

GAMBLING COMMISSION

"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"

June Gambling Commission Meeting Minutes

Gambling Commission Headquarters
Virtual Meeting
*June 23, 2020

Commissioners Present:

Bud Sizemore, Chair (Via Teams) Julia Patterson (Via Teams) Ed Troyer (Via Teams) Alicia Levy (Via Teams) Lauren King (Via Teams) **Ex Officio Members Present:**

Senator Steve Conway (Via Teams) Senator Jeff Holy (Via Teams) Representative Shelley Kloba (Via Teams)

Staff Present:

Tina Griffin, Assistant Director; Julie Anderson, Executive Assistant; Jason Huggett, Information Technology Specialist.

Staff Present-Virtual:

Brian Considine, Legal and Legislative Manager; Julie Lies, Tribal Liaison; Heather Songer, Public Information Officer; Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator; Adam Teal, Staff Attorney; and Suzanne Becker, Assistant Attorney General.

Public Meeting Call to Order

Chair Sizemore called the virtual meeting to order at 10:01 AM. He introduced the Commission's newest commissioner, Ms. Lauren King. Commissioner King is originally from Oklahoma and is a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She is a partner in the law firm Foster Garvey PC, where she chairs the Native American law practice group. She earned her law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law, where she served as editor in chief of the Virginia Journal of Law and Technology. Commissioner King earned her undergraduate degree in business administration from the University of Washington. She also teaches Federal Indian Law as an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law.

"I am honored that Governor Inslee appointed me to the Commission. It is a true privilege to serve the people of Washington State in this role," said Commissioner King.

Chair Sizemore asked Julie Anderson to call roll to ensure a quorum. All commissioners were present.

There were 68 people who attended the virtual meeting.

Tab 1

Commissioner Patterson moved to approve the May 14, 2020 minutes as presented in the packet.

* Governor Inslee issued <u>Proclamation 20-28.4</u> et al that suspended certain Open Public Meeting requirements, including in-person public meetings requirements for this Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Levy seconded the motion.

Julie Anderson called the roll.

The motion passed 4:0

Commissioner King abstained.

Commissioner Levy moved to approve the New Licenses and Class III Employees Report as listed in the packet.

Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.

Julie Anderson called the roll.

The motion passed 5:0

Election of Officers

Chair Nomination:

Commissioner Troyer nominated Commissioner Sizemore for Chair of the Gambling Commission for the term July 2020 through June 2021.

Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.

Julie Anderson called the roll.

The motion passed 5:0

Vice Chair Nomination:

Commissioner Levy nominated Commissioner Patterson as Vice Chair of the Gambling Commission for the term July 2020 through June 2021.

Commissioner Troyer seconded the motion.

Julie Anderson called the roll.

The motion passed 5:0.

Director's Report

Director Trujillo was not able to attend the meeting so Assistant Director Tina Griffin read the director's report for the record.

Tab 2

Pull-Tab Prize Limit Rule Petition

Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator, presented the materials for this tab. Katie Doyle (Washington Hospitality Association) Mark Sivanish (Spokane Pull Tabs & Bingo Supply), and John Schoffler, manager of Swinging Door, were available for questions. Ms. Doyle, the petitioner, is proposing to increase single cash prizes and merchandise prizes from \$2,500 to \$5,000 each in WAC 230-14-080, Prize limits and percentage of winners required; and WAC 230-14-085, Calculating markup for merchandise prizes; and to increase the carry-over jackpot prize limits from \$5,000 to \$10,000 in WAC 230-14-220, Prize limits for carry-over jackpot pull-tab series.

The petitioner requests the prize limit changes because the prize limits in rule have not been increased in many years and an increase would benefit pull-tab operators.

Commission staff requested consideration of payout and cash reserve requirements if the commissioners accept the petition.

Chair Sizemore inquired about the pull-tab industry and asked if it was stronger today than it was years ago. Mr. Schoffer replied that he has seen an increase in sales in the last three years.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Patterson moved to approve the petition and initiate rule-making as recommended by staff.

Commissioner Troyer seconded the motion.

Julie Anderson called the roll.

The motion passed. 5:0.

Tab 3

Presentation- Budget Review and Financial Update

Christopher Stanley, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), presented the materials for this tab. CFO Stanley reported on the Gambling Commission's current status regarding the pandemic. CFO Stanley will continue to present to the Commission on a regular basis.

There was no public comment.

Tab 4

Presentation – Agency Request Legislation

Brian Considine, Legal and Legislative Manager (LLM), presented the material for this tab. LLM Considine provided a legislative update. He informed the Commission that there would be a stakeholders meeting on June 24, 2020 to hear from stakeholders about what they think the Commission's priorities for the 2021 session should be and discuss possible topics identified by staff. At the July meeting, LLM Considine will report on the outcome of the stakeholders meeting and provide a list of possible legislative topics for the commissioners' consideration. He will also ask the commissioners for any additions to the list of topics and then work with them to prioritize the list and identify one to three items for consideration as agency request legislation.

Commissioner Patterson gave a brief summary of the Problem Gambling Task Force (PGTF). The PGTF has held two meetings: one in person and one online. Both meetings were well-attended (approx. 30 attendees both times). The next all-member meeting will be on July 28 and is scheduled to be online.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Chair Sizemore announced that the July 17 commission meeting would be virtual and to continue to watch the agency website for up-to-date information. The public meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM. After a 30-minute break, the Commission reconvened for executive session for the purpose of discussing potential agency litigation with legal counsel, including tribal negotiations. Executives session adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Chair Sizemore adjourned the June Commission meeting at 2:41 PM.