

OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
10:00 A.M. – May 18, 2022
JO ANN DAVIDSON HEARING ROOM
100 E. BROAD STREET, 20TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

The regular meeting of the Ohio Casino Control Commission (Commission) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair June Taylor. Commissioners McKinley Brown, Will Lucas, Lynn Slaby, and John Steinhauer were also in attendance. The minutes of the May 4, 2022, meeting was approved following a motion by Commissioner Slaby and seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer.

Executive Director Matthew Schuler began his report with Rick Anthony, Deputy Executive Director, providing a budget update. Mr. Anthony reported that the Commission is in its last quarter of the fiscal year, and the budget remains on track. Casino revenue taxes are well up for the year, and casino gaming employee fees are above estimates for the fiscal year. Expenses were noted to be on track due to budget adjustments made mid-year. Mr. Anthony indicated that wages and benefits were a little higher due to there being three pay periods in the month of May. Equipment costs were up, due to the need to purchase new computers for new hires. The enforcement fund was noted to be on track, with anticipated funds expected soon from the Commission's assistance with a federal investigation.

Next, Mr. Schuler provided a sports gaming update. Mr. Schuler reported that the Common Sense Initiative Office recently recommended both the second and third batch of sports gaming rules to be filed with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review on May 16th and 17th. Mr. Schuler informed the Commission that a significant number of questions regarding fingerprint requirements and holding companies for sports gaming applications had recently been received. To help assist applicants, answers to these questions would be added to the FAQ sports gaming section on the Commission's website. Next, Mr. Schuler provided an update regarding the universal start date for sports gaming to go live in Ohio. Mr. Schuler reviewed House Bill 29's requirement that instructs the Executive Director to select a date no later than January 1, 2023, for sports gaming in the state of Ohio to go live. Mr. Schuler indicated it is imperative to consider the volume of applications that will be submitted by the sports gaming industry when determining the universal start date. Close to 3,000 applications are anticipated, which would be Ohio's largest gaming expansion in its history, as well as the largest simultaneous sports gaming regulation undertaking in the United States. Mr. Schuler reported that the universal start date would be designated at the next Commission public meeting and for stakeholders to anticipate the date to be close or exactly on January 1, 2023.

Mr. Schuler ended his report with introducing a newly added staff members, Angela Rucker-Ridley as an Application Analyst for the Licensing & Investigations Division, and Khanh Pham as a Software & Systems Developer.

Anna Marin Russell, Director of Licensing and Investigations & Senior Legal Counsel, presented to the Commission for consideration the suitability investigations of Mark L. Dunkeson Trust (Dunkeson Trust) and Mark L. Dunkeson Family Dynasty (Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust) as holding companies of JACK Cleveland Casino LLC (JACK). Recently, Mr. Mark Dunkeson transferred his equity interests into Dunkeson Trust and Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust. These transfers have resulted in Dunkeson Trust and Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust to hold an indirect ownership interest in JACK, and thus, constitute holding companies of the casinooperator licensee. As newly identified holding companies, the Dunkeson Trust and Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust are required to submit to a suitability investigation. The Division of Licensing & Investigations completed suitability investigations of Dunkeson Trust and Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust, which did not uncover any material derogatory information. The Division recommended the Commission find the Dunkeson Trust and the Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust suitable and approve them as holding companies of JACK. A motion to approve the Dunkeson Trust and the Dunkeson Family Dynasty Trust as holding companies was made by Commissioner Steinhauer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slaby and approved.

Next, Ms. Russell presented to the Commission for consideration the gaming-related vendor license renewal application for Gaming Partners International USA, Inc. (GPI USA). The Division of Licensing & Investigations completed a suitability investigation of GPI USA, which did not uncover any material derogatory information. The Division recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2022-18, granting the gaming-related vendor renewal license. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Brown. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer and approved.

Then, 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 2022-19, granting or renewing, as applicable, key-employee licenses to: Tricia Bouras, The United States Playing Card Company; Michael Mize, Hard Rock Casino Cincinnati; Heather Roll, Interblock USA L.C.; Randy Simpson, Hollywood Casino Columbus; Tracey White, Seminole Hard Rock Support Services, LLC; and Geoffrey Judge, Everi Holdings, Inc. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Slaby. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer and approved.

Andromeda Morrison, General Counsel & Director of Skill Games, presented for consideration 34 new and 13 renewal 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 2022-20, granting or renewing, as applicable, 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 Steinhauer and approved.

Next Ms. Morrison presented to the Commission for consideration two casino gaming final orders:

A final order regarding the denial of casino gaming employee license applications (case nos. #2022-LIC-007 & -008). Chair Taylor moved to deny the casino gaming employee license applications for the cases listed in the final order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slaby and approved.

A final order regarding Cynthia Michaeloff (case nos. #2021-LIC-015(A), (B), & (C)). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the report and recommendation with modifications to affirm the emergency order suspending the provisional casino gaming employee license, revoking the provisional casino gaming employee license, and denying the plenary casino gaming employee license application for Cynthia Michaeloff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved.

Next, Ms. Morrison presented for consideration two skill games final orders:

A final order regarding the denial of skill-based amusement machine license applications (case nos. # 2022-SLIC-024, -025, -028, -029, -030 & -031). 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 Slaby and approved.

A final order regarding R&J Development LLC and Ronald Schlosser (case nos. #2021-SLIC-084, -085 & -086). Chair Taylor moved to approve and adopt the report and recommendation with modifications to deny the skill-based amusement machine license applications for R&J Development LLC and Ronald Schlosser. The motion was seconded by Commission Slaby and approved.

Then Ms. Morrison presented to the Commission for consideration a settlement agreement:

A settlement between Bid Ventures, Inc. d/b/a Jock MKT (Bid Ventures) and the Commission. The agreement would settle a case that arose regarding discovered violations of Ohio law related to the failure by Bid Ventures to submit a required financial audit and failures to cooperate with the Commission's investigation into the lack of a submission. The settlement agreement includes admissions, conditions, and remedial measures. Ms. Morrison indicated that Bid Ventures has submitted its 2020 financial audit and Bid Ventures has agreed to not restart its Ohio fantasy contest operations until its license has been reinstated by the Commission. The Commission will administratively close Commission case no. 2022-FLIC-002 as part of the settlement agreement. Should Bid Ventures have future instances of non-responsiveness or late audit submissions for the period of reinstatement through December 31, 2026, these will be considered an aggravating factor for purposes of the administrative process. Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign it on behalf of the agency. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steinhauer and approved.

In other business, Mr. Schuler recognized Mr. Joseph Schmansky, Senior Assistant Attorney General, for his service to the Commission and an integral member of agency's team.

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

Signed,

Lara B. Thomas

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Commission Secretary

Approved: June 1, 2022