



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 November 15, 2023 Board Meeting
Held in person at Oxford Casino & online via Zoom application.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Noel March, Board Member
Sari Green, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Matthew Motti, Deputy Director
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist
Amanda Spencer, Auditor
Cami Hippler, Office Assistant
Harmony Therrien, Paralegal

Jennifer Willis, Assistant Attorney General
Philip Mantis, 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

September 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes approval

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve the September 2023 meeting minutes. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

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

3 in favor, the motion passed.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT – Inspector Vicki Gardner

In September 2023 there were 12 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 735 observations and 32 checklists. There were 12 self-



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exclusions. There were 2 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 0 patron complaints; and there were 2 formal complaints of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 21 calls for service to Oxford PD, 9 in the parking lot or in the hotel lobby, and 13 was Casino related, including counterfeit money, request for an officer, unwanted subject, and intoxication. Hollywood Casino had 23 calls for service to Bangor PD, 9 in the parking garage or outside, 6 in the hotel or lobby, and 7 in the casino, including wanted out, intoxications, suspicious activity, suicide threats, medical, fraud, assault, trespass, and 9-11.

In October 2023 there were 18 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 642 observations and 31 checklists. There were 7 self-exclusions. There were 2 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 0 patron complaints; and there was 1 formal complaints of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 34 calls for service to Oxford PD, 12 in the parking lot, 2 in the hotel, and 20 were Casino related, including motor vehicle crashes, traffic offenses, welfare checks, trespass, intoxication, disorderly subject, and general walk throughs. Hollywood Casino had 20 calls for service to Bangor PD, 8 in the parking garage or outside, 2 in the hotel or lobby, and 8 in the casino, including wanted out, trespass, drugs, mental health, suicide threats, intoxication, traffic hazards, fraud, and welfare checks.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Alex Joutov

For the month of September, the casinos reported an 3.53% increase in revenue collected versus September 2022. For the month of October, the casinos reported a 5.95% decrease in revenue collected versus October 2022. Year to date the Unit has identified an increase of 2.15% versus last year at the same time. Total revenue collected year to date is \$59,285,490.

Oxford reported an 8.11 % win for the month of September and 7.93% for the month of October from slots. As for table games, Oxford reported 17.17% win in September and 27.73% in October. Average gross win per machine was \$292.21 in September and \$224.43 in October.

Hollywood reported an 8.45 % win for the month of September and 9% for the month of October from slots and 16.28% win from table games in September and 17.14% in October. Average gross win per machine was \$225.32 in September and \$216.09 in October.



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In the Advance Deposit Wagering the Unit has identified a decrease of 23.3% for the month of September compared to September 2022. For the month of October, Advance Deposit Wagering activity decreased by 11.13% compared to October 2022. Year to date revenue collected from out of state and in state races was \$199,780, which was a decrease of 11% versus last year at the same time.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Champion thanked Oxford Casino for hosting the Gambling Control Board meeting. He informed the Board that there are currently 4 agency bills in for the legislative session starting in January, including one related to universal self-exclusion, the bill combines the self-exclusion lists maintained for Casinos, Sports Wagering, and Fantasy. Director Champion informed the Board that with Sports Wagering going live, the State is accumulating that revenue and the Unit is tracking it on its website on a day-to-day basis for the months of November and December. In January 2024, the tracking posted on the website will be monthly data, posted by the 10th of each month. Director Champion reported no complaints so far related to Maine’s 2 mobile sports wagering apps.

6. LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Consent Agreement GCB 2019-25 and GCB 2021-55

The Board voted to approve a consent agreement which resolves two complaints against Oxford Casino. The first complaint alleges that the licensee operating Advanced Deposit Wagering without a license issued by the State of Maine between the times indicated by the agreement. The second matter regards the licensee’s renewal to operate as a Casino in the State. The renewal application has been held in abeyance pending the resolution of the first complaint. The consent agreement imposes a reprimand and a fine of \$208,886.71. The fine reflects the percentage of profits the licensee realized from the prohibited conduct. The Board allowed a representative of the licensee to provide an explanation for its actions. The Board will vote on the pending renewal application during the January 2024 meeting.

