



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 October 20, 2020 Board Meeting
Held online via Zoom application.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:00 am via Zoom application online due to the current Coronavirus pandemic.

MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Robert Harmon
Andrew Conant
Dr. Charmaine Brown

STAFF PRESENT ONLINE

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist I
James Horr, Auditor
Det. Don Armstrong

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General
Ron Guay, Assistant Attorney General
John Nichols, Assistant Attorney General
Michael Sauschuck, DPS Commissioner

Commissioner Michael Sauschuck opened up the October meeting by introducing the New Board Members and welcoming back current member Mr. Robert Harmon.

Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Ron Guay, informed the Board and Unit staff that he will no longer be assigned to the Gambling Control Board. His replacement will be Mr. John Nichols who was present on the call.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

May 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the July 2020 Board minutes as printed. There is no second, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: **Abstain**

Bob Harmon: **Yea**

Andrew Conant: **Abstain**

Dr. Charmaine Brown: **Abstain**

The motion passed 1 in favor, 3 Abstentions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Milton Champion provides his report to the Board. In July 2020 both casinos opened on the 9th and 10th. In that short month there were 4 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 437 observations and 7 checklists. There were no formal complaints of potential violations submitted for processing and no dispositions of formal reports were sent to members via dropbox for their review per statute. The Unit had 3 minor violations that were being monitored from the activity log and 0 patron complaints. There were 3 self-exclusions.

For the month of July 2020, the Unit has identified a decrease of 53.3% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus July 2019. Year to date there has been an identified decrease of 58.4 % versus last year at the same time. Oxford reported an 9.8% win for the month of July from slots with no table games offered. Oxford's payback percentage was 90.2%. Average gross win per machine of \$298.81. Hollywood reported a 10.2% average win for the month of July from slots and 33.2% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 89.8%. Average gross win per machine was \$390.54.

In August 2020 there were 9 Shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 565 observations and 22 checklists. There were 2 formal complaints of potential violations submitted for processing and 4 dispositions of formal reports were sent to members via dropbox for their review per statute. The Unit had 5 minor violations that were being monitored from the activity log and 1 patron complaint. There were 9 self-exclusions.

For the month of August 2020, the Unit has identified a decrease of 37.7% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus August 2019. Year to date there has been an identified decrease of 55.5 % versus last year at the same time. Oxford reported an 8.2% win for the month of August from slots with no table games offered. Oxford's payback percentage was 91.8%. Average gross win per machine of \$144.53. Hollywood reported a 9.6% average win for the month of August from slots and 30.9% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.4.%. Average gross win per machine was \$383.86.

In September 2020 there was 1 Shipment of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 661 observations and 24 checklists. There were 0 formal complaints of potential violations submitted for processing and 2 dispositions of formal reports were sent to members via dropbox for their review per statute along with the new complaint dashboard of outstanding cases. The Unit had 5 minor violations that were being monitored from the activity log and 0 patron complaints. There were 8 self-exclusions.

For the month of September 2020, the Unit has identified a decrease of 33.5% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus September 2019. Year to date there has been an identified decrease of 53.0 % versus last year at the same time. Oxford reported an 8.6% win for the month

of September from slots and a 12.0% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 91.4%. Average gross win per machine of \$150.22. Hollywood reported a 9.4% average win for the month of September from slots and 31.5% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 91.0.%. Average gross win per machine was \$309.75.

Board Member Mr. Robert Harmon asked the Director how the process of Advance Deposit Wagering was going. Director Champion had sent the financial report ahead of the meeting to the Board members and informed them that it had a steady decrease since it started in May.

STATE POLICE REPORT

Detective Don Armstrong presents his report to the Board. He informs Members that local employee applications are not coming in like they used to due to many employees still being on furlough. Many applications coming in have been from out of State companies, over the last 2 months roughly 40 initial application investigations and 135 renewal application investigations were completed. There have been several Tito thefts at the two facilities, all of which the funds have been recovered. Counterfeit bills have been discovered, there were no suspects and all bills have been forwarded to the Secret Service. Bangor Police Department had 11 calls for service, and Oxford Police Department had 9 calls for service.

SPECIAL REPORT – Board Functions – Katie Johnson A.A.G

A.A.G Katie Johnson, presented to the Board an informational PowerPoint presentation which outlined the functions of the Board. The presentation can be viewed on the meetings audio/video.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rules Appendix A – Update-

The unit, which includes the Inspectors and Inspector Supervisor, completed a comprehensive word for word review of Appendix A in relation to the current operations at the two Casinos, which was completed during the Covid down time earlier this year. The proposed text will be presented to the Board for their approval at the November meeting in order to proceed with the rule making process.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agreement GCB-2019-22 –

A.A.G Ron Guay presented to the Board docket # GCB-2019-22 (Chip fill violation) with much of the information left confidential. The department investigated this complaint by putting it through the Complaint Committee, who determined that this was a reasonable settlement of the issue. There were multiple violations that took place in April 2019, the first chip fill violation would be fined \$500, and it was recommended that the second violation which happened immediately after the first and was found to be willful conduct would be \$1000.

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the consent agreement GCB-2019-22. Mr. Steven Silver seconds the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Internal Controls (promotional credits) – Hollywood Casino –

Ronnie Little, Dir. Of Finance, presented the requested changes to the Board. One was the period of validity for promotional credits, currently the language only allows them to be valid for 7 days, Hollywood Casino would like to change that to 30 days. Hollywood Casino’s second request is to remove the “greater than” verbiage from the match play coupon to be changed to “equal to” to ensure the bet is equal to the value of the coupons.

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the requested changes to the Hollywood Casino promotional credits. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconds the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Internal Controls (promotional credits) – Oxford Casino –

Jack Sours, VP/GM Oxford Casino, presented to the Board Oxford Casino’s requested changes. First request is to remove the term “coin vault” from the definitions as they do not have a coin vault, as well as removing “coin vault” from the definition of “vault” which would remain. Another request was to the remove the language for “gaming day” which was put in several years ago by the previous Director. The final request is to add the promotional credits rules to be in compliance with chapter 29.

Katie Johnson, A.A.G, stated that anyone who extends credit or complimentary services would need to hold a gaming license, her concern was that any unlicensed employees who were offering these services would be in violation of the rules.

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the requested changes to the Oxford Casino Internal Controls. Mr. Andrew Conant seconds the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Request for removal from Self Exclusion List –

First the Board discussed what guidelines they would like to be met by the patrons before their request can be approved. They determined that this list is a voluntary out and a voluntary in and certain things such as therapies cannot be required for a patron to be removed from the self-exclusions list. The Board then went down a list of three patrons requesting to be removed from the list and gave their roll call votes.

Patron (7C) – Confidential –

Dr. Charmaine Brown motioned to approve the removal of Patron (1) from the Self-Exclusion list.

Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Patron (7D) – Confidential –

Dr. Charmaine Brown motioned to approve the removal of Patron (2) from the Self-Exclusion list.

Mr. Andrew Conant seconded the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Patron (7E) – Confidential –

Mr. Robert Harmon motioned to approve the removal of Patron (3) from the Self-Exclusion list.

Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Andrew Conant: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jack Sours, Oxford Casino took this opportunity to welcome the new Board, as well as requested to be able to meet with the Unit to discuss the developing Internal Controls in advance of public hearings, specific to the consensus-based rule development. The request was tabled, pending insight from the A.A.G office.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourns at 10:40 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on November 17, 2020 at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: 11/17/2020