

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 May 17, 2022 Board Meeting Held online via Zoom application.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:01 am via Zoom application online due to the current coronavirus pandemic.

MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE

Steven Silver, Board Chair Sari Greene Dr. Charmaine Brown Chief Noel March

STAFF PRESENT ONLINE

Milton Champion, Executive Director

Detective Don Armstrong

Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor

Alex Joutov, Auditor

Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist I

Cami Hippler, Office Assistant II

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General

Philip Mantis, Assistant Attorney General

Wyatt Bisbee, Auditor

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

April 2022 Work Session Meeting Minutes approval

Chief Noel March moves to approve the April 12, 2022 Work Session meeting minutes. Ms. Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea
The motion passed 4 in favor.

April 2022 Meeting Minutes approval

Ms. Sari Greene moves to approve the April 19, 2022 meeting minutes. Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Abstain
The motion passed 3 in favor, 1 abstention.

<u>OPERATIONS REPORT – VICKI GARDNER, INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR</u>

In April 2022 there were 9 shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On-site inspectors completed 730 observations and 31 checklists. There were 5 self-exclusions. There were 3 minor incidents that will continue to be monitored from the activity log, 0 patron complaints; and 1 formal complaint of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

There were 19 calls for service at Hollywood Casino, of those 6 were parking lot/garage related, 3 hotel, and 10 Casino. Oxford had 19 calls for service, of those 8 were parking lot related, 5 hotel, and 6 Casino.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Wyatt Bisbee, Auditor

For the month of April 2022, total tax revenue from both facilities increased \$1.3M or 25.3% versus April 2021. Year to Date, total slot tax revenue collected was \$20.6M, an increase of \$5.2M or 34.1% from prior year to date. Year to date, total table games tax revenue collected was \$1.4M, an increase of \$720K or 111.4% from prior year to date.

Oxford reported an 8.5% win for the month of April from slots and 27.3% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 91.5%. Average gross win per machine was \$292.45. Hollywood reported a 9.6% average win for the month of April from slots and 21.2% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.4%. Average gross win per machine was \$240.96.

In the area of advance deposit wagering for the month of April 2022, the Unit has identified an increase of 12.1% for total tax revenue collected.

There has been a year-to-date decrease of 3.2% for total in state and out of state tax revenue collected versus last year at the same time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Agency bills LD 1743, which changes the words "electronic facsimile" to "electronic table games" in 8 M.R.S. §1001(13-A) and 8 M.R.S. § 1001(43-A); and LD 1745 which allows gaming employees at renewal to purchase a 1 or 3-year license saving \$25 over the three-year period became law.

The Gambling Control Unit received biannual budget funding to develop an online application process for initial and renewal applications for casino employees and sports wagering employees.

January 2023 starts the next legislative session. Possible agency bills or bills the Board would like the department to pursue are:

- a. A bill to create a universal self-exclusion list to include all areas of legal gambling offered in Maine.
- b. A bill to allow employee registration for 3 years rather than annually to coincide with LD 1745. The bill would remove the fee for renewal.

LD 585 Sports Wagering passed with the regulatory oversight of the Exec. Director and the Gambling Control Unit. There is a separate contact list for notifications of rulemaking. Contact Mallory Reilly or Cami Hippler to be placed on that list.

License Applications for Review:

VSR Industries – Gambling Services Vendor

Chief Noel March moves to approve the renewal application for VSR Industries as a gambling services vendor. Ms. Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea
The motion passed 4 in favor.

Konami Gamin INC. - Slot Machine Distributor

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the renewal application for Konami Gaming Inc. as a slot machine distributor. Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea
The motion passed 4 in favor.

<u>US Playing Card Co. – Table Games Distributor</u>

Ms. Sari Greene moves to table the request for renewal for US Playing Card Co. as a table games distributor, for missing disciplinary actions in documents sent to the Board. Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor. **TABLED**

AGS LLC – Table Games Distributor

Ms. Sari Greene moves to approve the renewal application for AGS LLC. as a table games distributor. Chair Steven Silver seconded the motion. Moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Sari Greene: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor.

Ms. Sari Greene left the meeting at 9:56am.

<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS:</u>

Appendix A – update for hybrid meeting May 24, 2022

The meeting on May 24th will be at a physical location at the Maine Gambling Control Unit office in Augusta, however Board Members, Staff, and the Public may attend the meeting via Zoom. A stenographer will be present to transcribe the meeting.

Resolution 13-

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the revised resolution 13. Chief Noel March seconded the motion.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea
Chief Noel March: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Board Business-

N/A

<u>PUBLIC COMMENT –</u>

Mark Durbin, Director of Casino Operations at Hollywood Casino, informed the Board of a Jackpot rounding procedure change at the advisement of the Executive Director. Hollywood Casino will begin rounding jackpot winnings up to the nearest dollar to provide better customer service. This expense will be on the Casino and will not affect State revenue.

ADJOURNMENT

Chief Noel March moves to adjourn the Gambling Control Board meeting. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

Chief Noel March: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor, motion passes.

The meeting adjourns at 10:04 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on June 21, 2022 at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted by: Mallory Reilly Office Specialist I Board approved: June 21, 2022