



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
GAMBLING COMMISSION

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

May Gambling Commission Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting

\*May 12 & 13, 2022

**Commissioners Present:**

**Bud Sizemore**

**Julia Patterson**

**Alicia Levy**

**Kristine Reeves**

**Sarah Lawson (Via Teams)**

**Ex Officio Members Present:**

**Senator Steve Conway (Via Teams)**

**Representative Shelley Kloba (Via Teams)**

**Staff Present :**

Tina Griffin, Director; Dan Wegenast, Agent in Charge (AIC); Gary Drumheller, Interim Assistant Director; Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL); Julie Anderson, Executive Assistant; Suzanne Becker, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

**Staff Present Virtual:**

Julie Lies, Tribal Liaison; Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator (RC); Jeanine Sugimoto, Special Agent (SA); Nicole Frazer, Administrative Assistant; Rashida Robbins, Administrative Assistant

**Chair Sizemore** called the virtual meeting to order at 9:34AM and mentioned that TVW would be livestreaming the meeting. Director Griffin called the roll to confirm a quorum. **Chair Sizemore** asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge any law enforcement officers that lost their lives since the commission last met.

There were 51 people in attendance.

**Tab 1**

**Confederated Tribes of Chehalis Reservation**

**The Honorable Harry Pickernell Sr., Chairman Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation and Harry Chesnin, Lead Counsel to the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Tina Griffin; Director and Jeanine Sugimoto, Special Agent (SA)** presented the materials for this tab. **Director Griffin** began the presentation by explaining the process. The Honorable Harry Pickernell Sr. thanked the Commissioners and staff for their work and gave a brief history about the Chehalis Tribe. **SA Sugimoto** provided a summary and a detailed account of the compact changes to the Tribe's Amendment.

**Public Comment**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

\* Governor Inslee issued [Proclamation 20-28.4](#) et al that suspended certain Open Public Meeting requirements, including in-person public meetings requirements for this Commission Meeting.

*Commissioner Levy moved to forward the proposed compact amendment to the governor for review and final execution.*

*Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed 7:0*

Next steps include forwarding the agreement to Governor Jay Inslee for his signature and final execution.

## **Tab 2**

### **Presentation – Tribal Contribution**

**Agent in Charge (AIC), Dan Wegenast**; of the Tribal Gaming Unit (TGU) presented the materials for this tab. He started his presentation by explaining that TGU is tasked with ensuring Compact Compliance including the portions of the compact that require Tribal contributions for Community Impacts, Charitable contributions, Problem Gambling, and Smoking Cessation.

**Senator Conway** asked for clarification on 2% contributions. **Commissioner Patterson** inquired if all Tribes participate in the contribution. **Commissioner Reeves** asked if each of the Tribes are independent to make these contributions themselves. **AIC Wegenast** stated that it depends on the compact. **Senator Conway** asked Director Griffin to consider submitting a formal written report of this information to the legislature. (50.05)

### **Public Comment**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

### **Presentation - Washington Tribes Build Community**

**Rebecca George, Executive Director**; of Washington Indian Gaming Association (WIGA) presented to the commission. She provided the Commissioners an overall look at the contributions that Tribes in Washington contribute to such as communities and nonprofits, local fire, police and local governments that benefit all Washingtonians.

**Representative Kloba** asked if Director George knew of other types of culturally appropriate treatment programs for cultures such as the Asian cultures. She did not.

Commissioners appreciated the information and thanked Director George for her time. To view these materials, go to [wsgc.wa.gov](http://wsgc.wa.gov).

**Commissioner Levy** commented on a Washington Tribe newsletter that she receives from WIGA saying it is very informational. Director George will send out the link to the Commissioners.

For more WIGA information contact Director George at [info@washingtonindiangaming.org](mailto:info@washingtonindiangaming.org).

The public meeting adjourned at 10:59 AM. The Commissioner adjourned to Executive Session where they will discuss current and potential future litigation with legal counsel, including tribal negotiations.

Executive Session adjourned at 3:01 PM on May 12, 2022.

**May Gambling Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**\*May 13, 2022**

**Commissioners Present:**

Bud Sizemore (Present)  
Julia Patterson (Via Teams)  
Alicia Levy (Present)  
Kristine Reeves (Via Teams)  
Sarah Lawson (Via Teams)

**Ex Officios Present:**

Senator Steve Conway (Via Teams)  
Representative Kloba (Via Teams)

**Staff Present :**

Tina Griffin, Director; Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL); and Suzanne Becker, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

**Staff Present Virtual:**

Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator (RC); Julie Anderson, Executive Assistant; Nicole Frazer, Administrative Assistant; Rashida Robbins, Administrative Assistant

Chair Sizemore reconvened day two of the May Commission meeting at 9:33AM and Director Griffin called the roll to confirm a quorum.

**Tab 2**

**Consent Agenda**

*Commissioner Levy moved to approve the consent agenda as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Lawson seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

**Tab 5**

**Presentation – Hybrid Commission Meeting**

**Tina Griffin, Director;** and representatives from World Wide Technologies Client Manager, Jeremy Daniels and Principal Systems Engineer, Christian Mair presented the materials for this tab. World Wide Technologies provided their recommendations to implement a hybrid meeting solution. They provided a complete data analysis of the situation. Their recommendation was a custom-built mobile hybrid solution. They provided costs and answered Commissioners questions. **Commissioner Patterson** was not in favor of spending a lot of money on a new system. She also asked staff to provide her with the costs of traveling to remote places for commission meetings across the state. **Chair Sizemore** suggested because there wasn't any interest in a motion for one of the solutions presented, that the commission table this discussion until August. That would allow staff more time to gather additional information. **Senator Conway** said he would reach out to TVW and talk to them about solutions as well. He asked Representative Kloba to help with talking to legislators regarding this topic.

