Control Board. And, Ms. Hood,
6 would you call the roll, please?

7 MS. HOOD:

8 Chairman Johns?

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Here.

11 MS. HOOD:

12 Mr. Avant?

13 MR. AVANT:

14 Here.

15 MS. HOOD:

16 Ms. Berry?

17 MS. BERRY:

18 Here.

19 MS. HOOD:

20 Mr. Jackson?

21 MR. JACKSON:

22 Here.

23 MS. HOOD:

24 Ms. Lewis?

25 MS. LEWIS:

Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting
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1 Here.

2 MS. HOOD:

3 Mr. Poole?

4 MR. POOLE:

5 Here.

6 MS. HOOD:

7 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

8 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

9 Here.

10 MS. HOOD:

11 Judge Sholes?

12 MR. SHOLES:

13 Here.

14 MS. HOOD:

15 Ms. Traylor?

16 MS. TRAYLOR:

17 Here.

18 MS. HOOD:

19 Colonel Davis?

20 CAPTAIN SLATON:

21 Captain Slaton for Colonel Davis.

22 MS. HOOD:

23 Secretary Richard?

24 (NO RESPONSE)

25 MS. HOOD:

1 We have a quorum.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 We have a quorum. Thank you,
4 Ms. Hood. Ladies and gentlemen, before we'll be
5 getting to our business this morning, I want to
6 introduce our newest employee over at the --
7 Gaming Control Board member. Sitting up here at
8 the head table is Mrs. Jasmine Dunklin, and
9 Jasmine is going to be our docket clerk for the
10 Board's Hearing Office, as well as doing a lot of
11 other administrative duties. So, Jasmine, welcome
12 to the Gaming Control Board, and we -- we're very
13 fortunate to have you. And, Mr. Hebert, thank you
14 for sending Ms. Dunklin our way. We appreciate
15 that; so . . .

16 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Okay, Members. We will move into
19 public comments. Ladies and gentlemen, this is
20 the time of our meeting -- if there are any public
21 comments on any matter to come before the Board
22 today, this is the time that you can step forward
23 and make a public comment. Are there any public
24 comments?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. Seeing none, we will move into
3 the approval of our minutes.

4 III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Members, in your packet, you have the
7 minutes from the June 15, 2023, meeting. I would
8 entertain a motion to waive that reading and
9 approve the minutes of June 15, 2023.

10 MR. JACKSON:

11 So moved.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 And Mr. Jackson has moved that we
14 approve those minutes.

15 MS. BERRY:

16 (Indicating)

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Ms. Berry has seconded that motion.

19 Is there any opposition to that motion?

20 (NO RESPONSE)

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 Hearing none, that motion carries.

23 IV. REVENUE REPORTS

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Okay. We move into the revenue

1 reports. Ms. Jackson, good morning.

2 MS. JACKSON:

3 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
4 Members. My name is Donna Jackson with Louisiana
5 State Police, Gaming Audit Section.

6 In June the 14 operating riverboats
7 generated adjusted gross receipts of \$148,917,913.
8 The State collected fees totaling \$32,017,351
9 during June. Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal
10 year 2023 -- excuse me -- totaled \$1,768,500,000,
11 a decrease of almost \$40 million, or 2 percent,
12 from last fiscal year. The State collected
13 \$380 million in fees for fiscal year 2023.

14 Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue
15 broken down by regional market. This month's
16 revenues represent a decrease from May of
17 approximately \$4.5 million, or 2.9 percent, and a
18 decrease of \$3 million, or 2 percent, when
19 compared to the same month last year.

20 Next is a summary of the June 2023
21 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans, found on
22 page 3. Harrah's generated \$19,847,061 in gross
23 gaming revenue. These revenues represent a
24 decrease from last month of \$1.8 million, or
25 8.6 percent, and a decrease of almost \$1.2, or

1 5.5 percent, from last June. During June the
2 State received \$5.3 million in minimum daily
3 payments. Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal year
4 2023 total \$260 million, an increase of \$31.9
5 million, or 14 percent, from last fiscal year.
6 The State collected \$64.9 million in fees for
7 fiscal year 2023.

8 Next I will present the revenues for
9 slots at the racetracks. During June the four
10 racetrack facilities combined generated adjusted
11 gross receipts of \$27,193,388, a decrease of
12 1.9 percent from May and minimal increase of
13 .3 percent when compared to the same month last
14 year. During June the State collected
15 \$4.1 million in fees. Adjusted gross receipts for
16 fiscal year 2023 are almost \$321 million, a
17 decrease of \$8.9 million, or 2.7 percent, from
18 last fiscal year. The State collected \$48.7
19 million in fees for fiscal year 2023.

