



ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD

JB Pritzker • Governor Charles Schmadeke • Chairman Marcus Fruchter • Administrator

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Regular Meeting, Open Session Minutes Illinois Gaming Board Chicago, Illinois June 6, 2024

The Illinois Gaming Board convened for a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Auditorium of the Michael A. Bilandic Building, 160 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL, and through electronic means pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.* The meeting was accessible on the morning of June 6, 2024, via livestream at: <https://multimedia.illinois.gov/igb/igb-live.html>.

A roll call was taken. The following Board members were physically present: Chairman Charles Schmadeke, Member Anthony Garcia and Member Dionne Hayden. Member James Kolar was present and participated in the meeting through electronic means. Four members of the Board being present, a quorum was satisfied.

At approximately 9:01 A.M., Member Garcia moved to go into closed session pursuant to Section 2(c), paragraphs (1), (4), (11), (21) and (36) of the Open Meetings Act and Section 6(d) of the Illinois Gambling Act to discuss items on the closed session agenda relating to the employment and performance of a specific employee, pending litigation, the review of closed session minutes of the Regular Board Meetings, and to deliberate on decisions of the Illinois Gaming Board in which there is discussed personal, commercial, financial, or other information obtained from any source that is privileged, proprietary, confidential, or a trade secret; or information specifically exempted from the disclosure by federal or State law. Member Hayden seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote. Thereafter, the Board held its closed session meeting in person and through electronic means, the minutes of which are separately recorded. The Board's closed session meeting was not accessible via livestream at <https://multimedia.illinois.gov/igb/igb-live.html>.

At approximately 10:00 A.M., the Board reconvened its Regular Meeting of Thursday, June 6, 2024, pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.* The meeting was held in person and through electronic means. The meeting was accessible on the morning of June 6, 2024 via livestream at: <https://multimedia.illinois.gov/igb/igb-live.html>.

Another roll call was taken. The following Board members were physically present: Chairman Charles Schmadeke, Member Anthony Garcia and Member Dionne Hayden. Member James Kolar was present and participated in the meeting through electronic means. Four members of the Board being present, a quorum was satisfied.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from its Regular Meeting held on April 25, 2024.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Fruchter began his report by acknowledging that today (June 6, 2024) marked the 80th anniversary of the D-Day invasion by the Allies on Normandy Beach, an incredibly important moment in world history that should not be forgotten.

The Administrator announced that a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) relating to the Central Communication System (“CCS”) for video gaming terminals (“VGTs”) was recently posted on the State of Illinois’s procurement website. He noted that the CCS is currently being operated under a bridge contract that followed the original 10-year CCS agreement. Illinois is seeking bids from vendors to operate the CCS after the current bridge contract expires. The new contract will be for 5 years, with two potential renewals of 3 years and 2 years, respectively. Responses to the RFP are due on August 5, 2024.

Next, Administrator Fruchter provided a brief update regarding gaming-related measures that were passed during the most recent spring legislative session, which included changes to the tax rates for sports wagering and video gaming as well as an extension of the casino construction tax credit. The Administrator further noted that the end of the legislative session also brought about a prohibition regarding wagering on events involving Illinois collegiate teams after July 1, 2024.

Administrator Fruchter noted that Illinois has 15 operating casinos, 14 sportsbooks (13 of which are open and operating) and 61 Terminal Operators. He further noted that there are 8,528 licensed establishments operating a total of 48,199 video gaming terminals (“VGTs”) of which 47,855 have the \$4 max bet software and more than five VGTs are present in 6,209 licensed establishments.

In April, Illinois’ VGTs generated net terminal income (“NTI”) of \$257,314,667, which resulted in a total tax of \$87,486,939. The State received \$74,625,588 while local municipalities received \$12,861,351. In the same period, Illinois’ casinos produced adjusted gross receipts (“AGR”) of \$136,997,283, which produced a total tax of \$31,523,261. The State received \$23,210,030, while host communities received \$8,313,231. In March, sports wagering produced AGR of \$99,420,016, which generated tax of \$16,006,616. The State received \$14,913,002, while Cook County received \$1,093,614. Between January 1, 2024 and April 30, 2024 (but only March for sportsbooks), Illinois’ gaming segments have generated a total tax of \$501, 710, 134 with the State retaining \$415,351,862 and host communities retaining \$86, 358,272.

