



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: May 1, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293
MEETING ID: 111 651 2385

Present: Chair Cathy Judd-Stein
Commissioner Gayle Cameron
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien

Given the unprecedented circumstances, Governor Charles Baker issued an order to provide limited relief from certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law to protect the health and safety of the public and individuals interested in attending public meetings during the global Coronavirus pandemic. In keeping with the guidance provided, the Commission conducted this public meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology.

Call to Order

10:00 a.m. Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order public meeting #300 of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (“Commission”).

The Chair confirmed a quorum for the meeting with a Roll-Call Vote.

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.

Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

Executive Staff Update

10:02 a.m. **Operational Status of Gaming Licensees in light of the Coronavirus**
Interim Executive Director Karen Wells remarked that the governor has extended his order to shut down businesses due to COVID-19 until May 18, 2020. She recommends that the Commission parallel this order for the three Massachusetts

gaming establishments. The Commissioners all concurred with the recommendation.

Commissioner O'Brien would like to address next steps for the summer at a future Commission meeting, as the Commission gains more clarity by the end of this month.

10:04.m. *Commissioner Cameron moved that the Commission approve the recommendation of the Interim Executive Director Karen Wells to follow the governor's extension of the order to May 18, 2020 and move the Commission's timeframe to keep casinos closed until May 18, 2020. Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.*

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.

Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

10:05 a.m. **Operational Status of Simulcasting and Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) In Light of the Coronavirus**

Director of Racing/Chief Veterinarian/Operations Manager Dr. Alexandra Lightbown stated that the licensees continue to agree to abide by the governor's extension of his order to May 18, 2020. She stated that they will continue to conduct online account wagering, but the simulcasting will remain closed.

Other Business

10:06 a.m. The Chair commented on the timeline for re-opening the casinos. She stated that this timeline is uncertain, however the Commission should maximize this time to establish guidelines for re-opening in collaboration with the three licensees, key stakeholders, state and local leaders, and public health experts. A small, internal Re-Start Working Group will be convened to support the work already in progress under the leadership of Ms. Wells, with the assistance of the Chair and Commissioner O'Brien. The group will help in the development of the work plan and identify issues that may arise for the Commission's consideration and preemptive action regarding key policy and regulatory matters.

10:08 a.m. Next, Ms. Wells provided a detailed description of the two primary areas that the Re-Start Working Group will focus on. First will be technical protocols, and second will be health and safety issues that need to be addressed. Ms. Wells will expound on these at the next commission meeting on May 7th.

Ms. Wells then stated that in addition to the Re-Start Working Group, staff is working on operational procedures, opening checklists, and other necessary items.

Commissioner Zuniga and Ms. Wells commended the Information Technology team for remarkably enabling the success of the agency to operate remotely.

10:16 a.m.

With no further business, Commissioner Stebbins moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.

Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. Notice of Meeting and Agenda dated May 1, 2020

/s/ Bruce Stebbins
Secretary