

OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
10:00 A.M. – February 17, 2021
Meeting Held Virtually – Microsoft Teams Live Event

The regular meeting of the Ohio Casino Control Commission (Commission) was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Chair June Taylor. Vice-Chair Jo Ann Davidson and Commissioners McKinley Brown, Will Lucas, Ranjan Manoranjan, Lynn Slaby, and John Steinhauer were also in attendance. The minutes of the January 20, 2021 meeting were approved following a motion by Chair Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Slaby.

Executive Director Matthew Schuler began his report advising the Commissioners that the casinos have now resumed 24-hour operations with the expiration of the COVID-19 curfew established by Governor Mike DeWine in November 2020. During the curfew, the casinos diligently followed all operational plans and protocols to ensure all regulatory requirements for closure were met. Mr. Schuler commended the casinos' General Managers and Compliance Officers for their pro-active communication and regular dialogue with Commission staff.

Then, Mr. Schuler reported that the recent Level 3 snow emergency declared by Lucas County, resulted in the closure of Hollywood Casino Toledo (HCT). The snow emergency was later downgraded, and the HCT plans to re-open its doors today by 5:00 p.m. Mr. Schuler praised Acting General Manager Tim Kelly and his staff on their efforts to maintain required minimum staffing levels for certain departments.

Next, Mr. Schuler indicated that HB 110 has been introduced as the state's operating budget bill, which includes the Commission's next biennium budget. Budget testimony to the Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education is planned soon, and Mr. Schuler will keep the Commissioners apprised of any new developments regarding the bill as it moves through the review process.

Mr. Schuler ended his report with Rick Anthony, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Operations, providing a budget report. Mr. Anthony reported that tax revenue for the third quarter was down from estimates due to the pandemic curfew. Now that the curfew has been lifted, the Commission will be examining casino revenue closely for recovery patterns. Gaming employee license fees were still below estimates due to the residual effects of the casino closures and pandemic curfew. With the recent curfew expiration, it is hoped casino staffing will stabilize, resulting in an increase in fees meeting future estimates. A reimbursement in CARES funds was received for both the Operations and Enforcement funds for personal protective equipment and computers needed for staff working from home.

Mr. Anthony reported expenses remained on track, with wages and benefits being a little below estimates. Supplies and maintenance expenses were noted to appear high due to a recent rent payment, but those expenses will level off over the next two months. Enforcement expenses were reported to also have been below estimates. Mr. Anthony indicated an uptick in equipment expenses will be seen due to necessary upgraded computer equipment being needed for staff.

Anna Marin Russell, Manager of Investigations and Senior Legal Counsel, presented for consideration, the gaming-related vendor license renewal application for AGS, LLC (AGS) as well as the key employee license renewal applications for Nicholas Akiona, Daniel Cohen, Victor Gallo, and David Lopez. The Division of Licensing & Investigations completed suitability investigations of AGS and the associated key employees, which did not uncover any material derogatory information. Ms. Russell recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2021-04, renewing the gaming-related vendor and key employee licenses. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Manoranjan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

Then Ms. Russell presented for consideration, the gaming-related vendor license renewal application for Galaxy Gaming, Inc. (Galaxy) as well as the key employee license renewal applications for Harry Hagerty, Mark Lipparelli, Bryan Waters, and William Zender. The Division of Licensing & Investigations completed suitability investigations of Galaxy and the associated key employees, which did not uncover any material derogatory information. Ms. Russell recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2021-05, renewing the gaming-related vendor and key employee licenses. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Vice-Chair Davidson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slaby and approved.

Next, Ms. Russell presented to the Commission for consideration six key-employee license applications. The Licensing & Investigations Division completed background investigations of the applicants, which did not uncover any material derogatory information, and recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2021-06, granting or renewing key-employee licenses to: Beatrice Bassey, International Game Technology PLC; Constance James, Scientific Games Corporation; Adam Jerusalem, NRT Technology Corp.; Matthew Primmer, Aristocrat Technologies, Inc.; Kaori Yamaguchi, Konami Holdings Corporation; and Koji Yoshikawa, Japan Cash Machine Co., Ltd. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Steinhauer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

Andromeda Morrison, Director of Skill Games and Senior Legal Counsel, presented to the Commission for consideration 22 skill-based amusement machine-related license applications. The Skill Games Division completed background investigations of the applicants, which did not uncover any material derogatory information, and recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2021-07, granting skill-based amusement machine-related licenses upon receipt of the required licensing fees. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Brown. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

Matthew Oyster, General Counsel and Director of Licensing & Investigations, presented to the Commission for consideration three casino gaming final orders:

A final order regarding Nasha Hill (case #2020-LIC-006). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the Report and Recommendation without modifications to deny the Casino Gaming License Renewal Application for Nasha Hill. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Manoranjan and approved.

A final order regarding Christopher Jones (case #2020-LIC-009). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the Report and Recommendation without modifications to deny the Casino Gaming License Application for Christopher Jones. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucas and approved.

A final order regarding Jamie Sweet (case #2020-LIC-028). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the Report and Recommendation without modifications to deny the Casino Gaming License Application for Jamie Sweet. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved.

Ms. Morrison then presented to the Commission for consideration two skill gaming final orders:

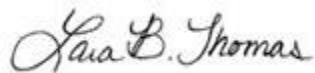
A joint final order regarding Charles List (case #2020-SLIC-175) and Paris Café (case #2020-SLIC-176). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the Report and Recommendation without modifications to deny the Skill-Based Amusement Machine Key Employee and Type-C Location License Applications for Charles List and Paris Café. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Davidson and approved.

A final order regarding the denial of skill-based amusement machine license applications (case #2020-SLIC-247, -248, & -257 – -260). Chair Taylor moved to deny the skill-based amusement machine license applications for the cases listed in the final order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved.

Then, Ms. Morrison presented to the Commission for consideration a skill gaming settlement agreement regarding Nudge-Time Amusements, Inc. (case #2020-SLIC-106) and Craig Baisley (case #2020-SLIC-107). Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the settlement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slaby and approved.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed,



Lara B. Thomas

Commission Secretary

Approved: March 17, 2021