**Public Comment:**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was none.

*Commissioner Levy moved that the July (and August) Commission meetings be held at the Liquor and Cannabis Board in their Olympia office.*

*Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.  
The motion passed 4:0  
Commissioner Reeves was not present for the vote.*

### **Director's Report**

**Director Griffin** reported that the house banked card room financial report was in the packet and if Commissioners had any questions to let her know. She also mentioned the launch of the Statewide Self-Exclusion Program and thanked Roxane Waldron and the Healthcare Authority for their help with providing 6,000 resource cards in eight different languages. The agency has distributed 5,000 cards to licensees and are in the process of getting the resource cards translated into two more additional languages, Cambodian and Taiwanese. **Director Griffin** also mentioned that the agency was receiving the self-exclusion forms in all capacities.

### **Election of Officers**

**Chair Sizemore** opened the nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

*Chair Sizemore nominates Commissioner Levy as Commission Chair for the term to begin at the conclusion of today's meeting and end at the election of the new officers in 2023.*

*Commissioner Patterson seconded the nomination.*

*The nomination passed 4:0*

*One abstention.*

*Commissioner Levy nominates Commissioner Patterson as Vice Chair for the term to begin at the conclusion of today's meeting and end at the election of new officers in 2023.*

*Commissioner Reeves seconded the nomination.*

*The nomination passed 5:0*

### **Tab 4**

#### **Agency Request Legislation for 2023**

**Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL)** presented the materials for this tab. **ILL Oakes** asked Commissioners for their recommendations for agency request legislation. Once a direction is given, the staff will further research and draft bill language for any agency request legislation for the Commissioners review at the August meeting, and then final approval at the September meeting.

**Commissioner Reeves** had two specific asks; **1)** Statutory framework for hiring a director of a state agency compared to our recent hiring process. And, if any changes would require legislative authorization or executive authorization to change and if so, what that process would look like. **2)** Legislative strategies around limited law enforcement with certification and training.

**Senator Conway** mentioned that there might be several recommendations coming from the Problem Gambling Task Force Prevalence study. **Commissioner Patterson** said that the Gambling Commission will have a summary overview of the potential recommendations in September, so that the Gambling Commission can fully vet the recommendations and ask questions. But she also said that those recommendations should come from the Healthcare Authority.

Staff is requesting changes to RCW 9.46.0356 concerning promotional contests of chance.

In addition, staff will hold a stakeholder and tribal partners meeting to get feedback from them.

**Director Griffin** announced that the date of the public stakeholder meeting will be on the website soon.

**Public Comment:**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was none.

**Tab 6**

**Rule Petition to amend – WAC 230-15-150**

**Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator** presented the materials for this tab. Jan Espejo, Product Compliance Manager for Light and Wonder, of Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed the commission. He is proposing to amend WAC 230-15-150, selling, and redeeming chips, to allow chips to be sold using debit cards.

He feels this change is needed because Light and Wonder has a new product called ATM which is a tabletop ATM (automated teller machine) that allows players to pay for chips using a debit card without leaving the table.

And he feels the effect of this rule change would be the ability to purchase chips at the gaming table using a debit card.

Michael Sackrison with Light and Wonder stated, *“we do have the ability to put in some type of velocity controls, whereas there would be delays between using the ATM device. So, for instance, if a patron would use the transaction, they might be prohibited from using it again for another hour or so. All those things can be implemented either by a request of the jurisdiction, or request of the property”*.

Staff recommends initiating rule-making implementing WAC 230-17-192, Submission of electronic or mechanical gambling equipment during rule making, to ensure the equipment used to accept debit transactions for the purchase of chips meets all requirements of Chapter 9.46 RCW and that any rule changes address staff concerns.

**Commissioner Reeves** asked if this system provide cash advances at a high interest rate, it will only apply to debit card transactions. The petitioner answered yes. Commissioner Reeves also wanted to make sure that staff's perspective that in negotiated compact agreements for what the table limits would be, that there's no way in which this particular tool could create a scenario in which a player could get around the cap table limits that have been set. Director Griffin answered yes. SAS Bill McGregor addressed the commission by stating the withdraw on the debit card has nothing to do with the wager at the table, it only allows the player to purchase chips.

**Public Comment:**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was none.

*Commissioner Reeves moved to initiate rule making proceedings by filing the rule as proposed for further discussion.*

*Commissioner Levy seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed 5:0*

**Default**

**Adam Teal, Interim Legal Manager** presented the material for this tab.

**Chair Sizemore** asked if Michelle T. Ye, CR 2022-00185 was present or online. She was not.

*Commissioner Levy moved to revoke Michelle T. Ye's public card room employee license, Number 68-35323 as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

**Public Comment:**

Chair Sizemore asked for public comment. There was none.

**Chair Sizemore** adjourned the public meeting at 11:36PM and announced that the commissioners would be taking a short break then going into Executive Session to discuss current and potential litigation with legal counsel, including tribal negotiations and to review the performance of a public employee.

Executive Session adjourned at 2:04PM and the public meeting adjourned at 2:05PM.