Board member Noel March moved to adopt both consent agreements. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea



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Noel March: Yea
 Steven Silver: Yea
3 in favor, the motion passed.

b. Oxford Casino – Operator Renewal-

Board Chair, Steve Silver moved to table the decision on Oxford’s operator license renewal. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
 Noel March: Yea
 Steven Silver: Yea
3 in favor, the motion passed.

c. Updated Resolutions-

Director Champion presented for Board consideration, updates to Board Resolutions 1 through 11, to reflect new expiration dates and a renewal term.

Board member Sari Greene moved to accept resolutions 1 through 11 as proposed. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
 Noel March: Yea
 Steven Silver: Yea
3 in favor, the motion passed.

d. Casino Surveillance Rule update –

Board member Greene reported on the background information she and Director Champion were gathering to address potential issues with the rule. She will provide an additional update once additional information has been gathered.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. ADW written comments review –

Director Champion presented the Rule language, Written Comments, and a draft Basis Statement and Response to Comments. The received comments were submitted for consideration by the Board. The Board reviewed comments and proposed additional changes to the rules. The Board decided to republish the rules and a hold public hearing will be held to take additional comments on the additional changes.



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b. Internal Controls– Hollywood Casino

Following discussions with Unit Staff, Hollywood’s proposed internal controls had two remaining issues requiring Board review and approval: the updates to its surveillance system could not meet the existing deadline; and whether its existing organizational structure is consistent with legal requirements.

Austin Muchemore, GM of Hollywood Casino, presented Hollywood’s proposed variations.

Board member Sari Greene moved to extend 2-C Surveillance deadline to 1/15/2024. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

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

3 for, the motion passed.

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve Hollywood’s existing organizational structure. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

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

3 for, the motion passed.

Board member Noel March moved to approve Hollywood’s proposed variations to its internal controls. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

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

3 for, the motion passed.

c. Internal Controls– Oxford Casino

Following discussions with Unit Staff, Oxford’s proposed internal controls had two remaining issues requiring Board review and approval: amendments to the gratuities section to allow TITOs to be given to casino staff as gratuities; and the application of the definition premises as applied in the use of Oxford’s keys on site.



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Matt Gallagher, GM of Oxford, presented Oxford’s two requests for deviation of Oxford’s internal controls.

Board member Noel March moved to approve the language as proposed by Oxford Casino to their MICS related to the premises definition and the keys. Board chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

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

3 for, the motion passed.

Board member Sari Greene moved to reject the proposed change related to gratuities because the law and rules currently permit TITO tickets to be given as gratuities. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

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

2 for, 1 abstention, the motion passed.

The Board discussed and decided that the full Internal Controls for each Casino will be reviewed and approved at the January 2024 Board meeting.

9. BOARD BUSINESS –

Chief March asked for an update on filling Dr. Brown’s seat on the Board. Director Champion provided an update of steps taken so far.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Matt Gallagher, GM of Oxford Casino, thanked Inspector Supervisor Vicki Gardner and Chief Jack for working so hard and being available around the clock during the recent shutdown.

Lou Frascogna – Churchill Downs related to advertising and specifically required text. Also commented on surveillance requirements.



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Austin Muchemore GM of Hollywood Casino updated the Board on their practices since the approval of the latest amendments to Board Rule Chapter 13. Hollywood has been IDing all patrons at the door for about a month. GM Muchemore stated that this has resulted in many of complaints to the Unit and the Casino.

Staff informed the Board that they had received approximately a dozen total complaints, many of which were concerned with what was being done with their information. Staff informs consumers that each casino decides how to enforce laws and rules.

11. Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on January 16, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at 45 Commerce Dr. in Augusta, in the Champlain Room. The meeting will also be available via Zoom.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Sari Greene moved to adjourn the Gambling Control Board meeting. Board member Noel March seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: **Yea**
Noel March: **Yea**
Steven Silver: **Yea**

3 in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: 1/16/2024