

OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
10:00 A.M. – April 16, 2014  
RHODES TOWER, LOBBY HEARING ROOM  
30 W. BROAD STREET  
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

The regular meeting of the Ohio Casino Control Commission was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chair Jo Ann Davidson. Commissioners McKinley Brown, Will Lucas, Ranjan Manoranjan, John Steinhauer, and June Taylor were also in attendance. Commissioner Martin Hoke had an excused absence. The minutes of the March 19, 2014 meeting were approved following a motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer.

Executive Director Schuler began his report to the Commission by presenting crime statistics for all four casinos. The statistics have been gathered for 2013 and the first quarter of 2014. Karen Huey, OCCC Director of Enforcement, explained that the statistics show criminal activity across numerous categories with the highest concentration in the areas of gaming crimes, theft/property crimes, trespassing, and underage violations. The case management system used by OCCC, has opened over 2500 cases since its inception, although not all of the cases become active. In reviewing the statistics, Ms. Huey noted that the category of trespassing includes those who are charged as a result of violating an existing VEP agreement.

Ms. Huey also reported that the Division of Enforcement is nearly at full staff at the four casinos and the next new agent training is set for early June. Advanced agent training recently concluded at each casino location and included involvement with local prosecutors.

The Executive Director's report continued with Laura Clemens, OCCC Director of Government Affairs and Problem Gambling Program Coordinator providing an update for the Commission. Ms. Clemens noted that over 200 attended the Ohio problem gambling conference in March. The conference was sponsored by Ohioans for Responsible Gambling, a coalition of which OCCC is a member. Ms. Clemens said a record number of persons applied for the Voluntary Exclusion Program last month.

Ms. Clemens also provided an update on legislative efforts regarding skill-based amusement machines. The OCCC has statutory authority over these machines, but no additional guidance or regulations exist. House Bill 491 has been introduced by Representatives Buchy and Blessing, with the guidance of OCCC, to provide additional structure in the regulation of these devices. Key points of H.B. 491 are:

- Requires licensing of skill-based amusement machine operators, gaming-related vendors and the principal key employees;
- Establishes standards for licensure consistent with current law;

- Requires the Commission to establish compliance standards;
- Makes clear that the Commission's authority with regard to the detection, investigation and apprehension and arrest of persons committing gaming violations or gambling offenses extends to the operations of skill-based amusement machines; and
- Makes the penalty for operating a gambling house consistent with other gambling offenses in the Casino Control Law.

H.B. 491 is pending in the House Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee.

Noah Browning, OCCC Fiscal Officer, presented the quarterly review of agency revenues and expenditures. Tax revenue was slightly under projection for the quarter but offset by increased license fees due to vendor changes and additional key employees. Expenditures were over estimate in some areas due to investment in closed circuit monitors within interview rooms at the OCCC casino offices. The current cash balance is higher than predicted due to fees received as a result of the Penn Gaming reorganization.

Tony Forchione, OCCC Director of Licensing and Investigation, presented for consideration by the Commission, the application of four individuals for key employee licenses. OCCC Division of Licensing and Investigation had completed their review of the applications and recommended approval of Commission Resolution 2014-07 granting three-year key employee licenses to Eric Brown, IGT, Inc.; Constance James, Aristocrat Technologies, Inc.; Brandon Moore, Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc.; and Carl Sottosanti, Penn National Gaming, Inc. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Manoranjan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor and approved.

Patrick Martin, Director of Regulatory Compliance, presented amendments to internal controls being requested by all four casinos:

Hollywood Columbus Casino requested changes to its Player Services, Slots, and Table Games plans. Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer and approved.

Hollywood Toledo Casino requested changes to its Key, Security, Slots, and Table Games plans. Commissioner Manoranjan made a motion to approve the changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor and approved.

Horseshoe Cincinnati Casino requested significant changes to its Credit Plan as a result of sanctions levied against them by the OCCC. Mr. Martin noted that the proposed changes are a delayed response to the Commission's sanctions, which were finalized in February, and said that a procedure is in place for confirming that compliance with sanctions has occurred. A

motion to approve the proposed changes was made by Commissioner Taylor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

Horseshoe Cleveland Casino requested significant changes to its IT plan, largely to harmonize with the IT plan of Horseshoe Cincinnati, and to its Accounting, Cage, Slots, and Table Games plans. A motion to approve the proposed changes was made by Commissioner Brown. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Manoranjan and approved.

John Barron, OCCC Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel, reviewed two final orders before the Commission. The proposed orders were the result of casino gaming employee licensees who were convicted of offenses and failed to notify the Commission. The individuals had not requested a hearing.

In re: Melinda Sweet, (Case # 2014-LIC-013), Chair Davidson made a motion to revoke the casino gaming employee license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

In re: Cory Ward, (Case # 2014-LIC-008), Chair Davidson made a motion to revoke the casino gaming employee license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor and approved.

Executive Director Schuler reminded Commission members that the May meeting is being held on a Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Signed,

Katherine L. Kelly

Commission Clerk

Approved: May 22, 2014