20 I will now move to the video gaming
21 information. There are 11,875 video gaming
22 devices activated at 1,399 locations. Net device
23 revenue for June 2023 was \$61,840,072, a decrease
24 of \$3.3 million, or 5 percent, when compared to
25 May and a decrease of \$3.1 million, or

1 4.7 percent, when compared to last June. Total
2 franchise fees for June 2023 totaled \$18.7
3 million. Net device revenue for fiscal year 2023
4 totaled \$780 million, a decrease of \$49 million,
5 or 6 percent, when compared to last fiscal year.
6 The State collected \$236.3 million in franchise
7 fees for fiscal year 2023.

8 Next I'll present the June revenue
9 for sportsbook. During June the 18 retail
10 sportsbooks accepted \$14.4 million in sports
11 wagers, resulting in net proceeds of approximately
12 \$1.2 million and \$132,000 in state taxes. For
13 fiscal year 2023, retail wagers total \$307
14 million, with net proceeds totaling \$38.4 million.

15 The eight mobile sportsbook operators
16 accepted \$145.7 million in sports wagers,
17 resulting in net proceeds of \$11.3 million and
18 \$1.6 million in taxes paid to the State. For
19 fiscal year 2023, mobile wagers totaled
20 \$2.2 billion, with net proceeds totaling
21 \$206.8 million.

22 And just a quick note that the Audit
23 Section restated the information for multiple past
24 months for both retail and mobile due to revisions
25 after the prior months were finalized. Overall,

1 net proceeds and state taxes for the prior months
2 were higher than previously recorded by an
3 aggregated total of \$1.5 million and \$215,000,
4 respectively.

5 Finally, for daily fantasy sports,
6 gross revenues for June were approximately
7 \$560,000, with net revenue of \$59,000 and taxes of
8 \$4,700. For fiscal year 2023, gross revenues
9 totaled \$20 million, with net revenue of
10 approximately \$2.1 million.

11 Any questions?

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Jackson. Any
14 questions for Ms. Jackson on revenue?

15 (NO RESPONSE)

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 So, Members, in your packet, there is
18 an additional bit of information. I asked
19 Ms. Jackson to give us an update on sports
20 wagering since -- since its inception, and this is
21 through June of 2023. Pretty staggering numbers,
22 3 -- almost \$3.7 billion wagered, which has
23 generated to the State of Louisiana about -- right
24 at \$53 million of state taxes.

25 So just -- again, at a conference

1 last week in Denver, we looked at what some other
2 states are doing, and in terms of, you know, per
3 capita, we are, no doubt, in the -- in the top ten
4 in the country.

5 So, anyway, Ms. Jackson, thank you
6 for that report. I think it's pretty staggering
7 numbers, and it continues to -- to do well.

8 I also just, you know, had some
9 curiosity with the LSU -- LSU game and the College
10 World Series, what it may have done to sports
11 wagering in June, and I'm comparing June of '23 to
12 June '22, and it's significant -- a significant
13 amount more of wagering this year than the
14 previous year. Now, I think the win ratio was
15 actually down; so I think a lot of people were
16 betting on -- on LSU to win. And, you know, we're
17 grateful that they did, but I think it generated a
18 lot of interest here in Louisiana.

19 So any further questions? Any
20 comments on revenue, Members?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 Okay. Hearing none. Ms. Jackson,
24 thank you for your great work, as always. We
25 appreciate that.

1 V. CASINO GAMING ISSUES

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Okay. Members, we're going to move
4 into casino gaming issues. First on the agenda
5 today is the consideration of the Certificate of
6 Compliance for the alternate riverboat inspection
7 of the PNK Baton Rouge, LLC, doing business as
8 L'Auberge Baton Rouge. Good morning.

9 MS. JOHNSON:

10 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
11 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
12 Venise Johnson. With me is Ms. Moriah Reed of
13 AVS. We are here today in the matter of the
14 issuance of the Certificate of Compliance for PNK
15 Baton Rouge, LLC, doing business as L'Auberge
16 Baton Rouge.

17 On June 28, 2023, AVS began the
18 inspection process for the approval of the
19 L'Auberge Baton Rouge's Certificate of Compliance.
20 Ms. Reed will now provide the details on AVS's
21 inspection.

