



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**GAMBLING COMMISSION**

**"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"**

**July Gambling Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**\*July 14 & 15, 2022**

**Commissioners Present:**

**Bud Sizemore**

**Julia Patterson (Via Teams)**

**Alicia Levy**

**Kristine Reeves (Via Teams)**

**Sarah Lawson (Via Teams)**

**Ex Officio Members Present:**

**Senator Steve Conway (Via Teams)**

**Representative Shelley Kloba (Via Teams)**

**Staff Present :**

Tina Griffin, Director; Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL); Suzanne Becker, Assistant Attorney General (AAG); Julie Anderson, Executive Assistant; Rashida Robbins, Administrative Assistant and Emilynn Henderson, Administrative Assistant

**Staff Present Virtual:**

Julie Lies, Tribal Liaison; Jess Lohse, Acting Rules Coordinator (RC); Tony Czar, Special Agent; Nicole Frazer, Administrative Assistant

**Chair Levy** called the virtual meeting to order at 9:32AM and mentioned that TVW would be livestreaming the meeting. Director Griffin called the roll to confirm a quorum.

There were 2 people in the audience and 43 people virtually.

**Tab 1**

**Consent Agenda**

*Commissioner Sizemore moved to approve the consent agenda as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

**Public Comment:**

Chair Levy asked for public comment. There was none.

**Tab 2**

**Presentation – Special Olympics Washington**

Tony Czar, Special Agent (SA) in the Regulation Unit presented the materials for this tab. He introduced the Special Olympics Washington (SOWA) 2022 Dream Adventure raffle and their staff. Mary Do, Chief Operating Officer (CFO) for Special Olympics Washington thanked the commission and gave a brief overview of the raffle. Commissioner Sizemore asked CFO Do to clarify why SOWA decided to not do a Dream House raffle this time. CFO Do said *"the enhanced raffle that would include the house, and that would normally take place in January, kickoff in January. We'd come back to you in probably a month or so here. Then this Dream Adventure raffle that would not include a house, there is no threshold for the second raffle. I think just to expand on some of the things that I had mentioned earlier, is really to be able to*

kind of build that base. It is a lower ticket price in comparison to what the house raffle was, which is \$150. The Dream Adventure raffle would be \$50. That will allow us to do a couple things, is to reach folks that may have not been able to participate in the house raffle and grow our participant base, which would, one, then again in domino, allow us to engage more folks into the mission.” **Commissioner Sizemore** asked a follow up question regarding generating revenue. **CFO Do** deferred this follow up questions to SOWA’s Vice President of Accounting and Administration(VPAA), Mark Sinay. **VPAA Sinay** explained that the Fall Dream raffle has a lower cost which could give generate a potential 20% higher return. **Commissioner Patterson** asked if the raffle was statewide and if there would be two raffles on the westside of the state and two raffles on the eastside of the state. **CFO Do** clarified that there would only be two raffles total and all tickets will be placed in the same bucket for the whole state and the drawings will occur at the Special Olympics Washington office in Seattle.

### **Public Comment**

**Chair Levy** asked for public comment. She also asked Julie Anderson if there were any emails and Nicole Frazer if there were any chats regarding this topic. There was no public comment.

*Commissioner Patterson moved to approve the Special Olympics Washington to conduct a Dream Adventures raffle as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Sizemore seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

### **Tab 3**

#### **Rule Petition to Amend**

Jess Lohse, Acting Rules Coordinator (ARC) presented the materials for this rule amendment.

**Petitioner Corey Lowell**, from Northshore Senior Center of Bothell is proposing to amend WAC 230-06-045, to allow an organization with multiple physical locations to operate bingo games under one license. The petitioner decided to withdraw his petition at this time.

### **Tab 4**

#### **Presentation - State Problem Gambling Program Update**

Roxane Waldron was not able to attend the meeting. The Commission will invite her to present at a future meeting.

### **Tab 5**

#### **Agency Request Legislation for 2023**

**Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL)** presented the materials for this tab. **ILL Oakes** presented ideas for agency request legislation based on staff and stakeholder feedback. This feedback also included tribal perspective. At the May meeting Commissioner Reeves asked staff to look at how other agencies hire a director. Staff replied to the similarities and differences and why the Gambling Commissioners are tasked with selecting and hiring a Director. Commissioner Sizemore asked Human Recourse Director Lisa Benavidez to write a Standard Operating Procedure manual so that the process to which the Commissioners just went through by hiring Director Griffin could be memorialized. She agreed. IIL Oakes spoke about Promotional Contest of Chance as a potential agency request.

**Representative Kloba** asked staff to elaborate on Promotional Contests of Chance with some examples. Staff agreed to provide an example at the August meeting.

**Commissioner Sizemore moved to approve Promotional Contests of Chance issue to be considered for Agency Request Legislation.**

**Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed. 5:0**

ILL Oakes discussed SB 5051 and highlighted the inconsistency in certification and training for, “Limited authority Washington Peace Officer”, as defined in RCW 10.93.020. The agency is interested in obtaining and maintaining certification that could be denied, suspended, or revoked by WSCJTC and be mandated to be trained by the WSCJTC.