Administrator Fruchter closed his report by encouraging anyone to visit the IGB’s website and the Prohibited Conduct Reporting portal to report potential unlawful activity involving alleged violations of casino, video gaming or sports wagering laws or rules or other misconduct by IGB licensees or applicants. He also noted that prohibited conduct reports may also be made by contacting the Illinois Gaming Board Hotline at (855) 494-0237.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

The Board entertained comments from Tim Jones, Midwest Electronics Gaming, LLC

The Board entertained comments from Laurie Taylor.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Proposed Rules Authorizing Administrator “No Action” Letters Section 3000.156 (Casino), Section 1800.156 (Video Gaming) and Section 1900.156 (Sports Wagering)

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve for submission to the Index Department of the Secretary of State on First Notice proposed permanent Rule 3000.156 (for Casino), Rule 1800.156 (for Video Gaming) and 1900.156 (for Sports Wagering).

- Proposed Amendment to Rule 1800.110 - Definition for Video Gaming Terminal

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve for submission to the Index Department of the Secretary of State on First Notice the proposed amendment to Rule 1800.110 regarding the definition of the term Video Gaming terminal.

- Proposed Amendment to Rule 3000.625 to Allow Variances to Casino Chip Specifications

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve for submission to the Index Department of the Secretary of State on First Notice the proposed amendment to Rule 3000.625 allowing variances to Casino chip specifications.

CASINO

OWNERS/ORGANIZATION GAMING LICENSEE ITEMS

Key Person Suitability Determination

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to find William John Vandersand suitable as a key person of Casino Queen, Inc. d/b/a DraftKings at Casino Queen.

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSEE ITEMS

Level 1 License Applications – Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve Joseph James Primasing as a Level 1 Occupational licensee at Walker’s Bluff Casino Resort, LLC.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve Thomas William Griffith as a Level 1 Occupational licensee at Walker’s Bluff Casino Resort, LLC.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve Elisha Joel Miller as a Level 1 Occupational licensee at 815 Entertainment, LLC d/b/a Hard Rock Casino Rockford.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve Steven Eric Hill as a Level 1 Occupational licensee at 815 Entertainment, LLC d/b/a Hard Rock Casino Rockford.

Level 2 and 3 License Applications – Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve 100 Level 2 and 136 Level 3 occupational license applicants. The Board further voted to issue Notices of Denial to the following individuals:

1. Tabitha Marie Proctor
2. Jerry Alex Taylor
3. Tierra Nichole Wash
4. Miguel Guzman-Perez
5. Tracie Marie Carlson
6. Sunshine Diane Tihlarik
7. Jermaine Larmar Ledbetter
8. Carlos Joseph Albarran
9. Milton Fabian Gordillo Gordillo

Occupational License Renewals by the Administrator

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator renewed the Level 1, 2, and 3 licenses of individuals who were licensed or renewed in May 2023 or June 2023 and who have properly updated their applications and complied with the requirements of the Illinois Gambling Act and the Board’s Rules.

SPORTS WAGERING

Master Sports Wagering License Renewals

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator renewed the following Master Sports Wagering licenses issued to an Owners licensee for a period of four years, expiring June 2028:

1. Alton Casino, LLC d/b/a Argosy Casino Alton
2. Casino Queen, Inc. d/b/a DraftKings at Casino Queen
3. Elgin_Riverboat Resort d/b/a Grand Victoria Casino
4. HC Aurora, LLC d/b/a Hollywood Casino Aurora
5. HC Joliet, LLC d/b/a Hollywood Casino Joliet
6. Midwest Gaming & Entertainment, LLC d/b/a Rivers Casino
7. Par-A-Dice Gaming Corp d/b/a Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino

SPORTS WAGERING OCCUPATIONAL LICENSEE ITEMS

Level 2 and Level 3 License Applications – Approvals

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to approve 105 Level 2 and 1 Level 3 sports wagering occupational licenses. Furthermore, the Board issued Notices of Denial to:

1. Brian James Holowicki
2. Helaynia Diane Walker
3. Anthony Jerome Edwards

Level 1, 2, and 3 License Renewals – Administrator Delegation

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator renewed the Level 1, 2, and 3 Sports Wagering licenses of the individuals who were licensed or renewed in May 2023 or June 2023 and who properly updated their applications and complied with the requirements of the Sports Wagering Act and the Board's Rules.

