



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 March 19, 2024 Board Meeting
Held in person at 45 Commerce Dr & online via Zoom application.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Joseph Hanslip, Board Member (Virtual)
Sari Green, Board Member (Virtual)
Noel March, Member (Virtual)

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Matthew Motti, Deputy Director
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist
Alex Joutov, Auditor
Cami Hippler, Office Associate
Jennifer Willis, Assistant Attorney General
Philip Mantis, Assistant Attorney General

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:03 am in person & via Zoom application online.

2. MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

January 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes approval

Chair Silver proposed minor grammar corrections.

Board member Joseph Hanslip moved to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes with the suggested edits. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Noel March: Abstain
Steven Silver: Yea

3 in favor, 1 abstain, the motion passed.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT – Inspector Vicki Gardner

In January 2024 there were 6 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On-site inspectors completed 719 observations and 31 checklists. There were 16 self-exclusions. There were 7 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 0 patron complaints; and there were 0 formal complaints of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 19 calls for service to Oxford PD, 4 in the parking lot, 0 in the hotel lobby, and 15 were Casino related, including motor vehicle crashes, intoxications, and theft. Hollywood Casino had 10 calls for service to Bangor PD, 3 in the parking garage or outside, 0 in the hotel or lobby, and 7 in the casino, including 9/11 hang ups, subpoena service, information, and drugs.

In February 2024 there were 13 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On-site inspectors completed 703 observations and 28 checklists. There were 6 self-exclusions. There were 4 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 3 patron complaints; and there were 0 formal complaints of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 15 calls for service to Oxford PD, 5 in the parking lot, 3 in the hotel, and 7 were Casino related, including drugs, intoxication, disorderly, welfare checks, citizen assist, and 911 hang up. Hollywood Casino had 8 calls for service to Bangor PD, 0 in the parking garage or outside, 2 in the hotel or lobby, 1 in the vicinity of the hotel and 5 in the casino, including criminal mischief, medical, intoxication, informational, suicidal threat, and 911 calls.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Alex Joutov

Total Casino Tax Revenue paid to the State of Maine decreased by 6.96% in January and increased by 2.68% in February 2024 for both facilities compared to the same months in 2023.

Total revenue collected year to date is \$10,407,271.00, a decrease of 1.98% compared to the same months in the prior year.

Specifically, by Casino —

The Oxford casino reported total net win from Slot machines of 7.90% in January and 8.18% in February 2024. Reported total win from Table Games was 28.85% in January and 28.43% in February 2024.

The Hollywood casino reported total net win from Slot machines of 8.09% in January and 8.51% in February 2024. Reported total win from Table Games was 24.38% in January and 24.66% in February 2024.

In the area of Advance Deposit Wagering –

We observed a decrease of 28.2% for January and a decrease of 6.3% for February 2024, compared to the same months in 2023.

2024 Year to Date Tax Revenue collected from in-state and out of state races was \$32,927, a decrease of 18% compared to the same months in the prior year.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Champion began by reminding the Board members that we are now in the 131st Regular session of The Maine Legislature. There are currently four agency bills that passed out of the VLA committee and are moving through the chambers for final consideration by the Governor.

LD 2070 provides that the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board, or the director or staff of the board, in collaboration with a casino operator or slot machine operator, having the ability to disable slot machines when appropriate.

- It clarifies that an on-site computer system that is accessible by the Department of Public Safety through read-only access and was in operation as of January 1, 2024, at a casino or slot machine facility licensed by the State is considered a facility-based monitoring system.
- It amends the provision of law regarding examination of slot machines and associated equipment to provide that the Gambling Control Board, in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety, must approve qualified independent laboratories for certification of slot machines and associated equipment from slot machine distributors and gambling services vendors seeking registration. A slot machine distributor or gambling services vendor seeking certification of the slot machine or associated equipment must pay the board-approved independent laboratory the cost of the certification before it is completed. The Gambling Control Board may adopt routine technical rules to establish the approval process to verify certifications, approve shipments and inspect slot machines. Currently certifications are provided by Gaming Laboratory International GLI and BMM who have been completing the certifications since 2004. Shipments have been completed through an application and record form since 2016 under Board rules chapter 11 and we have recorded to date 1,106 shipments into or out of Maine. Inspectors at the casinos shall be trained for the process of accepting, certifying software and securing slot machines at the time of delivery or during movement.
- It adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause and an effective date of June 30, 2024.

