

California Gambling Control Commission

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**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 8, 2021
COMMISSION MEETING**

Pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 regarding the COVID-19 virus, the meeting was held by tele/videoconference and there was no location open to the public.

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order.

Chair LaBrie called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners was taken with Chair Paula LaBrie, Commissioner Eric Heins, and Commissioner Edward Yee present.

Executive Director Stacey Luna Baxter gave ZOOM participation instructions.

3. Presentation by Gaming Policy Advisory Committee (GPAC) of Completed Project: Independent Promoter GPAC Proposed Regulatory Language (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19817) (This is a no action item; presentation/discussion only):

Comments Received From:

Keith Sharp, GPAC Member

Yolanda Morrow, Assistant Director, Bureau of Gambling Control

Todd Vlaanderen, Chief Counsel, Gambling Control Commission

No action was taken on this item.

4. Consideration of Rescission of GCA Evidentiary Hearing Referral and Abandonment of Application for Initial Cardroom Owner Type License (Pursuant to CCR, Title 4, sections 12017 and 12054):

Rogelio's: Rogelio's Inc.

Action:

Upon motion of Chair LaBrie, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the rescission of the GCA

evidentiary hearing and deemed the Initial Cardroom Owner Type License application abandoned.

5. Consideration of Initial Key Employee License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19854; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
Carmelita Albiani

Action:

Upon motion of Chair LaBrie, seconded by Commissioner Yee, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission referred the Initial Key Employee Application to a GCA evidentiary hearing.

6. Consideration of Renewal Key Employee License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19854; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
A. Edward Mason

Comments Received From:

Yolanda Morrow, Assistant Director, Bureau of Gambling Control

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Heins, seconded by Commissioner Yee, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Renewal Key Employee License through April 30, 2023, removing the conditions outlined in the signed April 29, 2019 Stipulated Settlement, Decision, and Order.

- B. Vatsana Soukaseum

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Yee, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Renewal License through April 30, 2023, continuing with the existing condition as listed below:

Beginning June 1, 2020, and every 180 days thereafter, Vatsana Soukaseum must provide the Bureau of Gambling Control with proof of efforts to satisfy her outstanding charge-off accounts until resolved and proof of resolution is provided to the Bureau.

- C. Jon Strecker

Comments Received From:

Yolanda Morrow, Assistant Director, Bureau of Gambling Control

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Yee, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Renewal License through April 30, 2023, removing the conditions outlined in the signed April 29, 2019 Stipulated Settlement, Decision, and Order.

7. Consideration of Initial Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19984; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):

A. Arise, LLC:

Worker: Thomas Pearce

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Heins, seconded by Commissioner Yee, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Initial Third-Party Worker License through April 30, 2023.

By concurrence of the Commissioners, items 7B through 7C were heard as a group.

B. Knighted Ventures, LLC:

Supervisor: Selah Gavin Davis

C. Majesty Partners, LLC:

Supervisor: Selah Gavin Davis

Comments Received From:

Selah Gavin Davis

Brian Gilleland, Manager, Bureau of Gambling Control

Action:

Upon motion of Chair LaBrie, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission referred the Initial Third-Party Supervisor Licenses to a GCA evidentiary hearing.

D. PT Gaming, LLC:

Supervisor: Natasha Patterson

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Yee, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Initial Third-Party Supervisor License through April 30, 2023, with the condition as listed below:

Beginning June 1, 2021, and every 90 days thereafter, Natasha Patterson must provide the Bureau of Gambling Control with proof of efforts to satisfy her DUI court fines, completion of her First Offender DUI Program, unpaid bank account fees, unresolved tax lien, 2018 civil judgment, collection account, and charge-off account until resolved and proof of resolution is provided to the Bureau.

8. Consideration of Renewal Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19984; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):

Progressive Gaming, LLC:

Worker: Steven Wang

Comments Received From:

Keith Sharp, Designated Agent and Attorney

Steven Wang

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Heins, seconded by Commissioner Yee, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission referred the Renewal Third-Party Worker License to a GCA evidentiary hearing and issued an Interim Renewal License valid through May 31, 2022.