22 MS. REED:

23 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
24 Board Members. I am Moriah Reed, Naval Architect,
25 with American Vessel Services and here to report

1 the annual certification for L'Auberge Casino
2 Baton Rouge.

3 The inspectors Pete Bullard and Jeff
4 Boyle did, on June 28, 2023, attend the riverboat
5 L'Auberge Baton Rouge to conduct the annual
6 inspection in accordance with the Louisiana
7 Alternative Inspection Program. The inspectors
8 reviewed fire protection measures, egress routes,
9 observed emergency lighting, tested the emergency
10 generator, inspected the mooring system, and
11 conducted a fire drill, as well as other required
12 life safety items. There were no deficiencies.

13 The 2023 annual survey as required by
14 the Louisiana Gaming Control Board is now
15 complete, and the L'Auberge Baton Rouge is
16 considered fit to continue its intended service as
17 a dockside gaming riverboat in the state of
18 Louisiana. It is the recommendation of AVS that
19 L'Auberge Casino of Baton Rouge be issued a
20 Certificate of Compliance for 2023.

21 MS. JOHNSON:

22 We now present these findings to the
23 Board, and request that, upon the Board's
24 accepting the report submitted by AVS, you will
25 move for the issuance of the Certificate of

1 Compliance for L'Auberge Baton Rouge, which
2 expires on September 30, 2024.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Okay. So no deficiencies?
5 Everything is in compliance, and we're good to go?

6 MS. REED:

7 Yes, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Any questions for the ladies at the
10 table?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 If not, I would entertain a motion
14 that we issue a Certificate of Compliance for
15 L'Auberge Baton Rouge, which will expire on
16 August 31, 2024.

17 MR. POOLE:

18 So moved.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Mr. Poole has -- has made that
21 motion.

22 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

23 (Indicating)

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Ms. Hamilton-Acker has -- has

1 seconded that motion. Is there any discussion on
2 the motion? Any opposition to that motion?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Hearing none, that motion carries.
6 So thank you very much, ladies. Appreciate that.

7 While we're on L'Auberge, I would
8 just like to say publicly that L'Auberge just
9 recently opened a new venue there at their
10 property, a substantial amount of investment on
11 their part. And while I've not put my eyes on it,
12 all reports I've gotten back, it's just a
13 first-class venue out there. So, once again, you
14 know, we appreciate that level of -- of support
15 and investment from the industry; so . . .

16 Okay. We're going to move forward
17 with the consideration of a Certificate of
18 Compliance for the alternate riverboat inspection
19 of the gaming vessel Belle of Orleans, LLC, doing
20 business as Amelia Belle Casino.

21 MR. LEWIS:

22 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
23 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General Kanick
24 Lewis, Jr. Here with me is Ms. Moriah Reed of
25 AVS. We're here in the matter of the Certificate

1 of Compliance -- for the issuance of the
2 Certificate of Compliance for the Belle of
3 Orleans, LLC, doing business as Amelia Belle
4 Casino.

5 On May 24, 2023, AVS began the
6 inspection process for the approval of the
7 casino's Certificate of Compliance, and Ms. Reed
8 will now provide AVS's details.

9 MS. REED:

10 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
11 Board Members. I am Moriah Reed with American
12 Vessel Services, and I'm here to report on the
13 annual certification of the Belle of Orleans at
14 the Amelia Belle Casino in Amel -- in Amelia,
15 Louisiana.

16 The inspector Pete Bullard did, on
17 May 24, 2023, attend the riverboat Belle of
18 Orleans to conduct the annual inspection in
19 accordance with the Louisiana Alternative
20 Inspection Program. The inspector reviewed fire
21 protection measures, egress routes, observed
22 emergency lighting, tested the emergency
23 generator, inspected the mooring system, and
24 conducted a fire drill, as well as other required
25 life safety items. The deficiencies are noted on

1 page 6 of your report.

2 A follow-up inspection was done on
3 June 29. Two deficiencies remained and are
4 outstanding. These deficiencies are noted on
5 page 2 of the supplemental survey dated July 7 in
6 your package. As a result of these remaining
7 deficiencies not being completely satisfied, the
8 property has requested an extension of their COC
9 to allow sufficient time to complete the
10 deficiencies. The delay appears to be material
11 availability.

