



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

TIMOTHY S. DOYLE
CHAIRMAN
MILTON CHAMPION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gambling Control Board
Minutes of January 21, 2020 Board Meeting
Held in the Gambling Control Conference Room at 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, ME

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tim Doyle called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Timothy Doyle, Board Chair
Alfred Skolfield
Greg McNeal

Robert Harmon Participated by phone

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Assistant II
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP
James Horr, Auditor

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General
Michael Sauschuck, Commissioner
Kendra Coates, Assistant to the
Commissioner

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

October 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves to approve the October 2019 minutes as amended. The motion is seconded by Mr. Tim Doyle. The motion carries unanimously with 1 abstention (Mr. Greg McNeal).

December 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Greg McNeal moves to approve the December 2019 minutes. The motion is seconded by Mr. Alfred Skolfield. The motion carries unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Milton Champion provides his report to the Board. In December 2019, there were 14 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 742 observations and 37 checklists. Three formal complaints of potential violations and six minor violations are being monitored from our activity log. There was one patron complaint and 0 dispositions of formal reports sent to members for review per statute. There were 10 self-exclusions.

For the month of December 2019, the Unit has identified a decrease of 4.8% in total tax revenue for both facilities over December 2018. Year to date there has been an identified increase of 1.6 % versus last year at the same time. Oxford reported a 7.8% win for the month of December from slots and 24.5% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 92.2%. Average gross win per machine of \$188.40. Hollywood reported a 9.8% average win for the month of December from slots and 27.0% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.2%. Average gross win per machine was \$139.48.

STATE POLICE REPORT

Detective Don Armstrong provides his report to the Board. During the past month, 21 new licenses and 93 renewal licenses were investigated. There are 75 licenses pending processing investigation. There were 6 thefts, and all have been resolved. A few counterfeit bills were discovered and turned over to local PD. Bangor Police Department received 20 calls for service. Oxford Police Department received 26 calls for service.

COMPLAINT PROCESS REVIEW UPDATE

Commissioner Michael Sauschuck informed the Board that a follow up meeting took place on January 7th with the same participants as the previous meeting. Notification to the Board was the first topic discussed at this meeting, Commissioner Sauschuck and Executive Director Champion will come up with some sort of a tool to track Board notifications. Notices of Hearings were also discussed at this meeting, and everyone seemed to be happy with the healthy discussions that took place, and all are on the same page. This continues to be a positive process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ADW awardee recommendation for Board approval-

Ms. Tracy Poulin headed the consensus scoring process, as well as Col. Skolfield and Lt. Col. Harwood. 3 proposals were received and reviewed following the procurement process, Churchill Downs, Penn National, and Express Bet. Using 3 categories to score each of the proposals, organizational qualifications and experience, proposed services, and cost proposal, it was recommended by the committee that Penn National be awarded the ADW contract.

Mr. Greg McNeal moves to accept the proposal of the ADW contract to Penn National as recommended by the committee. The motion is seconded by Mr. Tim Doyle. The motion carries with 2 for, none opposed and 1 abstention (Mr. Alfred Skolfield).

MICS appendix A rulemaking changes-

Executive Director Champion went through the changes made one by one, which included minor grammatical corrections and replacing terms that were inadvertently removed when last saved due to technical complications. It was recommended to remove section E on page 19, regarding “Licensed employees shall notify the Gambling Control Board”, and relocate to another location in the rules, so that it is clear to licensed employees what they must do. Another suggestion was to modify the language to put the burden on the facility to inform the employee of this requirement.

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves to approve the Minimum Internal Control changes and publish for rulemaking. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greg McNeal. The motion carries unanimously.

