



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 December 12, 2024

The Illinois Gaming Board convened for a Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 12, 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 December 12, 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 Dionne Hayden and Member Sean Brannon. Three members of the Board being present, a quorum was satisfied.

At approximately 9:01 A.M., Member Hayden 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 Brannon 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, December 12, 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 December 12, 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 Dionne Hayden and Member Sean Brannon. Three members of the Board being present, a quorum was satisfied.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Marcus Fruchter began his report by reminding listeners of the IGB's current, on-going video gaming public comment period set to end in January 2025. The process was established to seek comments and proposals on two significant potential future Video Gaming rules. First, the IGB is seeking comments for a rule that would bring video gaming into the IGB's Self-Exclusion Program (the "SEP") for problem gamblers. The SEP is currently available to patrons of casinos and sports wagering operators, but not video gaming. He also noted that the IGB is seeking public comments and proposals on future rulemaking for implementation and regulation of cashless technology in video gaming. The Administrator encouraged the public and stakeholders to submit their suggestions and comments via the IGB's on-line inquiry form on the IGB's website by 5:00 p.m. Central on January 13, 2025.

The Administrator noted that on December 10, 2024 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules ("JCAR") adopted two new rules recently proposed by the IGB; a rule regarding casino chip denominations and a rule regarding "TITO" (ticket in ticket out) technology. He noted that the rules were approved and will become effective once they are published in the Illinois Register.

Administrator Fruchter reminded all listeners that they should only patronize legal, regulated IGB-approved casino, video gaming and sport wagering operators wager and to avoid wagering with unlicensed and unregulated operators.

Administrator Fruchter noted that Illinois has 16 operating casinos, 15 approved sportsbooks, 58 licensed terminal operators, 8,665 licensed Video Gaming Location Establishments and 48,728 Video Gaming Terminals ("VGTs") currently in operation with 48,439 of those VGTs using the max-bet software.

The Administrator then provided listeners the monthly revenue numbers for casino, video gaming and sports wagering. In the month of November, VGTs generated Net Terminal Income ("NTI") of \$254,974,909, which yielded a total tax of \$89,241,167. The State retained \$76,121,116, while municipalities and counties earned \$13,120,051. Illinois casinos produced Adjusted Gross Receipts ("AGR") of \$152,868,724, which generated a total tax of \$48,044,870. The State received \$38,225,523 while host communities received \$9,819,347. In October, sports wagering AGR was \$81,351,389, which resulted in the State receiving tax in the amount of \$24,460,987 and Cook County receiving \$904,079. Taking Illinois' gaming industry as a whole from January 1, 2024 through the end of the month of the applicable reporting period for casino, video gaming and sports wagering, total gaming tax revenue was \$1,529,186,389.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Rule 1900.1130 Request to Prohibit Wagering on Injuries, Officiating Related, Player Conduct and Pre-Determined Events in any National Football League Game

The Board tabled consideration of the National Football League's Rule 1900.1130 request.

CASINO

OWNERS/ORGANIZATION GAMING LICENSEE ITEMS

Request for Initial Consideration of Owners License Renewal

- Southern Illinois Riverboat/Casino Cruises LLC d/b/a Harrah's Metropolis Casino

The Administrator noted that Southern Illinois Riverboat/Casino Cruises LLC d/b/a Harrah's Metropolis Casino requested initial consideration of its Owners license renewal.

Request for Final Consideration of Owners License Renewal

- Wind Creek IL LLC d/b/a Wind Creek Chicago Southland Casino

The Board voted unanimously to grant an Owners license to Wind Creek IL LLC d/b/a Wind Creek Chicago Southland Casino for a period of four years, expiring in December 2028, and further to find the following individual suitable as a key person of Wind Creek IL LLC d/b/a Wind Creek Chicago Southland Casino: James Franklin Dorris, Jr.

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSEE ITEMS

Level 1 License Applications – Approvals

The Board voted unanimously to adopt staff's recommendation to approve Lisa Carol Kannair and Brandi Jo Harvey as Level 1 Occupational licensees at The Rock Island Boatworks, LLC d/b/a Bally's Quad Cities Casino & Hotel.