12 AVS has worked with the property to
13 understand the remaining deficiencies and feels
14 that it does not pose a risk to the safety of the
15 passengers and crew of the casino vessel. AVS
16 feels confident that the property is working
17 diligently to satisfy the outstanding items.

18 The 2023 annual survey as required by
19 the Louisiana Gaming Control Board is not
20 complete. As such, the property has requested an
21 extension, and this extension request letter from
22 the property is included in your package. It is
23 the recommendation of AVS that the Belle of
24 Orleans be issued a Temporary Certificate of
25 Compliance for August of 2023 to allow additional

1 time to satisfy the remaining deficiencies.

2 MR. LEWIS:

3 We now present these findings to the
4 Board and request, upon the Board's acceptance of
5 the report submitted by AVS, you will move for the
6 issuance of Amelia Belle's Temporary Certificate
7 of Compliance, which will expire on August 31,
8 2023.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 Okay. So all indication is that
11 these two deficiencies can be remedied in the next
12 month. Is that y'all's understanding?

13 MS. REED:

14 That is my understanding. The first
15 one, the generator one, is done. I got word from
16 our inspector that they're good with that one. It
17 just came in a little late to get it in the report
18 to y'all.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay.

21 MS. REED:

22 And the second one, the escalator,
23 they're just waiting on the steps, and they've
24 been ordered; so . . .

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

1 Okay. Sounds good. Members, any
2 questions? Any questions?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Okay. If not, I would ask that we
6 entertain a motion to issue a Temporary
7 Certificate of Compliance, which will expire on
8 August 31, 2023.

9 MR. AVANT:

10 (Indicating)

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 And Mr. Avant has made that motion.

13 MS. LEWIS:

14 (Indicating)

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 And Ms. Lewis has seconded that
17 motion. Is there any discussion? Is there any
18 opposition to that motion?

19 (NO RESPONSE)

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Hearing none, that motion carries.
22 Thank you very much. And thank you, Moriah, for
23 being with us today. Thank you, Mr. Kanick.

24 MR. LEWIS:

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. We now move into the
3 consideration of submission of architectural
4 blueprints for Catfish Queen, LLC, doing business
5 as the Belle of Baton Rouge.

6 MS. LANDRY:

7 Good morning.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Good morning.

10 MS. LANDRY:

11 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
12 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
13 Lisha Landry, here today in the matter of Catfish
14 Queen, LLC, doing business as Belle of Baton Rouge
15 Casino's submission of its architectural
16 blueprints and detailed plan of design and
17 construction for its landside facility.

18 On September 15, 2022, this Board
19 considered and approved the Licensee's request to
20 relocate its gaming operations to a landside
21 facility within 1,200 feet of its licensed berth.
22 The Board adopted a resolution, which was later
23 amended, that required the licensee to submit
24 architectural blueprints and a detailed plan of
25 design and construction for the approved project

1 for Board review and acceptance. The Board also
2 granted the licensee's request on extension of
3 time to submit revised plans and specs for the
4 approved project by May 16, 2023. The licensee
5 timely submitted its plans and specs to the Board,
6 which are up for your consideration today.

7 As a reminder, the Belle's proposed
8 landside facility will include at least 16,500
9 feet of gaming space, a minimum of 3 restaurants
10 with a total minimum seating capacity of 288, a
11 sportsbook, viewing area, and bar with a minimum
12 seating capacity of 75, a fitness center, and a
13 business center. The licensee will also be
14 remodeling its existing hotel. The Division and
15 the Attorney General's Office have reviewed the
16 plans and specs and confirm that all elements of
17 the approved project are -- are present in the
18 plans and specs.

19 If the Board decides to accept the
20 architectural blueprints submitted by the
21 licensee, a resolution has been prepared for the
22 Board's adoption and the Chairman's signature. If
23 adopted, the licensee will have 90 days from the
24 signing of the resolution to submit its
25 construction contracts for the approved project

1 for Board review and acceptance.

2 And we have representatives from the
3 licensee who are here today and available to
4 answer any questions that you may have.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. So thank you, Ms. Landry. So,
7 Members, we do have copies of those architectural
8 plans should any of you be interested in looking
9 at them. I don't -- I promise you, I don't
10 understand what they are when I look at them
11 but -- I'm not an architect; but, anyway, they
12 look -- they look very much in order. So we -- we
13 appreciate that.