Promotional Credit Rule Making proposed text for adoption-

The Executive Director brought to the Board’s attention 3 questions submitted by Scientific Games. Question 1 asked for more clarity in the language used when describing a monthly report given to the Board on any daily or 24-hour period issuance of \$250 or more in promotional credits to a patron. Executive Director Champion recommends keeping the wording as proposed. Question 2 recognized the term “voucher” being used. Scientific Games stated that this may show inconsistency within product functionality related to other types of table games. Specifically, many manufacturers use the term voucher to define certain meter types within a slot machine. The concern is should the Board limit the use of the term to table games, which might it unclear how the Board will address existing approved slot machines that use “voucher” currently. It is the recommendation of Executive Director Champion that the term voucher remain; Chapter 29 defines “voucher” to be a paper document or certificate dispensed by a voucher system approved by the Board containing a specific value for promotional play at a table game. Question 3 was regarding match play. It was recommended to break out information regarding match play and match play controls to provide better clarity to avoid the confusion and risks for unintended non-compliance due to poor understanding of the intent.

The Board has 120 days from the close of the comment period for the Board to finally adopt these rules. It was decided to get the Boards input at this meeting and then bring back the proposed text later for final adoption.

Forfeiture Decision and Order from December Meeting-

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves to adopt final decision. The motion is seconded by Mr. Greg McNeal. The motion carries unanimously.

Self-Exclusion process for removal after 5 years-

The Board was given an overview of what AdCare and the CDC do for the State in the Annual Report, as well as a summary of what other States processes are for self-excluded patrons seeking to come off their lists. In some cases, they automatically come off the list, some need to do an exit interview and some would need to complete treatment and receive a written recommendation by a licensed mental health professional. The topic of funds allocated to AdCare each year was discussed; Mr. Robert Harmon questioned where in statute that total is written (8 M.R.S. Section 1036 Allocation of Funds).

Request for removal from self-exclusion list (2) tabled, (1) Pending -

The Board discussed granting the 3 patrons' request for removal from the self-exclusion list. Mr. Alfred Skolfield stated he would feel more comfortable if the patrons came back to the Executive Director with an indication that they did at least have some counseling. Mr. Greg McNeal agreed, further saying that if they really are changed and can conduct themselves in the gambling environment, then somebody should meet with them, assess their situation and give their recommendation on whether the individual really has changed and has overcome the stresses that moved them to become self-excluded in the first place. AAG Katie Johnson made the Board aware that there is nothing in the rule that requires an individual to do what it is they are discussing, so if it is decided to not take these individuals off the list, then there would need to be evidence supporting their decision. The Board requested a pamphlet to give to future patrons requesting relief from the self-exclusion list to get them the resources and information needed to better themselves and set them up for success.

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves to table the approval of the 3 requests for removal from the self-exclusion list, pending a pamphlet being created to give to these individuals and future patrons making similar requests. The motion is seconded by Mr. Greg McNeal. The motion carries unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS**Hollywood Casino Internal Control changes request –**

Ronnie Little, Director of Finance from Hollywood Casino presented the requests for IC changes to the Board. They include changing the retention of redeemed slot tickets from 7 days to 30 days, changes to their organizational chart and creation of some new positions.

Mr. Greg McNeal moves to accept the changes to the Hollywood Internal Controls as proposed. The motion is seconded by Mr. Alfred Skolfield. The motion carries unanimously.

New Table Games Distributor License – Masque Publishing-

The Board held a licensure hearing for Masque Publishing.

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves that Masque Publishing, having met all the requirements with licensing pursuant to M.R.S. Title 8, Chapter 31, will be licensed as a Table Games Distributor in the State of Maine. The motion is seconded by Mr. Greg McNeal. The motion carries unanimously.

Oxford New Table Game request for approvals

- (i) Down under Black Jack**
- (ii) Free Bet Black Jack**
- (iii) Cajun Stud**

Mr. Greg McNeal moves to approve all 3 games having considered the requirements of Rules Chapter 25. The motion is seconded by Mr. Alfred Skolfield. The motion carries unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Alfred Skolfield moves to adjourn. The motion is seconded by Mr. Greg McNeal. The motion carries unanimously.

The meeting adjourns at 10:45 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on February 18, 2020 at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Mallory Reilly
Office Specialist I*

Board approved: February 18, 2020