



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 June 15, 2021 Board Meeting  
Held online via Zoom application.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:03 am via Zoom application online due to the current coronavirus pandemic.

**MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE**

Steven Silver, Board Chair  
Sari Greene  
Chief Noel March

Joe Hanslip

**STAFF PRESENT ONLINE**

Milton Champion, Executive Director  
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor  
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist I

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General  
John Nichols, Assistant Attorney General

**MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

**April 2021 Meeting Minutes approval** – The April meeting minutes were brought back to the Board for a second approval because the Board erroneously approved an unfinished draft of the minutes at the May 18, 2021 meeting.

*Joe Hanslip moves to approve the revisions to the April 2021 meeting minutes. Chief Noel March seconds the motion. Moves to roll call.*

**Members**

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| <b>Steven Silver:</b>    | <b>Yea</b> |
| <b>Sari Greene:</b>      | <b>Yea</b> |
| <b>Chief Noel March:</b> | <b>Yea</b> |
| <b>Joe Hanslip:</b>      | <b>Yea</b> |

*The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.*

### **May 2021 Meeting Minutes approval**

*Ms. Sari Greene moves to approve the May 2021 meeting minutes. Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.*

#### **Members**

**Steven Silver:** Yea

**Sari Greene:** Yea

**Chief Noel March:** Yea

**Joe Hanslip:** Abstain

*The motion passed 3 in favor, 1 abstention, motion passes.*

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

In May 2021 there were 7 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 581 observations, 30 checklists. There were 14 self-exclusions. There were 2 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from our activity log. One patron complaint and 1 formal complaint of potential violations were placed on the dashboard.

For the month of May 2021, the Unit has identified an increase of 100.0% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus May 2020. If you'll recall both facilities closed around March 16, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. And obviously versus last year, April, May and June will show 100% increases with July openings bringing the numbers back into comparison to the previous year. Year to date the Unit has identified an increase of 81.5% versus last year at the same time.

Oxford reported an 7.8% win for the month of May from slots and 36.6% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 92.2%. Average gross win per machine of \$513.16. Hollywood reported a 9.6% average win for the month of May from slots and 17.6% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.4%. Average gross win per machine was \$370.17.

Chief Noel March asked Director Champion how complaints find their way onto the dashboard. Director Champion informed the Board that there is a formal procedure to the complaint process with different levels of consideration to a violation. The dashboard is a way to keep Board members up to speed as to what part of the process a particular incident is in.

Sari Greene inquired on how the casino is supposed to know who a self-excluded patron is when they enter the facility. The Director informed the Board that when a patron self-excludes, they fill out the application and have their picture taken, which is then distributed to the surveillance department. If they were able to get past that system, then any jackpot they may have won will be intercepted and forfeited. Ms. Sari Greene asked if either facility is running facial recognition. Chair Silver has asked that both GMs put together a small presentation on their surveillance systems for the meeting in August.

## **STATE POLICE REPORT**

Detective Don Armstrong of the State Police was not present at the meeting. He will be presenting an extended report at the next meeting in August 2021.

## **License Applications for Review-**

Three license applications were up for review.

*Chief Noel March moves to table the license applications up for review for Play AGS LLC, eBet Technologies, and JCM Global. Joe Hanslip seconded the motion, moves to roll call.*

### **Members**

**Steven Silver:** Yea

**Sari Greene:** Yea

**Chief Noel March:** Yea

**Joe Hanslip:** Yea

*The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

N/A

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Self-Exclusion A – Request for Removal**

*Ms. Sari Greene moves to approve the request for removal for Self-Exclusion A. Chair Steven Silver seconds the motion. The motion moves to roll call.*

### **Members**

**Steven Silver:** Yea

**Sari Greene:** Yea

**Chief Noel March:** Yea

**Joe Hanslip:** Yea

*The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.*

### **Rulemaking – ADW revenue distribution – weekly to monthly**

The Director is requesting to change when payments are due in Rules Chapter 28 Advance Deposit Wagering - subsection 27 – Collection of payments, from every Wednesday to on or by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. AAG Katie Johnson noted that the phrase “to the Board” seemed to be omitted. She recommends keeping that phrase so that it is clear who the payment is to be made to.

*Chief Noel March moves to approve the change of distribution of collected funds from Advanced Deposit Wagering from weekly to monthly. Mr. Joe Hanslip seconds the motion. The motion moves to roll call.*

### **Members**

**Steven Silver:** Yea

**Sari Greene:** Yea

**Chief Noel March:** Yea

**Joe Hanslip:** Yea

*The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.*

**Disciplinary Guidelines for employee renewal applications-**

Due to a recent law change, all license renewal applications must be submitted 60 days prior to expiration, rather than 6 months in advance like in the past. Director Champion asked the Board for guidance on what an appropriate disciplinary measure would be for those that fail to submit a renewal application on time.

Both casino GMs assured the Board that they send their employees multiple notices that their license is up for renewal, and both facilities would be willing to put together a small focus group to put together recommendations that could be brought to the Board. Chair Silver has asked that the casinos do this and report back at the August meeting.

Director Champion informed the Board and those in attendance that Maine Revenue Services has reached out to the Unit with a new automated process for tax clearance requests. All employees who reside in Maine must be current in their Maine State taxes in order to be approved for a Maine Gaming Employee License. Beginning July 1, 2021 with this new automated process employees will receive this response from MRS within 24-48 hours. This is a first step in the direction of a fully online application in the future.

Director Champion also stated that at the next legislative session, there should be a proposal to change the current practice that only employees may be granted a license; this change would allow anyone to apply for a Maine State gaming license. Another change the Director is looking to make is to allow those with individual gaming employee licenses (at the time of their first renewal) to choose a license duration time from 1 or 3 years depending on the employee's preference. There would be a discount to anyone who applies for the 3-year license. With the Board's approval Director Champion will bring these two items to the next legislative session. Chair Steve Silver said that administratively and financially it makes the most sense and he is on board with the idea.

**Board Business-**

Casino Tours - Chair Silver informed the Board members that casino tours are still available; they would need to schedule with Unit staff separately.

No July meeting. The State of Emergency is slated to end June 30, 2021. The legislation under the Freedom of Access Act that allows the Board to meet remotely will expire 30 days after the end of the State of Emergency, which may mean the August meeting will have to be in person.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

James Bonsant, Director of Compliance from Oxford Casino, informed the Board that staffing positions have been difficult, and contingency plans have been developed to meet the day to day needs of the Casino while remaining in compliance. To ensure drops and counts are completed as required by the Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS), Oxford Casino will be utilizing extra security officers for the slot machine drops. Oxford Casino would like to perform table drops daily but have the ability to keep those funds secured in their drop boxes under surveillance coverage in

the count room to be counted on the next available day on which the count team is scheduled to perform their slot count, which is typically within 2-3 days. Chair Steve Silver stated that something needs to be submitted in order for the Board to consider it, and that the Board does not have the power to do something on an emergency basis.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Joe Hanslip moves to adjourn the meeting. Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion.*

#### **Members**

**Steven Silver:** Yea

**Sari Greene:** Yea

**Chief Noel March:** Yea

**Joe Hanslip:** Yea

*The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.*

The meeting adjourns at 11:03AM. The next Board meeting will be held on August 17, 2021 at 9:00am.

*Respectfully submitted by:*

*Mallory Reilly*

*Office Specialist I*

*Board approved: 8/17/2021*