



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 August 27, 2024 Board Meeting
Held in person at 45 Commerce Drive & online via Zoom application.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Sari Greene, Board Member
Noel March, Board Member
Kelly Bickmore, Board Member (Virtual) – In the meeting from 9:08am to 11:03am
Joseph Hanslip, Board Member (Virtual) – joined meeting at 9:08am

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Matthew Motti, Deputy Director
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP (Virtual)
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist
Amanda Spencer, Auditor
Cami Hippler, Office Associate (Virtual)
Philip Mantis, Assistant Attorney General
Michael Sauschuck, DPS Commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:02 am in person & via Zoom application online.

2. MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

July 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes Approval –

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve the July 16, 2024, meeting minutes. Board Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Steven Silver Yea
Noel March Abstain

2 in favor, 1 abstained, the motion passed.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT – Executive Director Champion

In July 2024 there were 3 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On-site inspectors completed 51 work orders completed which ranged from replacing revoked software to changing teams options and communications issues. There were 68 entries in the Inspector pass on log to share information not only from within the facility but also between the facilities. This has been an effective tool for the Inspectors. There were 6 formal complaints with status updates and are reported in the complaint dashboard, one is pending referral to the Board in a consent agreement, one is under review by the complaint committee, two were dismissed by the Director, one is under review by the investigative committee, and one has been responded to by the facility and will be forwarded to the Investigative committee. There were 6 additional minor activities that the Unit will continue to monitor for development of trends. There were 0 patron complaints. There were 15 self-exclusions. There are no local PD reports at this time.

Monthly meetings with the Inspectors have been productive, the Inspectors have adapted to the change of facility-based monitoring and are committed to providing the Board with results and not necessarily the process.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Amanda Spencer

Total Casino Tax Revenue paid to the State of Maine decreased by 8.31% in July 2024 for both facilities compared to the same months in 2023. Total revenue collected year to date is \$39,582,058.00, a decrease of 4.14% compared to the same months in the prior year.

Specifically, by Casino —

The Oxford casino reported total net win from Slot machines of 7.5% in July 2024. Reported total win from Table Games was 22.84% in July 2024. The Hollywood casino reported total net win from Slot machines of 8.35% in July 2024. Reported total win from Table Games was 26.83 % in July 2024.

In the area of Advance Deposit Wagering –

We observed a decrease of 18.3% for July 2024, compared to the same month in 2023. 2024 Year to Date Tax Revenue collected from in-state and out of state races was \$128,767.00, a decrease of 9.2% (or \$13,092.00) compared to the same months in the prior year.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- Could not retract the Facility Based Monitoring system rules, at the advice of the Secretary of State, it creates a lot of confusion when people still send in comments regardless of if a rule has been retracted. The comments and recommendations for the third publication were placed in the Dropbox for Board review.
- Legal Review of the proposed rules regarding Chapter 28, Advanced Deposit Wagering, is continuing with a deadline of September 30th. Applications are ready for publication upon rule adoption which at this point would be after the October 15th Board meeting and subsequent Secretary of State adoption.
- Rulemaking drafts for chapter 13 and certification of a Lab to include an application will be ready for the October meeting. The GLI report on the transition will be presented in October.

6. LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW –

a.) AGS LLC – Table Games Distributor License Renewal

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve AGS' table games distributor license renewal. Board member Noel March seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Yea*

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

5 In favor, the motion passed.

b.) IGT – Slot Machine Distributor License Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve IGT's slot machine distributor license renewal pending the update of the application. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Yea*

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

5 In favor, the motion passed.

c.) Aristocrat Technologies Inc. – Slot Machine Distributor License Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve Aristocrat technologies' slot machine distributor license renewal. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Yea*

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

5 In favor, the motion passed.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

a.) Review of requested information in relation to reporting to Casino Inspectors or the Department-

DPS Commissioner Michael Sauschuck began by thanking the Casino partners for their patience and willingness to continue working with the Department on the issues at hand. He gave the Board updated information regarding the data that was collected which aided in making the decision regarding the Inspector schedules which was made due to a deadline the department was forced to move on. There was Board discussion regarding these schedules. Board members expressed concern regarding whether the data presented to the Board supports the schedule change.

b.) Review of FBMS comments on 3rd publication –

Board member Noel March moved to approve the responses to the comments for the third publication. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Abstain*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

3 In favor, 1 abstention, the motion passed.

Board member Noel March moved to publish with the recommended changes. Board chair Steven Silver seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

Board member Noel March moved to adopt Resolution 16. The Resolution provides that the Board will not impose discipline on a licensee when the licensee cannot notify an Inspector when notification is required by rule because an Inspector is unavailable as long as the operator notifies the Unit directly. Board Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Maine CDC – Jamie Bourque and Megan Scott

Associate Director of the CDC Jamie Bourque and Program Manager for Substance prevention programming, Megan Scott spoke to the Board about what has taken place in their programs with the increase in funding due to Sports Wagering revenue increases. Gambling preventing services were ramped up, the time spent by Lori Manson of Ad Care was increased to fulltime, and additional revenue has been directed to 211 so that they can increase their ability to handle incoming calls.

Bourque explained that because it was a percentage of revenue that is directed to their program and not a set dollar amount, to be able to use the funds, they would need to go through the Bureau of Budgets to have a set plan. Board Chair Steven Silver asked who they, as a Board, would contact to get the ability to spend that money, because the need is now due to sports Wagering already being live. Megan Scott addressed the issue of not being able to put out this plan, or create an RFP, without knowing potentially how much 1% annual revenue would be.

b. Board Responsibilities Presentation – OAG – Took place at the end of the meeting.

c. **Rulemaking Presentation – OAG** – Tabled until October meeting.

d. **Patron A Request for Re-Instatement** –

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve the request for re-instatement for Patron A. Board member Noel March seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver: Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

e. **Patron B Request for Re-instatement** –

Board member Noel March moved to approve the request for re-instatement for Patron B. Board Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver: Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

f. **Internal Control Changes – Chapter 29 – Oxford Casino**

Board member Noel March moved to approve the internal control changes submitted by Oxford Casino. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver: Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

g. **Imprivata System at Hollywood Casino** –

Jason Gittle, described Imprivata technology, known as “one Sign”, as an after-credential scripting service which would allow employees to multi factor authenticate one time per shift. This would help the Gaming ops and Cashier positions within the Casino avoid having to log in and out of multiple different programs.

****15 Minute break took place at 11:30am, Board returned at 11:45am****

9. BOARD BUSINESS –

AAG Jennifer Willis was reassigned to another agency client.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Matt Gallagher GM of Oxford Casino, asked about the commenting process and whether rejected comments should still be brought to the Boards attention.