By concurrence of the Commissioners, items 9A through 9G were taken as a group.

9. Consideration of Initial Tribal-State Compact Key Employee Finding of Suitability (Pursuant to the Tribal-State Gaming Compact; CCR, Title 4, section 12120):

A. Cache Creek Casino Resort - Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation:

Miguel Castillo

B. Fantasy Springs Resort Casino - Cabazon Band of Mission Indians:

Ahmad Yaghoubi

C. Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Sacramento at Fire Mountain - Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California:

i) Anson Lee

ii) Vern Saetern

iii) Eric Schmieding

D. Morongo Casino Resort and Spa - Morongo Band of Mission Indians:

i) Matt Erickson

ii) Reggie Reid

E. Soboba Casino Resort - Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians:

Jose Sixto

F. Sycuan Casino and Resort - Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation:

Jorge Escobar

G. Twin Pine Casino & Hotel - Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians:

William West IV

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Yee, seconded by Commissioner Heins, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Initial Finding of Suitability for Miguel Castro through March 1, 2023, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Ahmad Yaghoubi through May 31, 2021, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Anson Lee through January 31, 2023, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Vern Saeteurn through August 31, 2021, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Eric Schmeiding through January 31, 2023, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Matt Erickson through January 21, 2022, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Reggie Reid through September 18, 2021, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Jose Sixto through August 13, 2021, the Initial Finding of Suitability for Jorge Escobar through May 31, 2021, and the Initial Finding of Suitability for William West, IV, through April 1, 2023.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

(Items on the consent calendar will be taken up and voted on as a group. A Commissioner may request that an item be discussed, in which case it will be discussed separately at a later point in the meeting.)

10. Consideration of Initial Key Employee License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19854; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):

Michael Meyer

11. Consideration of Renewal Key Employee License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19854; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| A. Kenneth Behney, Jr. | T. Yen Vu |
| B. Scott Ciboch | U. Alan Wong |
| C. Zaven Esmaili | V. Toua Yang |
| D. Cynthia Fuentes | |
| E. Michael Giglio | |
| F. David Hoang | |
| G. Joseph Lee | |
| H. Kevin Lee | |
| I. Han Liv | |
| J. Shigekazu Nakayama | |
| K. Phuong Nguyen | |
| L. Brett Parker | |
| M. George Rahme | |
| N. Jessie Ramirez | |
| O. Adan Salas | |
| P. Diana Sanchez | |
| Q. Stephan Sowell | |
| R. Naomi Vardy | |
| S. Brandy Vickers | |

12. Consideration of Initial Commission Work Permit (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19912; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
 Lake Bowl Cardroom: Kylie Gioia
13. Consideration of Renewal Commission Work Permit (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19912; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
 A. Casino Merced: Kou Vang
 B. Outlaws Card Parlour: Katelin Staley
14. Consideration of Initial Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19984; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
 A. Blackstone Gaming, LLC:
 Workers: Blake Brown Anthony Trejo Bipin Venigandla
 B. Knighted Ventures, LLC:
 Workers: Christina Chaiyasith Soriya Muth Freddie Wong
 C. PT Gaming, LLC:
 Worker: Bhumi Poudyal
15. Consideration of Renewal Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License (Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19984; CCR, Title 4, section 12054):
 A. Fortune Players Group, Inc.:
 Workers: Karen Chu Cirilo Coronado Jie Shan He
 Wen Li Xiao Chun Song Mei Jing Wen
 B. KBCH Consultants, Inc.:
 Worker: Judy Singharath
 C. Knighted Ventures, LLC:
 Workers: Narak Chhun Keith King Darvin Miranda
 Vanna Mom Michael Ngu
 Ma Theresa Obenza Mary Ann Paule Jessica Skinner
 Channa Thornton Angelica Mae Visande Tiffany Vuong
 Kimau Wright
 D. Majesty Partners, LLC:
 Worker: Daniel Sanchez, Jr.
 E. PT Gaming, LLC:
 Workers: Leuanlaivanh Maopraseuth Vanthuy Nguyen
16. Consideration of Initial Tribal-State Compact Key Employee Finding of Suitability (Pursuant to the Tribal-State Gaming Compact; CCR, Title 4, section 12120):
 A. Agua Caliente Casino Palm Springs - Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians:
 Joshua Conley John Costello IV John Arrage
 B. Cache Creek Casino Resort - Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation:
 Prakash Lamichhane