Therefore, once signed into law by Governor Mills and in consultation with AAG's of the Board there is some misunderstanding with the emergency process in that we will process the rules under normal conditions to meet the deadline of the transition by June 30, 2024.

The pre-qualified vendor GLI shall provide onsite transition of the machines to the casinos facility-based monitoring systems already in use including training of inspectors which includes verification of software through Kobetron Verify+ software and equipment which we already have at each casino as well.

Once signed, Director Champion will need to call the Board for an emergency meeting to begin rulemaking which should be able to be done via zoom.

LD 2080 allows individuals to voluntarily exclude themselves from a slot machine facility, casino, advance deposit wagering, a fantasy contest or sports wagering collectively or separately and also allows the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit and licensees to work with a universal list and not a list for each separate area of regulation. The bill also includes provisions for the inclusion on the universal list of individuals who are involuntarily excluded from a slot machine facility, casino, advance deposit wagering, a fantasy contest or sports wagering. The Universal list and administration thereof will

be under the Board. I'm sure we will have rulemaking on this measure as well with all other areas referenced in law relating to the Board's authority.

The remaining two bills are under the Unit's oversight in the areas of charitable gaming and sports wagering. Other bills of interest that fall under the oversight of the Director or Unit are LD 1777, 1992 and 2213. All three bills have been reported out of committee as divided meaning OTP, OTP with amendments or ONTP.

Chair Silver shared his concerns about the Board not having the same oversight on igaming as they currently have for electronic slot machines. Board member Sari Greene asked for copies of future bills that Director Champion will be speaking to, which go to the VLA, so that the Board members can be kept in the loop. Board member March asked if it would be an appropriate use of Board authority to state their opinion, whether for or against, on any past, present, or future bills pertaining to the Unit. Chair Silver responded that when he makes a statement on such items he does so in his personal capacity and not on behalf of the Board.

6. LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

a) Global Surveillance Associates – Gambling Services Associate - Initial

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve Global Surveillance Associates as a Gambling Services Vendor in the state of Maine. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
Noel March: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

b) HC Bangor – Casino Operator - Renewal

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

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
Noel March: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

c) Glory Global – Gambling Services Vendor - Renewal

Board member Joseph Hanslip moved to approve Glory Global, Gambling Services Vendor license renewal. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
Noel March: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

d) Patriot Gaming & Electronics – Gambling Services Vendor - Renewal

Board member Noel March moved to approve Patriot Gaming & Electronics, Gambling Services Vendor license renewal. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
Noel March: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) ADW Rules – Discussion of public comments – Basis Statement

The agenda was amended to clarify that there is not a hearing being held at the March meeting.

Board member Sari Greene moved to amend the agenda to state “7.a. ADW Rules – Review of Public hearing comments and written comments – Basis Statement”. Board Chair Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
Noel March: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

The Board discussed and reviewed each comment submitted. Based on the public comments and the Board’s discussion, the Board proposed additional changes to the rules.

Board member Noel March left the meeting at 10:30am.

Board member Greene moved to authorize the Director to re-publish the rules if the alterations to the proposed rule constitute a substantial change requiring re-publication. Board Chair Silver seconded the motion. The motion moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

3 in favor, the motion passed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) ACSC upgrade with remote access technology – Hollywood Casino

Jason Gittle, Regional IT Director for Penn Entertainment NE, preliminarily presented to the Board information regarding an ACSC upgrade with remote access technology for the Hollywood Casino. The Board requested additional information and further opportunity to review the materials just provided to them.

9. BOARD BUSINESS –

Chair Silver announced that a potential 5th Board member, Kelly Bickmore from Cape Elizabeth has been nominated by the Governor. Her confirmation hearing at the VLA Committee is on March 27th.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Inspector Supervisor Vicki Gardner clarified that earlier when making her report there were in fact violations that are pending, and she will provide that information to the Board at a later time.

11. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on May 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Hollywood Casino in Bangor. The meeting will also be available via Zoom.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Sari Greene moved to adjourn the Gambling Control Board meeting. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea

Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Steven Silver: Yea

3 in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: 6/25/2024