14 Mr. Barbin, why don't you and your
15 team come on up. And, Members, I've asked
16 representatives from the Belle of Baton Rouge to
17 come up and just give a very brief report of where
18 they've been, where they are, and where they're
19 going.

20 And some of us -- a number of us have
21 been out there a number of times. I can tell you,
22 I'm just so greatly impressed with what I see and
23 very excited. If you -- Members, if you remember,
24 this originally was going to be about a
25 \$35 million project, and they came to the Board

1 with expanded plans, which we have approved, which
2 will take it up to about \$100 million, as I
3 understand. And y'all can spend a lot more than
4 that, if you really want to. You know, we won't
5 object to that. But a complete renovation of the
6 hotel and expansion of the gaming area from what
7 was originally planned; so . . .

8 MR. BARBIN:

9 Good morning, Chairman Johns.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Mr. Barbin, good morning.

12 MR. BARBIN:

13 Jeff Barbin, representing Belle of
14 Baton Rouge Casino and its parent, The Queen
15 Casino & Entertainment. With me today is Bruce
16 Woods, to my left. He's the General Manager of
17 the Belle of Baton Rouge. And to his left is
18 Stacy Stagg, who is the VP of Operations for The
19 Queen. I'll turn it over to Bruce.

20 MR. WOODS:

21 Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board
22 Members. Thank you for allowing us to be here in
23 front of you today. Yes. Mr. Chairman, as you
24 mentioned, yes, we are extremely excited about the
25 project, and we are, you know, chomping at the bit

1 and ready to get going. You know, once we get the
2 Board's approval, we'll be ready to start
3 submitting our permits and, you know, begin
4 construction shortly thereafter.

5 So we're -- we currently have been
6 meeting, you know, diligently, looking at the
7 plans, making sure everything is complete and is
8 going to be as effective as possible. So, if we
9 get the Board's approval, we'll get those permits
10 sent out. And then we -- we expect to begin
11 construction on the casino in December, and we'll
12 start with the hotel -- I'm sorry -- the
13 construction on the casino in November and start
14 on the hotel in December.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 And so up to this point, it's been
17 mainly demo work in the hotel, I would presume.

18 MS. STAGG:

19 Yes, sir.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Is that correct, --

22 MS. STAGG:

23 Uh-huh.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 -- Ms. Stacy? Yeah. And we've been

1 through there and seen it.

2 MS. STAGG:

3 Yes, you have.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 What a challenge that that has been,
6 huh?

7 MS. STAGG:

8 Correct.

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

10 I guess that's a nice word to use,
11 "challenge."

12 MS. STAGG:

13 Correct.

14 MR. WOODS:

15 Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 And so you're anticipating about a
18 year-long process. Is that correct, Bruce?

19 MR. WOODS:

20 Yes. Yes, Mr. Chairman. We expect
21 to be -- have it fully completed by December of
22 2024.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 All right. Members, any questions
25 for the Belle?

1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 So, Mr. Poole?

4 MR. POOLE:

5 I'm all good.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

7 Okay. Ms. Berry, you have questions?

8 MS. BERRY:

9 I make a motion --

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Okay.

12 MS. BERRY:

13 -- that we accept it.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 We have no questions. We thank you
16 for y'all's work, y'all's commitment, and we just
17 look forward to working with y'all over this next
18 year as we -- we move forward; so . . .

19 So, Members, before you we have a
20 resolution to accept these architectural plans.

21 And Ms. Berry has made a motion to adopt this

22 resolution; Mr. Poole has seconded that motion.

23 And I would ask Ms. Hood to read the resolution,
24 please.

25 MS. HOOD:

1 On the 20th day of July 2023, the
2 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly
3 noticed public meeting, consider the issue of
4 Catfish Queen, LLC, doing business as Belle of
5 Baton Rouge's submission of its architectural
6 blueprints and detailed plan of design and
7 construction of the Approved Project as required
8 by Provision 2(A) of the Board's Resolution for
9 Approval of Relocation of Gaming Operations and
10 for a Modification of Lease -- of License
11 Conditions as amended on November 17, 2022, and
12 February 16, 2023, and upon motion duly made and
13 seconded, the Board adopted this resolution:

14 Be it resolved that the architectural
15 blueprints and detailed plans of design and
16 construction submitted for the Approved Project be
17 deemed submitted and accepted, and the Licensee is
18 authorized to proceed with the requirements of
19 Provision 2(B) of the Board's Resolution for
20 Approval of Relocation of Gaming Operations and
21 for a Modification of License Conditions as
22 amended.