VIDEO GAMING

TERMINAL OPERATOR LICENSEE ITEMS

Initial Licenses – Approvals

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to grant Lakeshore Gaming LLC a terminal operator license for a period of four years, expiring June 2028.

TECHNICIANS & TERMINAL HANDLERS

Initial Licenses – Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to approve 27 Terminal Handler licenses for a period of two years, expiring in June 2026, subject to licensee's payment of the applicable licensing fee on or before July 31, 2024.

VG Technicians and Terminal Handlers License Renewals (by Administrator)

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator renewed the licenses of Technicians and Terminal Handlers who were licensed or renewed in May or June 2022 for a period of two years, expiring in June 2026, who properly updated their applications and complied with the requirements of the Video Gaming Act and the Board's Rules.

VIDEO GAMING ESTABLISHMENT APPLICANT ITEMS

VG Location Establishment Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to approve 82 Video Gaming Establishment license applications for a period of two years, expiring in June 2026, subject to the licensee's payment of the applicable licensing fee on or before July 31, 2024, and issue Notices of Denial to:

1. CTAM INC. d/b/a Mo's Coffee & Café
2. RED TOP BARBECUE & CHILI, LLC d/b/a RED TOP BARBECUE & CHILI

3. Ruckers Sports Lounge LLC d/b/a Ruckers Sports Lounge

VG Location Establishment Denials – Statutory by Administrator

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator denied the following Video Gaming Location Establishment application as ineligible under the VGA and Rules:

1. Dream Event Space Banquet Hall LLC d/b/a Dream Event Space Banquet Hall LLC

VG Location Establishment License Non-Renewals

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to issue Notices of Non-Renewal to the following location establishment licensees:

1. AR OIL INC. d/b/a AR Oil Inc
2. Bryan's Boondock's, Inc., d/b/a Bryan's Boondocks, Inc.
3. DGC 132012, Inc. d/b/a El Progreso Latino
4. Maria's Pizza of Amboy Inc. d/b/a Maria's Pizza
5. YMPV, Inc. d/b/a Crave Bar & Food Joynt

VG Location Establishment License Renewals by Administrator

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024, the Administrator renewed the licenses of Video Gaming Location Establishments who were licensed or renewed in May or June 2022 who have properly updated their applications and complied with the requirements of the Video Gaming Act and the Board's Rules.

ECONOMIC DISASSOCIATION

- Arthur Coy Hutchcraft – Sales Agent/Broker for Midwest Electronics Gaming, LLC

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to order Midwest Electronics Gaming, LLC to disassociate from Arthur Coy Hutchcraft.

RULE 320 FINAL BOARD ORDERS

Administrator Recommended Decision

- (19-UP-019) Accel Entertainment Gaming, LLC, Petitioner v. Midwest Electronics Gaming, LLC d/b/a ME Gaming, Respondent, In Re: Remwood of Peoria Inc., d/b/a Katy T's Pub

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to issue a final Board Order that:

- (1) Declines to address arguments and allegations in Accel and Midwest's Exceptions that go beyond the scope of Rule 320;
- (2) Adopts the Administrator's Recommended Decision as a Final Board Order; and
- (3) Dismisses Accel's Petition.

- (19-UP-006) Accel Entertainment Gaming, LLC, Petitioner v. Midwest Electronics Gaming, LLC d/b/a ME Gaming, Respondent, In Re: Lucky Dog's Pub & Eatery, Inc. d/b/a Lucky Dogs Pub and Eatery

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to issue a final Board Order that:

- (1) Declines to address arguments and allegations in Accel and Midwest's Exceptions that go beyond the scope of Rule 320;
- (2) Adopts the Administrator's Recommended Decision as a Final Board Order; and
- (3) Dismisses Accel's Petition.

ADJOURN

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.