- C. Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino - Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians:
Koua Moua
- D. Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Sacramento at Fire Mountain - Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California:
Robert Angus Sonika Bhattarai Khanal Carrie Bordios
Johan Dang Jacklyn Moore William Provance
Vickey Saefong Sherry Saetern Sinna Sok
- E. Harrah's Northern California - Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California:
Tamara Devan-Gordon
- F. Jamul Casino - Jamul Indian Village:
Jerome Gondek Jr
- G. Pala Casino Spa and Resort - Pala Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pala Reservation:
Elizabeth Loau-Aguilera Mireya Romero
- H. Pechanga Resort & Casino - Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation:
Kiley Carlson Alfonso Cuevas
- I. Red Hawk Casino - Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria:
Hanh Hoang Quay Vong
- J. San Manuel Casino - San Manuel Band of Mission Indians:
Ashley Frank Brennan Glaspy James Guarneri
Rolando Hinojosa Sanchez John Mowles
Ernest Sanchez Paul Thorsen
- K. Soboba Casino Resort - Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians:
Angel Rojas Kanya Vilaiphanh
- L. Sycuan Casino and Resort - Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation:
Michael Conery
- M. Table Mountain Casino - Table Mountain Rancheria:
Ali Khaghani John Xiong
- N. Thunder Valley Casino Resort - United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria:
Mathew Miller Andrew Tang
- O. Valley View Casino & Hotel - San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians:
Ricardo Wilson III
- P. Win-River Casino - Redding Rancheria:
Jordan Kimbrough

17. Consideration of Renewal Tribal-State Compact Key Employee Finding of Suitability (Pursuant to the Tribal-State Gaming Compact; CCR, Title 4, section 12120):

- A. Agua Caliente Casino Palm Springs - Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians:
Lorena Soto
- B. Augustine Casino - Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians:

Gadiel Uriarte

- C. Barona Resort and Casino - Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians:

Kevin Blades Tracie Lavenant Mayra Ludwig
Brandon Williams

- D. Blue Lake Casino and Hotel - Blue Lake Rancheria:

Trisha Gihlstrom Amber Massey

- E. Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino - Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians:

David Couch Jr.

- F. Chumash Casino Resort - Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation:

Francisco Andrade III Dante Dacanay Brian Jacobs
Milton Royster Geu Yang

- G. Diamond Mountain Casino & Hotel - Susanville Indian Rancheria:

Janet Spalding

- H. Eagle Mountain Casino - Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation:

Roy Williams

- I. Feather Falls Casino & Lodge - Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians:

Hector Garcia David Livingston

- J. Garcia River Casino - Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria:

Carl Gonzales Martin Linker

- K. Graton Resort & Casino - Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria:

Rosalie Abrego Raj Giri Miguel Gonzalez
Brian Green Reyma Hahn Stacy Heagney
Jason Iadavaia Jamie Khorn Gary Kirby Sr.
Alex Klado Shukra Maharjan Jayson Manese
Carol Mathews Shawn Miller Kenneth Minor Jr.
Buo Nguyen Theresa Pereira-Oliver Megan Quinlan
Elina Rai

- L. Jamul Casino - Jamul Indian Village:

Ryan Adams

- M. Lucky 7 Casino - Smith River Rancheria:

Christine Cunningham

- N. Mono Wind Casino - Big Sandy Rancheria Band of Western Mono Indians:

Donielle Egerer

- O. Morongo Casino Resort and Spa - Morongo Band of Mission Indians:

Jeromi Cape
Luciano Santoro Jr.

