



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 February 18, 2025, Board Meeting
Held in person at 45 Commerce Drive & online via Zoom application.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Noel March, Board Member
Joseph Hanslip, Board Member (Virtual)
Kelly Bickmore, Board Member (Virtual)

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Matthew Motti, Deputy Director
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP (Virtual)
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist
Alex Joutov, Auditor
Cami Hippler, Office Associate (Virtual)
Philip Mantis, Assistant Attorney General
Reid Hayton-Hull, Assistant Attorney General

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:05 am in person & via Zoom application online.

2. MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

December 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes Approval –

Board member Noel March moved to approve the December 17, 2024 meeting minutes. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Joseph Hanslip Yea
Noel March Yea
Steven Silver Yea
Kelly Bickmore Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT – Deputy Director Matthew Motti

In December 2024, there were twelve (12) shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. In January 2025, there were five (5) such orders. There were forty (40) work orders completed in December 2024, and 121 in January 2025, which ranged from new game installs, removals, changing themes, options and communications issues. New Small Slot machines distributor, AGS, installed forty-six (46) machines at Oxford in January. There were forty-two (42) entries in the inspector pass on log in December 2024, and sixty-five (65) in January 2025, to share information not only from within the facility but also between the facilities.

There are currently nine (9) formal complaints with status updates and are reported in the complaint dashboard; one (1) is being reevaluated as directed by the Board; four (4) were reviewed by the Complaint Committee and were being addressed with the AAGs assigned to the Board, two (2) are being reviewed by the Board later in this meeting regarding redlight shuffler issues, and two (2) are under review by the investigative committee.

There were no patron complaints; and there were 27 self-exclusions in December 2024 and January 2025; which included 19 one-year, 2 three-year, 2 five-year, and 4 lifetime exclusion requests. The total as of January 2025 is 104 one-year, 48 three-year, 61 five-year, and 262 lifetime exclusion requests.

Oxford PD reported 22 calls in December 2024 and January 2025:

- 2 arrests
- 2 potential illegal activities
- 2 risk management
- 5 medical responses
- 1 suspicious activity
- 1 possible intoxication
- 9 potential driving under the influence

Bangor PD reported 24 calls in December 2024 and January 2025:

- 4 Under the influence
- 1 theft
- 1 traffic offense
- 2 welfare checks
- 4 removed from facility
- 5 open line 911

4. FINANCIAL REPORT – December 2024 and January 2025 – Amanda Spencer

December 2024-

Tax Revenue collected from both Casinos to the State of Maine in December 2024 was \$5,169,420, which was a decrease of 4.77% (or, \$258,798) compared to the same month in 2023. Total Tax Revenue collected from both casinos during 2024 was \$67,260,928, which was a decrease of 3.93% (or \$2,750,990) compared to the prior year.

Specifically, by Casino —

Oxford casino reported a total net win from Slot machines of 7.23% and a total win from Table Games of 21.50% for the month.

Hollywood casino reported a total net win from Slot machines of 8.05% and a total win from Table Games of 22.98% for the month.

In the area of Advance Deposit Wagering – Revenue decreased by 14.1% (or \$2,200), compared to the same month last year. Total Tax Revenue collected for the year from in-state and out of state races was \$209,579, which was a decrease of 10.7% (or \$25,062) compared to the prior year.

January 2025-

Tax Revenue paid from both Casinos to the State of Maine increased by 12.23% (or, by \$582,919) compared to the same month in 2024. Total revenue collected so far this year amounted to \$5,349,776.

Specifically, by Casino —

Oxford casino reported a total net win from Slot machines of 7.59% and a total win from Table Games of 21.72%.

Hollywood casino reported a total net win from Slot machines of 8.36% and a total win from Table Games of 28.08% for the month.

In the area of Advance Deposit Wagering – Revenue decreased by 20.3% (or \$3,138), compared to the same month in 2024. Total Tax Revenue collected from in-state and out-of-state races so far this year amounted to \$12,357.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Champion informed the Board that there are no new bills that have been formally published. There are about 6 LR's that have not yet been upgraded to LDs. Director Champion will monitor and bring them up to the Board if they have anything to do with the Casinos.

Chair Silver asked for an update on ADW applications. Director Champion indicated that the applications are being reviewed by the Unit's Detective, and that he may be able to bring the approval to the Board at an emergency meeting in March.

Chair Silver noted that he and Director Champion attended a VLA committee meeting at which they provided the committee's new members an overview of the Gambling Control Unit and the Gambling Control Board and their respective administrative duties.

6. LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW –

a.) Patriot Gaming & Electronics, Inc. – Gambling Services Vendor - Renewal

Board member Kelly Bickmore moved to approve Patriot Gaming & Electronics, Inc.'s Gambling Services Vendor License Renewal. Board Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Joseph Hanslip: **Yea**

Noel March: **Yea**

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

b.) Glory Global Solutions, Inc – Gambling Services Vendor - Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve Glory Global Solutions Inc.'s Gambling Services Vendor License Renewal. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion.

Members

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

c.) HC Bangor LLC – Casino Operator - Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve HC Bangor LLC's Casino Operator license renewal. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

d.) VSR Industries, Inc. – Gambling services Vendor - Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve VSR Industries, Inc.'s Gambling Services Vendor License renewal. Board Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: *Yea*

Joseph Hanslip: *Yea*

Noel March: *Yea*

Steven Silver *Yea*

4 In favor, the motion passed.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

a) AdCare update – Lori Manson

Lori Manson gave an update to the Board of how the \$100k revenue collected and dispersed to AdCare has been spent thus far. The revenue helped fund a 28-hour position to coordinate problem gambling services. Adcare offers free problem gambling webinars for anyone who requests it. When AdCare learned that extra money would be coming from the Sports Wagering division, conversations started right away about how to best use those funds. Money was added to the contract to seek small grants for prevention and recovery projects, Lori's position was moved from part time to full time, and an increase in advertising, which has increased interest in AdCare's services. Calls to 211 increased by 600% in 2024

due to the legalization of Sports Betting. Lori plans to continue researching Game Sense and explore the feasibility of bringing that product to Maine casinos.

b) Rule response – 19-A Criteria for certified Labs

There was 1 written response from GLI which was incorporated into the basis statement. Director Champion and the Board went through and discussed each comment.

c) Lab Applications (if needed from the December meeting)

Board member Noel March moved to approve the application. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

d) Jackpot Digital – Review of application – presentation

Jake Kalpakian addressed the concern raised by the WIPFLI audit report. He provided a presentation to the Board regarding the company’s history and financial growth.

Chair Steve Silver moved to approve Jackpot Digital as a Table Games Distributor in the State of Maine. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Patron A – request for removal from self-exclusion

The patron’s requests for removal lacked a detailed explanation as required by rule.

The request was verbally tabled without a motion.

b) 2024 Annual Report to the Governor

Board Chair Silver asked the Director to add another sentence or two regarding former Board member Sari Green’s resignation and indicated that the Board currently has one vacancy.

c) Penn Promotional Kiosks – Samy Haggerty

Sam Haggerty, Deputy Chief compliance officer and regulatory affairs council for Penn Entertainment, presented to the Board an initiative that Penn is doing Company-wide for all of its land-based casinos. Penn is looking to replace its promotional kiosks. These kiosks serve as a user interface, there are no transactions

or game play that occurs on them. Penn is seeking confirmation that there is no licensing needed for the kiosks themselves.

Board Chair silver said if there are no games or financial transactions on the kiosks then he doesn't see why there would be any type of licensing requirement.

d) New Table Game – Oxford – Three Card Sabotage

Matt Gallagher, GM of Oxford explained the game rules to the Board.

Board member Noel March moved to approve this game. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call vote.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Noel March: Yea

Steven Silver Yea

4 In favor, the motion passed.

e) Review of Redlight Shuffler issues-

Executive Director Champion reported to the Board an increase in incident reports concerning malfunctioning shufflers. The game rules as approved by the Board provide that any cards found in a shuffler to be missing as a result of a shuffler malfunction shall be considered cut out of play for that shoe and all hands are considered valid. Casino Inspectors have continued to write up reports pursuant to the internal controls.

Board Chair Silver understands that malfunctions happen, but it would be nearly impossible to determine a malfunction and then invalidate all hands played. There is still value in having the reports written up, even when staff adheres to the internal controls and game rules.

9. BOARD BUSINESS –

There have been two applicants for the vacant Board member position. Both applicants are well qualified and have great experience. The Governor will first nominate one of the two candidates, and the nomination will then go before the VLA committee. Chair Silver is currently on an expired term.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

11. Next Meeting – April 15, 2025 @ 9:00am – Oxford Casino

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Joseph Hanslip moved to adjourn the Gambling Control Board meeting. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to the roll call.

Members

Kelly Bickmore: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: **Yea**

Noel March: **Yea**

Steven Silver **Yea**

4 In favor, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: 4/15/2025