23 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge
24 this 20th day of July 2023.

25 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting
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1 Thank you, Ms. Hood. So we have
2 before you this resolution that has been offered
3 by Ms. Berry, seconded by Mr. Poole. And,
4 Ms. Hood, would you call the roll, please?

5 MS. HOOD:

6 Mr. Avant?

7 MR. AVANT:

8 Yes.

9 MS. HOOD:

10 Ms. Berry?

11 MS. BERRY:

12 Yes.

13 MS. HOOD:

14 Mr. Jackson?

15 MR. JACKSON:

16 Yes.

17 MS. HOOD:

18 Ms. Lewis?

19 MS. LEWIS:

20 Yes.

21 MS. HOOD:

22 Mr. Poole?

23 MR. POOLE:

24 Yes.

25 MS. HOOD:

1 Ms. Hamilton-Acker?

2 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

3 Yes.

4 MS. HOOD:

5 Judge Sholes?

6 MR. SHOLES:

7 Yes.

8 MS. HOOD:

9 Ms. Traylor?

10 MS. TRAYLOR:

11 Yes.

12 MS. HOOD:

13 Chairman Johns?

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Yes. By unanimous vote, this
16 resolution is adopted. And congratulations and
17 thank you very much for your commitment.

18 MS. STAGG:

19 Thank you. Thank you very much.

20 MR. WOODS:

21 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

22 VI. VIDEO GAMING ISSUES

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Okay. Members, we move on to the
25 consideration of the following truck stop

1 application: Longwood Holdings, LLC, doing
2 business as Grand Point Grand Casino.

3 MS. SIZEMORE:

4 Good morning. Good morning, Chairman
5 Johns, Members of the Board. I'm Shanna Sizemore
6 Assistant Attorney General, present before the
7 Board in the matter of the original application of
8 Longwood Holdings, LLC, doing business as Grand
9 Point Grand Casino, applying for approval of a
10 Type 5 video draw poker gaming license.

11 The truck stop facility is located in
12 St. James Parish. 190 Truck Stop, LLC, previously
13 operated the truck stop facility at this location,
14 and on July 1, 2022, the applicant acquired the
15 business and business assets of 190 Truck Stop,
16 LLC, through a merger of which the applicant was
17 the surviving entity.

18 On June 6, 2023, the applicant
19 entered into a Video Draw Poker Device Placement
20 Agreement with Dixie Inn Travel Center, LLC. And
21 William C. Wyndham is the majority member of the
22 applicant, with a 96 percent interest. His wife,
23 Carol C. Wyndham, has a 4 percent interest.

24 Trooper James Cannon inspected the
25 truck stop facility and conducted suitability

1 investigations of the associated persons, and he
2 is present this morning to report his findings to
3 the Board.

4 MASTER TROOPER CANNON:

5 Good morning, Chairman and Members of
6 the Board. I'm Master Trooper James Cannon with
7 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement
8 Division.

9 I conducted an updated suitability
10 check on William Wyndham and Carol Wyndham, who
11 previously submitted to suitability investigations
12 in connection with other video poker licenses. An
13 on-site inspection was conducted, and it was
14 determined that the establishment meets all
15 criteria set forth in video gaming law as a
16 qualified truck stop facility. All required
17 licenses and permits were posted and valid at the
18 time of inspection.

19 The establishment consists of at
20 least 5 contiguous acres, specifically 5.4 acres.
21 The applicant is operating the truck stop facility
22 at a location that was licensed within the past 36
23 months and is not subject to the rule that they
24 must be one mile from a school, church,
25 playground, synagogue, public library, residence,

1 and buildings on the National Historic Registry.

2 I found no information to preclude
3 the issuance of a Type 5 video draw poker license
4 to Longwood Holdings, LLC, doing business as Grand
5 Point Grand Casino or to preclude William Wyndham
6 or Carol Wyndham from continuing to participate in
7 the gaming industry.

8 MS. SIZEMORE:

9 The Office of the Attorney General
10 has reviewed the file prepared by the Office of
11 State Police, and the information contained
12 therein would not preclude the issuance of a
13 Type 5 license to Longwood Holdings, LLC, doing
14 business as Grand Point Grand Casino.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Okay. So any questions for
17 Ms. Sizemore or Trooper Cannon?