- P. Pala Casino Spa and Resort - Pala Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pala Reservation:

Tuyet Cao Esequiel Castellon Nicole Daily
Alicia Dieffenbacher Honeyleen Gonzalez

- Q. River Rock Casino - Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians:

Julie Buchanan

- R. Soboba Casino Resort - Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians:
Christopher Cendejas Melissa Gates Oscar Juarez
- S. Sycuan Casino and Resort - Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation:
Timothy Briggs Richard Jewell
- T. Table Mountain Casino - Table Mountain Rancheria:
Allen Cha Ellynn Huynh Hossein Pourshafie
Michelle Reid
- U. Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino - Santa Rosa Indian Community:
Ae Bounmy
- V. Thunder Valley Casino Resort - United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria:
Chan Saetern
- W. Twin Pine Casino & Hotel - Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians:
Robin Looper Serenity Miller Gina Sims

Action:

Upon motion of Commissioner Heins, seconded by Commissioner Yee, and carried in a vote by roll call with Chair LaBrie, Commissioner Heins, and Commissioner Yee, voting yes; the Commission approved the Consent Calendar items 10 through 17.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

CLOSED SESSION DISCLOSURE:

Chair LaBrie disclosed the following items will be discussed in Closed Session:

- II. Hearing Deliberations Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3):
- B. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of Gambling Establishment Key Employee License for Linda To Parks, (CGCC-2020-0109-11H)
- C. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of Tribal Key Employee Finding of Suitability for Jarmaine Pascua, (GCADS-TRKE-017878)
- F. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of State Gambling License for Outlaws 101 LLC, Thomas W. Bartlett, Member, John Wrona, Member, (CGCC-2020-0924-5B)

CLOSED SESSION:

- I. Litigation (Government Code section 11126(e)):
 - A. Stand Up For California, et al. v. State of California, et al., Madera County Superior Court (MCV062850)
 - B. Eric G. Swallow v. California Gambling Control Commission, Sacramento County Superior Court (34-2016-800002402)
 - C. Garden City, Inc. v. Eric Swallow, Sacramento County Superior Court (34-2016-00198132)
 - D. Lucky Chances, Inc. v. California Gambling Control Commission, Sacramento County Superior Court (34-2017-80002549)

- E. California Valley Miwok Tribe v. California Gambling Control Commission et al.; San Diego County Superior Court (37-2017-00050038-MU-CO-CTL)
- F. Yavapai-Apache Nation v. La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians and California Gambling Control Commission, Sacramento Superior Court (34-2018-00238711)
- G. Manuel Corrales, Jr. v. California Gambling Control Commission, San Diego County Superior Court (37-2019-00019079-CU-MC-CTL)
- H. Kris Kat, LLC and Steven C. Ayers v. California Gambling Control Commission, Sacramento County Superior Court (34-2019-80003142)
- I. Larry C. Flynt, et al., v. Kamala Harris, Jim Evans, et al.; United States District Court, Eastern District of California (16 CV 02831 JAM EFB)
- J. Lucky Chances, Inc., VC Cardroom, et al. v. State of California, California Gambling Control Commission, et al. San Francisco County Superior Court (CPF-20-517086)

II. Hearing Deliberations Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3):

- A. In the Matter of the Accusation and Statement of Issues Against Lucky Chances, Inc., Rommel Medina, Ruell Medina, (OAH No.201511046)
- B. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of Gambling Establishment Key Employee License for Linda To Parks, (CGCC-2020-0109-11H)
- C. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of Tribal Key Employee Finding of Suitability for Jarmaine Pascua, (GCADS-TRKE-017878)
- D. In the Matter of the Second Amended Accusation and Statement of Issues Against; Artichoke Joe's, dba Artichoke Joe's Casino; Sally Ann Johnson Family Trust; Helen Sammut Living Trust; Michael J. Sammut AJ Stock Trust; Karen A. Sammut; Dennis J. Sammut AJ Stock Trust; and Sally Johnson, (OAH No. 2020070204, BGC Case No. HQ 2017-00004AC)
- E. Consideration of Stipulated Settlement, Decision and Order: In the Matter of the Statement of Reasons for Denial of Application for Renewal of Key Employee License for Va Phong, (CGCC-2020-0312-9)
- F. In the Matter of the Application for Approval of State Gambling License for Outlaws 101 LLC, Thomas W. Bartlett, Member, John Wrona, Member, (CGCC-2020-0924-5B)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair LaBrie adjourned the Commission Meeting into Closed Session at approximately 10:45 am.