



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: September 12, 2024, 12:00 p.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission

VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5292
PARTICIPANT CODE: 112 397 0099

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:

Interim Chair Jordan Maynard
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien
Commissioner Bradford Hill
Commissioner Nakisha Skinner

1. [Call to Order](#) (01:25)

Interim Chair Maynard called to order the 531st Public Meeting of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission ("Commission"). Roll call attendance was conducted, and all four commissioners were present for the meeting.

2. [Meeting Minutes](#) (02:03)

- a. December 20, 2022
- b. January 3, 2023
- c. January 4, 2023

Commissioner Skinner noted that the December 20, 2022 minutes would be held for a vote at the September 26, 2022 public meeting.

Commissioner Skinner moved to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2023 and January 4, 2023 public meetings that are included in the Commissioners' packet, subject to any necessary corrections for typographical errors, or other non-material matters. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Interim Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

3. [Presentation of Final Candidate \(Carrie Torrissi\) for Division Chief, Sports Wagering](#) (03:50)

Executive Director Dean Serpa provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the position of Division Chief, Sports Wagering. Noting the number of applicants, which included a number of internal candidates, ED Serpa reported that the hiring committee had selected Carrie Torrissi, currently serving as a Deputy General Counsel, as the final candidate for the position. The Commissioners expressed their congratulations to Deputy Counsel Torrissi who also thanked the Commissioners for their kind words.

4. [Investigations and Enforcement Bureau](#) (10:14)

- a. [Briefing on Non-Compliance Matter Related to Temporary Category 3 Sports Wagering Licensee Crown MA Gaming, LLC d/b/a DraftKings, and discussion regarding next steps. Alleged Non-Compliance Related to Communications Sent to Members of the Massachusetts Voluntary Self-Exclusion List in violation of 205 CMR 256.07\(1\), 205 CMR 233.06, and 205 CMR 133.06](#) (10:31)

Counsel Mercer provided a briefing on a non-compliance matter which involved Temporary Category 3 Sports Wagering Licensee Crown MA Gaming, LLC d/b/a DraftKings (“DraftKings”) and their transmission of an email communication to members of the Massachusetts Voluntary Self-Exclusion List (“VSE List”). He stated that on August 13, 2024, an email intended for only thirteen recipients pertaining to a specific golf wager was, due to human error, erroneously sent to 1,230,520 Massachusetts registered DraftKings users or Massachusetts residents, including 184 members of the VSE List. If the email was found to constitute advertising, marketing or branding, the transmission would implicate several regulations, including 205 CMR 256.07(1); 205 CMR 233.06; and 205 CMR 133.06. Counsel Mercer stated that due to the nature of these facts, the IEB was seeking guidance on whether the Commission would like to move the matter to an adjudicatory hearing, refer the matter back to the IEB pursuant to 205 CMR 232, or issue a civil administrative penalty under G.L. c. 23N, § 16.

The Commissioners agreed to refer the matter back to the IEB pursuant to 205 CMR 232 and have them act as a party in the matter. Counsel Mercer noted that as part of the investigation, the IEB would review the sources of email addresses to which the communication was sent as well as review whether any individuals under 21 years of age were included in the mailing.

- b. [Executive Session - Security at the Casino Facilities](#) (15:14)

IEB Director Monahan requested an executive session to discuss security at the casino facilities.

Transcriber's note: The Commission's vote to enter Executive Session occurred after Agenda Item #6 and Agenda Item #5, at which time the Interim Chair returned to this Agenda Item at [23:35](#).

Interim Chair Maynard stated that the Commission anticipates that it will meet in Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(4); G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7); and G.L. c. 4, § 7(26)(f) to discuss the use and deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto at Encore Boston Harbor, MGM Springfield and Plainridge Park Casino, specifically with regard to firearms and parking garage security, and to discuss investigatory materials related to MGM parking garage security, necessarily compiled out of the public view by the IEB, the disclosure of which materials would probably so prejudice the possibility of effective law enforcement that such disclosure would not be in the public interest and to discuss responses to the Commission's internal control related directive submitted by Encore Boston Harbor, MGM Springfield and Plainridge Park Casino related to the same subject matter outlined herein. The public session of the Commission meeting would not reconvene at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to go into Executive Session on the matters and for the reasons stated by the Interim Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Skinner.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Interim Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

5. [Commissioner Updates](#) (23:29)

No Commissioner updates were noted.

6. [Other Business](#) (16:06)

Transcriber's note: Discussion under this Agenda Item occurred after Item #4b was introduced by the Interim Chair and before Agenda Item #5.

Sports Wagering Operations Manager Andrew Steffen presented information received from US Integrity which came to the Sports Wagering Division's attention after the posting of the meeting's agenda. US Integrity alerted the Division to multiple incidents involving match fixing within the Chinese Football Association ("CFA"), which, as a member of FIFA, is approved for wagering in Massachusetts. Manager Steffen stated that the information from US Integrity indicated that bans and suspensions were levied against several CFA players and officials and that at least 120 matches were fixed involving 41 individual club teams. He noted that US Integrity's investigation is ongoing and updates will be shared as they become available. As

Operators were still offering Chinese Super League matches for wagering, the Sports Wagering Division recommended that the Commission temporarily suspend wagering for any matches overseen by the CFA until further investigation is completed.

The Commissioners agreed with the recommendation put forth by Manager Steffen but noted that they preferred that it be a suspension, rather than a temporary suspension.

Commissioner Hill moved, in accordance with 205 CMR 247.03(8) and 205 CMR 247.04(8), that the Commission suspend its approval of the Chinese Football Association for inclusion in the official catalog of events and wagers until such time as an investigation into the matter outlined in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today is completed and the Commission reaches a final determination. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Brien.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Interim Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. [Notice of Meeting and Agenda](#) dated September 10, 2024
2. [Commissioner's Packet](#) from the September 12, 2024 meeting (posted on massgaming.com)