18 (NO RESPONSE)

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Members, I would entertain a
21 motion that we approve the new truck stop
22 application for Longwood Holdings, LLC, doing
23 business as Grand Point Grand Casino.

24 MR. AVANT:

25 So moved.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Mr. Avant has made that motion.

3 MR. SHOLES:

4 (Indicating)

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 And Judge Sholes has second that
7 motion. Is there any discussion? Is there any
8 opposition to that motion?

9 (NO RESPONSE)

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 Hearing none, that motion carries.

12 Thank y'all very much.

13 MS. SIZEMORE:

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Thank you, Trooper Cannon.

17 MASTER TROOPER CANNON:

18 Yes, sir.

19 VII. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay. Members, we have today one
22 proposed settlement, Bultra Restaurant Group, LLC,
23 doing business as Walk-On's Brusly. Good morning.

24 MS. JOHNSON:

25 Good morning, Chairman Johns and

1 Board Members. I am Assistant Attorney General
2 Venise Johnson, here in the matter of the
3 settlement of Bultra Restaurant Group, LLC, doing
4 business as Walk-On's Brusly, which holds a Type 2
5 video draw poker gaming license. This settlement
6 addresses the late submission of the annual forms
7 and fees that are required to be submitted to the
8 Division no later than July 1 of each year.

9 The licensee did not submit the
10 annual forms and fees until May 3, 2023, which
11 gave rise to a violation of gaming law. The civil
12 penalty contained in this settlement is \$750,
13 which is an amount that is well-established for
14 violations of this type. The settlement has been
15 signed by the hearing officer and is now before
16 the Board for final approval.

17 I will be happy to answer any
18 questions that you may have.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. Any questions for Ms. Johnson?
21 Any questions?

22 (NO RESPONSE)

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Okay. Members, if not, I would
25 entertain a motion that we approve the settlement

1 of Bultra Restaurant Group, LLC, doing business as
2 Walk-On's Brusly.

3 MS. TRAYLOR:

4 (Indicating)

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Ms. Traylor has made the motion to
7 accept this settlement.

8 MS. LEWIS:

9 (Indicating)

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 And Ms. Lewis has seconded that
12 motion. Is there any discussion? Is there any
13 opposition?

14 (NO RESPONSE)

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Hearing none, that settlement is
17 hereby approved. Thank you very much,
18 Ms. Johnson.

19 Members, very quickly before we
20 leave, -- this is kind of an update -- we've been
21 monitoring all of the land-based properties that
22 are under construction right now. I will tell you
23 that as Chairman, I am very pleased at where we
24 are. Of course, we're getting very, very close
25 with The Queen of Baton Rouge here in Baton Rouge.

1 The Treasure Chest in Kenner is moving along very
2 well. Thank you, Boyd Gaming. And a lot of -- I
3 see a lot of steel going up, and that's good news.
4 And I will tell you that the DiamondJacks property
5 up in Bossier City is moving along as anticipated,
6 and we're pleased as -- with the demo work up
7 there, and thanks to Foundation Gaming for
8 continuing to do that. So we will continue to
9 monitor those and keep you -- keep you updated.

10 The last piece of business, I would
11 like to announce that the August meeting will have
12 to be moved from August 17 until Monday,
13 August 21. So August we -- we will be meeting
14 August 21 here in this room. And, Members, I
15 appreciate greatly you agreeing to -- to be able
16 to do that.

17 Last, thanks to the house staff over
18 here. I never thank you guys, but I've known
19 these two gentlemen for a long time. Thank y'all
20 very much for hosting us and accommodating us. We
21 appreciate it.

22 VIII. ADJOURNMENT

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Mr. Jackson has the privilege of
25 making the motion to adjourn.

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MR. JACKSON:

So moved.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

So moved. And --

MS. BERRY:

(Indicating)

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

And Ms. Berry has seconded that
motion. Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Hearing none, we are hereby
adjourned. Thank you very much.

(OFF THE RECORD AT 10:32 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 20th day of July, 2023, as set forth in the forgoing 39 pages.

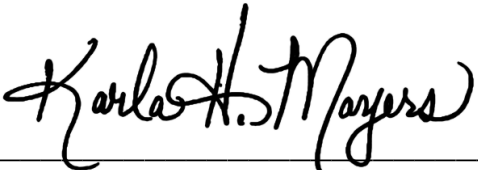
I further certify that said testimony was reported by me in the Stenotype reporting method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my direction to the best of my ability and understanding.

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

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