

**GAMING POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2023  
GAMING POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11133, the meeting was held by tele/videoconference and there was no location open to the public.

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**OPEN SESSION**

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Executive Director Stacey Luna Baxter called the April 18, 2023 meeting of the Gaming Policy Advisory Committee (GPAC) to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Introduction of New Members

Stacey introduced and welcomed the newly appointed members to GPAC. Stacey indicated that the new member are all stepping into their seats mid-term and will be finishing out those terms. The new members are:

Lisa Wardall for Category A, Bureau of Gambling Control Representative  
Micheal Koniski for Category D, Large Cardroom Representative  
Kirk Blackinton for Category E, Small Cardroom Representative

3. Roll Call of GPAC Members

Roll call of the Committee Members was taken. Kirk Blackinton, John Choo, David Fried, Linda Graves, Luis Jaramillo, Anita Johnson, Michael Koniski, Emmanuel Macalino and Lisa Wardall were present. Jieho Lee was absent.

4. Review and Approval of January 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Linda Graves moved to approve the January 30, 2023 meeting minutes. John Choo seconded the motion, which was approved by a roll call vote with John Choo, David Fried, Linda Graves, Luis Jaramillo, Anita Johnson and Emmanuel Macalino voting yes. Kirk Blackinton, Michael Koniski and Lisa Wardall abstained.

## 5. Gaming Policy Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities

### A. Review of GPAC Mission Statement:

*To provide advisory recommendations to the California Gambling Control Commission concerning matters of controlled gaming regulatory policy and other relevant gambling related issues, with special attention to guaranteeing the integrity of gambling operations and to deal effectively with problem gambling.*

Stacey read the current GPAC Mission Statement and asked the members if they would like to make any changes. There were no comments or concerns regarding the current GPAC Mission Statement.

### B. Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act

Commission Chief Counsel Jason Pope presented an overview of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, indicating that as an Advisory Committee the GPAC is a statutorily established state body subject to the Open Meeting Act. Stacey mentioned that the current statute that allows public meetings to be held on Zoom will expire on July 1, 2023. At that time there may be a possibility of some form of a hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting format that they may convert to using.

### C. Scope of GPAC Projects/Discussions

Stacey indicated that three items are outlined under Business and Professions Code section 19817 that define GPAC, which are: 1) to discuss matters concerning controlled gambling, regulatory policy and any other relevant gaming related issue, 2) any recommendations provided by GPAC are not binding on the Commission, and 3) GPAC may not advise the Commission on Indian gaming.

### D. Responsibilities and Commission expectations of GPAC Members

Stacey informed the GPAC members that they are appointed to their positions by the Commission and are expected to be active members in the meetings. Members in sub-committee projects are expected to work actively on their projects and be prepared to discuss the project with the members at GPAC meetings. Stacey suggested that sub-committee members provide to either her or Niecesha Williams any documentation that they wish to be distributed to GPAC early enough to allow time for sufficient review by members prior to a scheduled GPAC meeting.

## 6. Discussion of GPAC Member Term Limits

Stacey informed GPAC that the term for each GPAC member's seat is three years. A GPAC member may serve two consecutive terms per appointment. She also indicated that the newly appointed members are all coming in mid-term to their seats and they are all eligible to serve a second term.

## 7. Update and Discussion of Current Projects:

### A. Update on GPAC Outreach Project (Sub-Committee Member: Emmanuel Macalino)

Sub-Committee members Emmanuel Macalino and Linda Graves reported that they need a better understanding of the scope of discussion topics for the individual meetings with industry. Linda asked for a discussion guide of topics that can and should be discussed as well as items that are off-limits. Stacey indicated that she would resend the scope of past GPAC projects to them and to reach out to her if they need additional information. Emmanuel indicated that they hope to begin outreach by contacting two cardrooms and will report back to the GPAC at the next meeting. Linda reported that they have been doing some behind the scenes work to include using Zoom meetings for outreach.

### B. Cashless and Chipless Gaming Project (Sub-Committee Members: David Fried and Art Van Loon)

Following discussions from GPAC members it was decided to remove the Cashless and Chipless Gaming Project from GPAC's current project list.

## 8. Annual Fee Alternative Methodologies

- i. Overview of Responses Received
- ii. Next Steps.

Stacey provided an explanation of the agenda item indicating that the Commission was interested in soliciting the industry for alternative methodologies for the current annual fees and the industry was invited to submit alternatives. The Commission received three responses. One of responses provided alternative methodologies which the Commission is still in the process of reviewing. All three proposals will be posted on the Commission's website after the review has been completed. There will be a discussion on the proposals and the fee methodology at the next GPAC meeting.

## 9. Discussion of New Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Stacey indicated that she was going to add on the agenda for discussion at the next GPAC meeting what the Commission and industry can do to further assist applicants whom English is not their first language.

## 10. Next Meeting

Stacey indicated that Niecesha Williams will be contacting the members to coordinate the next GPAC meeting date, which will most likely be late June or early July.

11. Public Comment

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.