



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 March 16th, 2021 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
Dr. Charmaine Brown

STAFF PRESENT ONLINE

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

Katie Johnson, Assistant Attorney General
John Nichols, Assistant Attorney General
Kendra Coates, Assistant Commissioner

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

February 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve the February 2021 Board minutes as printed. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea
Bob Harmon: Yea
Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In February 2021 there were 3 shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On-site inspectors completed 478 observations and 27 checklists.

There were 4 self-exclusions. There is 1 formal complaint of a potential violation placed in the dashboard. There were 2 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were no patron complaints and no dispositions of formal reports sent to members per statute.

For the month of February 2021, the Unit has identified a decrease of 34.4% in total tax revenue for both facilities versus February 2021. Year to date there has been an identified decrease of 31.2% versus last year at the same time. Oxford reported an 8.3 % win for the month of February from slots and 28.5% win from table games. Oxford's payback percentage was 91.7%. Average gross win per machine of \$373.83. Hollywood reported a 9.6% average win for the month of February from slots and 33.9% win from table games. Hollywood's payback percentage was 90.4%. Average gross win per machine was \$328.63.

STATE POLICE REPORT

Detective Don Armstrong of the State Police presents his report to the Board. He informs the Board that there were 32 new license and 44 renewal license investigations completed, and there are currently 31 still pending. There were 4 TITO thefts, all funds were recovered, and no counterfeit bills were discovered. The Bangor Police Department was called 15 times to the Casino and the Oxford Police Department was called a total of 5 times.

Board Chair Steve Silver asked Detective Armstrong if there have been any issues with patrons complying with wearing their masks and maintaining a distance of 6 feet. Det. Armstrong responded that the Casino is doing a great job with wiping everything down when a patron leaves their seat and he is not having any issues at all.

License Applications for Review-

Patriot Gaming and Electronics, Inc. – Gambling Services Vendor license renewal

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve Patriot Gaming and Electronics, Inc. as a Gambling Services Vendor for renewal. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

VSR Industries, Inc – Gambling Services Vendor license renewal

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve VSR Industries, Inc. as a Gambling Services Vendor for renewal. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 12- The draft of the 12th resolution, which would authorize the Director to approve initial and renewal individual gaming employee licenses, is presented to the Board for approval.

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to approve resolution 12. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

2020 Annual Report – The 2020 Governor’s Annual Report is to be submitted to the Governor by March 15th. The draft of this report was sent to the Board ahead of time. Director Champion explains that the report breaks down each section of the department and shows any expenses in relation to the preceding year, as well as the collective revenue for the year 2020.

Mr. Robert Harmon has requested that future Annual Reports include the total dollar amount that goes into the general fund for addiction services.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the 2020 Annual Report. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Request to be removed from self-exclusion list –

The Patron, referred to as Self-Exclusion A, requested to be removed from the self-exclusion list.

Chair, Steve Silver moves to approve the request for Self-Exclusion A to be removed from the self-exclusion list. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Hollywood Surveillance Internal Control Change –

Chris Soriano, VP and Chief Compliance Officer for Penn National Inc., presented to the Board the request for an amendment to the internal controls, which would allow Hollywood Casino’s surveillance manager to report directly to Penn National. Mr. Soriano stated that he oversees the

company's surveillance functions. He said he finds having a reporting line from the property's surveillance to the corporate compliance function very effective.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the requested Internal Control change regarding the reporting lines for Hollywood Casino's surveillance manager. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Hollywood Employee Transfer from Surveillance to Table Games -

Hollywood Casino has requested the ability for a surveillance employee (later identified as Sunshine Wright) to transfer from surveillance to another department. The Board's Minimum Internal Controls provide that "no surveillance department employee shall be permitted to transfer to any other department unless authorized by the Board."

Austin Muchemore, Hollywood Casino's general manager, expanded on that request explaining that over the last year they have had to become creative with staffing due to the high number of furloughs caused by the COVID-19 restrictions.

Executive Director Champion stated that typically this sort of thing would not be permitted until after a certain amount of time has passed. He said in this particular case the table games employee now knows what it is that surveillance watches for to some degree. The Board adopted its rules from the State of Delaware, and in Delaware no surveillance department employee shall transfer from surveillance to another department unless at least 1 year has passed since that employee last worked in the surveillance department. This is also the case in several other states such as NJ, NY, and PA.

Board members discussed with Mr. Muchemore the possibility of this individual working in other areas of the casino to wait out this 1-year period. All members were in agreement that waiting the entire 1-year period before resuming work in the table games department seemed a little too long for someone who had only been in surveillance for 3 months. The Board members said allowing her to work in another area until at least June 1st would be more reasonable. Steven Silver, Board Chair, made it clear that this would not be establishing a rule for future similar situations, that these are very fact dependent, and each case would be looked at differently.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the request for the surveillance employee to transfer to table games, provided that they wait 90 days from the time they leave surveillance. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Table Game Rules of Play – Oxford

Dan Welch, Table Games Director of Oxford Casino, presented the 9 requested changes, which he said were necessary as a result of a vendor change from Scientific Games to AGS. Director Champion has reviewed the documents and sees no issue with the requests.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the 9 requested changes. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

Table Game Rules of Play – Hollywood

Ronnie Little, Director of Finance, presented the 4 requested changes for Hollywood Casino. Director Champion reviewed all documents and sees no issues with the requests.

Dr. Charmaine Brown moves to approve the 4 requested changes. Mr. Robert Harmon seconded the motion, moves to roll call.

Members

Steven Silver: Yea

Bob Harmon: Yea

Dr. Charmaine Brown: Yea

The motion passed 3 in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Robert Harmon moves to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Charmaine Brown seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourns at 10:28 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on April 20, 2021 at 1:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: May 18, 2021