



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Public Safety
Gambling Control Board
87 State House Station
Augusta, Maine
04333-0087

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR
MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

STEVEN SILVER
CHAIRMAN
MILTON CHAMPION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gambling Control Board
Minutes of December 15, 2020 Board Meeting
Held online via Zoom application.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:00 am via Zoom application online due to the current Coronavirus pandemic.

MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Robert Harmon
Dr. Charmaine Brown

Mr. Steven Silver informed everyone that Mr. Andrew Conant, Board Member, is moving out of State, leaving a vacant position on the Board.

STAFF PRESENT ONLINE

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist I
Det. Don Armstrong

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General
John Nichols, Assistant Attorney General
Michael Sauschuck, DPS Commissioner
Kendra Coates, Asst. DPS Commissioner

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

November 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the November 2020 Board minutes as printed. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea
Bob Harmon: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Champion provides his report to the Board. In November 2020 there were 5 shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 648 observations and 21 checklists. There were 0 formal complaints of potential violations. The Unit had 9 minor violations being monitored from the activity log. There were 0 patron complaints. 0 dispositions of formal reports sent to members for review per statute. There were 3 self-exclusions.

For the month of November 2020, the Unit has identified a decrease of 37.9% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus November 2019. On November 20 an executive order required both facilities to close at 9:00 pm until December 6 and has been extended to January 4, 2021. Oxford casino went from 24 hours to 6am to 9 pm and Hollywood went from 9 am to 12 midnight to 9 am to 9 pm. Year to date the Unit has identified a decrease of 49.2% versus last year at the same time.

Oxford reported a 9.16% win for the month of November from slots and 22.7% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 90.8%. Average gross win per machine of \$122.27. Hollywood reported a 9.2% average win for the month of November from slots and 30.0% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.8%. Average gross win per machine was \$240.10.

Mr. Robert Harmon asked the Director about a hearing that was to be brought before the Board, but that he does not see on the Complaint Dashboard. Director Champion informed the Board that in the process of scheduling that hearing, the AG's office informed the Unit that it will no longer produce a hearing officer to avoid any conflicts of interest. As a result, the Unit must contract out for a hearing officer to be used for future hearings.

STATE POLICE REPORT

Detective Don Armstrong presents his report to the Board. He informs members that there were 18 new license and 51 renewal license investigations completed, and there are currently 44 pending. There were 2 TITO thefts; all funds have been recovered either by contact with the patron or by sending out a "do the right thing" letter. This letter is generated when a patron files a complaint that money was left behind or lost on a TITO ticket, and that complaint prompts security to investigate. If an individual is identified to have taken the lost funds and cannot be found on the property at that time, then they are sent a "do the right thing" letter, asking them to pay back the stolen funds.

The Bangor Police Department was called to the property 10 times, and the Oxford Police Department was called to the property 5 times, some of which may have been directed to the hotels located on the properties. Detective Armstrong also informs the Board there is yearly State Police training that all Troopers must be involved in, himself included.

LICENSE APPLICATIONS

N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Rule Development - Appendix B – GLI Standards-

Director Champion requested approval to move forward with rulemaking to update GLI-11 from version 2.1 to version 3.0 and adopt GLI-18, GLI-24 and GLI-25 in order to get certification for electronic table games. These standards were developed by Gaming Laboratories International (GLI) for use in the certification of devices used in casinos. They are developed with industry input and not solely by GLI. In advance of this meeting Board Members were sent the revision history in relation to each standard. These standards will be adopted through routine technical procedures which will ask for written comments only.

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the commencement of the rulemaking process. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Rules of Play-

Jack Sours, VP and GM of Oxford Casino, submitted Rules of Play for electronic craps for approval, which are basically the traditional craps rules. The rules have already been approved in the State; it is being called an electronic table game, when in reality the game itself is played the same way. The dice are rolled, bets are the same, wagers are the same, and same rules of the game apply. The one exception, which is spelled out in the rules being presented to the Board, would be that wagers are placed on a computer terminal and paid from that computer terminal.

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General, directed the Board to Chapter 25 in the rules, which provide the standards for approval of table games. Director Champion states that in addition to submitting these rules, Oxford Casino will also be submitting internal controls that will spell out the different technical aspects for this game, as well as operations such as opening a table and closing a table and where that information is held.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the rules of play submitted by Oxford Casino for electronic craps. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Business Renewal Licenses-

Director Champion presented to the Board the idea that the Board should begin approving company renewals much like they already do with new companies. Discussion amongst the Board and Assistant Attorney Generals opens. Katie Johnson, AAG, cites 8 M.R.S. § 1003(2)(B) and informed the Board that the duty of renewing the company licenses falls on the Board, but the Board has the ability to delegate the approval of applications to the Director if it wants. Board member Robert Harmon thinks that only applicants that the Director will not be renewing should come before the Board but could go either way should the other Board members choose. Board member Dr. Charmaine Brown believes that due to the small number of business entities that it wouldn't be a bad idea to bring the company renewals before the Board; that way there are more people involved, nothing would slip between the cracks, and on the business side of things it would be prudent to review them.

Mr. Steven Silver, Board Chair, asked for a list of all existing resolutions, in the case of delegating the consideration of individual applications to the staff, in order to clarify the Board's and the Director's duties when it comes to business entity renewals. The Director and AG's office will get together to bring this list to the next Board meeting in January.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on January 19, 2020 at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: January 19, 2021