

## LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

### Minutes of October 21, 2010

The Louisiana Gaming Control Board held a meeting on Thursday, October 21, 2010, 10:00 a.m., House Committee Room 1 of the Louisiana State Capitol. Present at the meeting were: Dane K. Morgan, Chairman; Claude Mercer, Velma Rogers, Ayres Bradford, Robert Jones, Mark Stipe, Jerry Juneau, James Singleton and Denise Noonan. Absent were ex-officio members Col. Mike Edmonson and Sec. Cynthia Bridges.

The meeting was called to order. The Chairman welcomed the newest member of the Board, Ms. Denise Noonan, who represents the First Congressional District. Ms. Noonan thanked Governor Jindal for her appointment and stated she was happy to be a member of the board. Chairman Morgan called on Major Mercer for comments. Major Mercer stated he was resigning effective October 31 to run for sheriff in Richland Parish. He said it had been an honor and privilege to serve on the Board and enjoyed working with the board members, attorney general's staff and state police personnel, and that he would miss being a board member.

It was moved by Mr. Singleton to waive the reading and approve the minutes from the September meeting. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved by the Board.

The next item was approval of the budget for fiscal year 2011-2012. It was moved by Ms. Rogers to approve the Gaming Control Board's budget for fiscal year 2011-12 in the amount of \$1,017,257. That motion was seconded by Mr. Stipe and unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Donna Jackson, State Police Gaming Audit Division, presented revenue reports for the riverboats, landbased casino, and slots at the track. Mr. Jim Bossier, also with State Police Gaming Audit Division, reported on the video poker statistics.

The Board acted on the transfer of interest in Minnows L.L.C. d/b/a Lucky Dollar Casino, No. 5000512212. Following discussion, it was moved by Mr. Stipe to approve the transfer of interest. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved by the Board.

There was a request for approval of reconfiguration of gaming space by Horseshoe Casino, No. R010800198. Following discussion, it was moved by Mr. Juneau to approve the reconfiguration of gaming space. That motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved by the Board.

There was also a request for approval of reconfiguration of gaming space by Eldorado Casino, No. R013600005. Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. Noonan to approve the reconfiguration of gaming space. That motion was seconded by Mr. Singleton and unanimously approved by the Board.

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The Board acted on request by PNK (Baton Rouge) Partnership, No. R011000801 for revisions of the plans for their project. Highlights of the revisions included: increase in \$250 million budget to \$357 million; increase from 100 to 200 hotel rooms; covered parking facility; increase from 1600 to 1857 gaming positions; and an updated Phase I rendering of floor plans. Mr. Cliff Kortman, Vice-President of Design, Construction and Development stated the proposed changes would not impact the opening of the casino, which is currently scheduled for December 2011. Following discussion, it was moved by Chairman Morgan to approve the revisions to the plans and designs of the Approved Project. That motion was seconded by Mr. Singleton and unanimously approved by the Board.

State Police provided board members with an overview of applicants for the available riverboat license. Three applicants are vying for the license, Penn National Gaming, St. Gabriel Downs, LLC and Creative Casinos.

Chairman Morgan stated presentations by applicants would be made in December, and February or March would be the earliest the investigations would be completed.

A fourth applicant, Tomorrow's Investors submitted an application by the September 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline but failed to include the statutorily required \$50,000 application fee. Due to the applicant's failure to pay the initial application fee in the time provided by the Division, a letter of rejection was sent to Tomorrow's Investors by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.

Mr. Chester Jones, owner of Tomorrow's Investors, addressed board members with reference to his application. He stated he had the check for the application fee with him and wanted to provide it to the board.

Chairman Morgan stated since this item was not included on the original agenda, the board would have to amend the agenda in order to include discussion on any additional item. It was moved by Mr. Robert Jones to amend the agenda to allow for discussion on whether to accept the \$50,000 application fee. That motion was seconded by Mr. Singleton but failed by a vote of three to six. Voting for the motion was: Mr. Jones, Mr. Stipe and Mr. Singleton. Voting against the motion was: Major Mercer, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Bradford, Mr. Juneau, Ms. Noonan and Chairman Morgan.

The next item was an update on the personnel numbers of Jazz Casino Corporation. Mr. John Campbell, Special Assistant Attorney General, addressed board members with reference to this matter. He stated Jazz Casino Corporation (Harrah's) was in a technical default based on their personnel numbers of 9/30/10. Mr. Campbell further stated that the matter had been cured and no further action would be required by the Board.

Mr. Dan Reel, General Manager of Harrah's stated that as of October 20, 72% of employees were full-time.

The Board acted on Proposed Settlements/Appeals in the following:

1. **In Re: Jasper Powell d/b/a Powell Bus Stop – No. 3601108444** – Motion by Major Mercer to approve the \$250 penalty for failure to timely disclose an arrest. That motion was seconded by Mr. Bradford and unanimously approved by the Board.
2. **In Re: Robertson’s Lounge Inc. d/b/a Robertson’s Lounge – No. 3601111215** - Motion by Major Mercer to reverse the decision of the Hearing Officer dismissing the action seeking determination of the suitability of Carl Stewart; Carl Stewart is found UNSUITABLE; the finding that Yolanda Stewart is unsuitable is AFFIRMED; and the revocation of the license of Robertson’s Lounge, Inc. d/b/a Robertson’s Lounge is AFFIRMED. That motion was seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously approved by the Board.

There being no further comments, it was moved by Mr. Stipe to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously approved by the Board.