Level 2 and 3 License Applications – Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to approve 96 Level 2 and 161 Level 3 occupational license applicants. The Board further voted to issue a Notices of Denial to:

- 1. Eric Lee Ross (24O008063)**
- 2. Pierce Elliot English (23Y007973)**
- 3. Jazmine Del Rocio Gordillo (24Y012493)**

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 November or December 2023 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

Master Sports Wagering License Item – Initial License

- Walker’s Bluff Casino Resort, LLC

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Board on February 8, 2024 to issue licenses under the Illinois Gambling Act, the Video Gaming Act, and the Sports Wagering Act to all individuals and entities already licensed by the Board, the Administrator granted Walker’s Bluff Casino Resort, LLC a Master Sports Wagering license for a period of four years, expiring in December 2028.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES PROVIDER

Management Services Provider License Item – Initial License

- Hillside (Illinois) LLC d/b/a bet365

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to grant Hillside (Illinois) LLC d/b/a bet365 a Management Services Provider license for a period of four years, expiring in December 2028 and further to find the following business entities and individuals suitable as key persons of Hillside (Illinois) LLC d/b/a bet365:

1. bet365 Group Limited
2. Hillside (US New Media) LLC
3. Hillside (New Media Holdings US) Inc.
4. Hillside (New Media Holdings) Limited
5. Nicholas James Butchart
6. David Philip Myatt
7. Denise Coates
8. John Fitzgerald Coates
9. William Wolfe Roseff
10. Siobhan Mary Nothers
11. Moira Catherine Stacey
12. Peter Coates

SPORTS WAGERING SUPPLIERS

Sports Wagering Supplier License Items – Initial Licenses

- Hillside (Sports) MP Limited d/b/a bet365

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff’s recommendation to grant Hillside (Sports) MP Limited d/b/a bet365 a Supplier license for a period of four years, expiring in December 2028 and further to find the following business entities and individuals suitable as key persons of Hillside (Sports) MP Limited d/b/a

bet365:

1. bet365 Group Limited
2. Hillside (New Media Holdings Malta) Limited
3. Hillside (New Media Holdings) Limited
4. Denise Coates
5. Gamal Kassim
6. William Keith Davitt Sharkey
7. Tyrone Camilleri
8. John Fitzgerald Coates
9. William Wolfe Roseff
10. Siobhan Mary Nothers
11. Moira Catherine Stacey
12. Peter Coates

- Hillside (Technology) Limited d/b/a bet365

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to grant Hillside (Technology) Limited d/b/a bet365 a Supplier license for a period of four years, expiring in December 2028 and further to find the following business entities and individuals suitable as key persons of Hillside (Technology) Limited d/b/a bet365:

1. bet365 Group Limited
2. Denise Coates
3. Kamal Malik Kaaba
4. Simon Hugh Galletley
5. John Fitzgerald Coates
6. William Wolfe Roseff
7. Siobhan Mary Nothers
8. Moira Catherine Stacey
9. Peter Coates

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 214 Level 2 sports wagering occupational licenses.

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 November or December 2023 who have 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 and Denials

- Blue Ridge Gaming LLC

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

- Chicagoland Gaming Inc.

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

- Ella Gaming LLC

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

TECHNICIANS & TERMINAL HANDLERS

Initial Licenses – Approvals and Denials

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to approve 5 Technician licenses and 71 Terminal Handler licenses for a period of two years, expiring in December 2026, subject to licensee's payment of the applicable licensing fee on or before January 31, 2025.

Terminal Handler License Non-Renewals

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to issue Notices of Non-Renewal to the following licensees: Jacky Don Forsyth (150502098) and Celso Perez (160502206).

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 November or December 2022, for a period of two years expiring in November or December 2026, who have 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 81 Video Gaming

Establishment License applications, for a period of two years, expiring in December 2026, subject to licensee's payment of the applicable licensing fee on or before January 31, 2025. The Board further voted to issue Notices of Denial to the following applicants:

1. MI NUEVO LEON, LLC d/b/a MI NUEVO LEON (220703356)
2. New Market Group, LLC d/b/a Tom's Market (230702442)
3. THE 143 HIDEOUT LLC d/b/a THE 143 HIDEOUT LLC (240700422)
4. Venice Neighborhood Market LLC d/b/a Venice Neighborhood Market (240701783)

VG Location Establishment – License Non-Renewal

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to issue Notices of Non-Renewal to the following licensees: WILLIAM F. EARNEST, POST NO. 559 d/b/a American Legion Post #559 (140900959) and Tavern on LaGrange Corp. d/b/a Tavern on La Grange (180701924).

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 November or December 2022, for a period of two years expiring in November or December 2026, who have properly updated their applications and complied with the requirements of the Video Gaming Act and the Board's Rules.

HEARING REQUESTS

Request for Hearing

- Knox Investments, Inc. d/b/a The Pony (230701819)

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to deny the Request for Hearing submitted by Knox Investments, Inc. d/b/a The Pony (230701819).

Denial of Request for Hearing – Rescission Item

- GAMMON COACH HOUSE LLC d/b/a GAMMON COACH HOUSE (240700594)

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the staff's recommendation to rescind the October 24, 2024, denial of GAMMON COACH HOUSE LLC d/b/a GAMMON COACH HOUSE's Request for Hearing and grant it leave to file a Supplemental Request for Hearing.

ADJOURN

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.