



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: February 21, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission

VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5292
PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 545 5819

The Commission conducted this public meeting remotely utilizing collaboration technology. The use of this technology was intended to ensure an adequate, alternative means of public access to the Commission's deliberations for any interested member of the public.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien
Commissioner Bradford Hill
Commissioner Nakisha Skinner
Commissioner Jordan Maynard

1. Call to Order ([00:00](#))

Chair Judd-Stein called to order the 502nd Public Meeting of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission ("Commission"). Roll call attendance was conducted, and all five commissioners were present for the meeting.

2. Legal and Sports Wagering ([01:00](#))

- a. Betr Report on Completion of Cessation Plan and Request to Approve Cessation of Operations pursuant to 205 CMR 258.05

Deputy General Counsel Carrie Torrissi provided background on Betr's cessation plan progress, noting that Betr submitted its notice of intent to cease operations on January 25th and that the Commission approved Betr's cessation plan in accordance with 205 CR 258.03 on February 8th. Deputy General Counsel Torrissi explained that 205 CMR 258.05(1) requires that when a sports wagering operator has completed all actions called for in its cessation plan or on the approved cessation date, whichever is earlier, the operator submit a written report to the Commission notifying the Commission that it has completed all actions necessary for cessation and requesting

that cessation become effective. Deputy General Counsel Torrissi stated that Betr had submitted its report pursuant to this section on February 16th. She explained that following receipt of the written report, 205 CMR 258.05(1) requires the Commission or its designee to issue a written decision approving or denying the cessation request, and that pursuant to 205 CMR 258.05(2), the cessation is not effective until the Commission issues a written decision approving the operator's cessation request. Deputy General Counsel Torrissi noted that while 205 CMR 258 requires a written decision, it does not dictate the format of the decision.

Deputy General Counsel Torrissi outlined the key elements of Betr's report, and stated that the Sports Wagering, IT and Legal divisions had all reviewed the report and were satisfied that Betr had complied with its cessation plan and completed all actions necessary for cessation, and that the team recommended the Commission approve Betr's cessation request.

Commissioner O'Brien requested that the footnote in the draft written decision regarding the waiver issued by the Commission be moved into the body of the decision. Deputy General Counsel Torrissi confirmed that she would move that language.

Commissioner Hill asked what would happen with any futures wagers. Deputy General Counsel Torrissi stated that Betr did not offer futures wagers and that all of their wagers had been settled.

Commissioner Hill moved that the Commission approve Betr's cessation request pursuant to 205 CMR 258.05 and further that staff be authorized to issue the written Decision Approving Betr Holdings Inc. d/b/a Betr's Request to Cease Operations in the Commonwealth as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Brien.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Maynard: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

b. WynnBET Report on Progress of Cessation Plan pursuant to 205 CMR 258.04 ([11:20](#))

Deputy General Counsel Torrissi stated that due to the timing of WynnBET's overall plan for cessation, they were required to submit an interim progress report and that their final cessation report would be reviewed by the Commission at the next meeting.

Deputy General Counsel Torrissi provided background on WynnBET's cessation plan progress, noting that WynnBET submitted its notice of intent to cease operations on January 24th and that the Commission approved WynnBET's cessation plan in accordance with 205 CR 258.03 on February 8th. She further stated that 205 CMR 258.04(1) requires a sports wagering operator intending to cease operations to provide to the Commission written reports on its implementation

of the cessation plan at least every ten days after providing its notice of intended cessation. Deputy General Counsel Torrisi noted that WynnBET's report did not include any requests for amendments or deviations from their approved cessation plan.

Deputy General Counsel Torrisi outlined the key elements of WynnBET's report, and stated that the Sports Wagering, IT and Legal divisions had all reviewed the report and did not recommend the imposition of any modifications or conditions.

Commissioner Maynard asked how WynnBET planned to settle futures wagers. Jennifer Roberts, Vice President and General Counsel of WynnBET, stated that WynnBET had contacted all patrons with existing futures wagers and had settled approximately 75% of those wagers. She stated that of those that had not yet been settled, WynnBET was largely waiting for a response from the patron. She further stated that each settlement offer is, at a minimum, a return of the amount wagered, and that WynnBET also takes into account a fair market analysis of how much it would cost to place the bet with a competitor.

3. Communications Division ([17:41](#))

a. Discussion and Review of Draft Annual Report

Communications Division Chief Tom Mills presented the draft annual report, as included in the Commissioners' Packet. He stated that upon approval, the Communications Division would finalize the table of contents and any copy edits before sharing the report with key legislative leaders and posting the report on the Commission's website.

The Commission thanked the team for their excellent work.

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve the 2023 Annual Report as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Maynard: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Hearing no other business, Chair Judd-Stein requested a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Hill moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Brien.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.
Commissioner Maynard: Aye.
Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.
The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. [Notice of Meeting and Agenda](#) dated February 21, 2024
2. [Commissioner's Packet](#) from the February 21, 2024, meeting (posted on massgaming.com)