**Commissioner Sizemore moved to elevate law enforcement certification and training proposal to the agency request legislation.**

**Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed. 5:0**

## **Tab 6**

### **Presentation – FY 23 Budget Proposal**

Krisinda Hansen, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) presented the material for this tab. CFO Hansen presented an update on the agencies fund balance and proposed changes to budget based on more accurate data. CFO Hansen explained the operating level and vacancies. She explained the personnel costs and salary increase that was effective July 1, 2022. Senator Conway asked if state salaries compare to private business and if that could be the challenges with hiring. Director Griffin explained that hiring is very challenging. She also expressed staffs concerns regarding the recent vaccination requirements and the agency potentially facing another staffing shortage. Senator Conway expressed concerns about being able to hire limited law enforcement officers.

**Director Griffin** explained that out of 60 commissioned positions, the agency is down 25%.

**Senator Conway** asked if the state recognizes the need and the challenges for the agency.

Director Griffin stated “*Our agents are exempt. So, with that, they are obviously not under a collective bargaining agreement, as other limited jurisdiction agencies are potentially. So, our agents are not afforded those additional pay opportunities that some of our counterparts received based on those collective bargaining agreements for retention and hiring.*” Also, the agency is a non-appropriated agency.

**Senator Conway** asked about the loan that was given to the agency from the state budget for sports betting . CFO Hansen explained that we paid back three million plus interest prior to June 30, 2022, leaving the agency with three million plus interest.

### **Public Comment**

**Chair Levy** asked for public comment. She also asked Julie Anderson if there were any emails and Nicole Frazer if there were any chats regarding this topic. There was no public comment.

**Commissioner Sizemore moved to approve the FY 23 amended budget as presented by staff.**

**Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed. 5:0**

Commissioners took a 30-minute lunch break

## **Tab 7**

### Defaults

**Adam Teal, Interim Legal Manager** presented the material for this tab.

- **Chair Levy** asked if Jeffrey Juangco, CR 2021-01639 was present or online. He was not.

### Public Comment

**Chair Levy** asked for public comment. She also asked Julie Anderson if there were any emails and Nicole Frazer if there were any chats regarding this topic. There was no public comment.

*Commissioner Patterson moved to revoke Jeffrey Juangco's public card room employee license; Number 68-35811 as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Sizemore seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

- **Chair Levy** asked if Thomas Luong, CR 2022-00183 was present or online. He was not.

### Public Comment

**Chair Levy** asked for public comment. She also asked Julie Anderson if there were any emails and Nicole Frazer if there were any chats regarding this topic. There was no public comment.

*Commissioner Sizemore moved to revoke Thomas Luong's public card room employee license; Number 68-056231 as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Lawson seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

- **Chair Levy** asked if Bunthon C. Chau, 2022-00304 was present or online. He was not.

### Public Comment

**Chair Levy** asked for public comment. She also asked Julie Anderson if there were any emails and Nicole Frazer if there were any chats regarding this topic. There was no public comment.

*Commissioner Lawson moved to revoke Buntho C. Chau's public card room employee license; Number 68-35918 as presented by staff.*

*Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed. 5:0*

**Chair Levy** reminded everyone that the August meeting would be at the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. She asked for any additional public comments. There were none.

Day one adjourned at 12:44 PM.

**July Gambling Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**\*July 15, 2022**

**Commissioners Present:**

Bud Sizemore (Present)  
Julia Patterson (Via Teams)  
Alicia Levy (Present)  
Kristine Reeves (Via Teams)  
Sarah Lawson (Via Teams)

**Ex Officios Present:**

Senator Steve Conway (Via Teams)  
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**Staff Present :**

Tina Griffin, Director; Tommy Oakes, Interim Legislative Liaison (ILL); Julie Anderson, Executive Assistant and Rashida Robbins, Administrative Assistant

**Staff Present Virtual:**

Julie Lies, Tribal Liaison; Suzanne Becker, Assistant Attorney General (AAG); Nicole Frazer, Administrative Assistant.

Chair Levy reconvened day two of the May Commission meeting at 9:37AM for and Director Griffin called the roll to confirm a quorum.

**Public Comment** was provided by Nanci Watson, private citizen addressed the Commissioners and stated, *“I just sent along to you as well, a written copy of the subject that I'm addressing and also some background material because what I wanted to comment on is the recent Supreme Court case regarding state jurisdiction over certain criminal matters in Indian country, or in most cases this would just mean on an Indian reservation where you would have state jurisdiction. And I have to admit I found this to be kind of electrifying because I'm involved in the Problem Gambling Task Force, and I know that when we think about reservations in Washington, we normally think of it only from the standpoint that the state has no jurisdiction. I mean, that's like the first thing you learn, and then you learn it every step of the way, and not only that but all the reasons why all the reasons why you could never trust state to have jurisdiction. It could only be the federal authorities that would have jurisdiction. Well in this recent Supreme Court case, which involved a criminal matter in Oklahoma. And if you guys are fans of reading the newspaper, I'm sure you've read about it. They have come to some amazing conclusions, and they even give us a little bit of a history lesson, and they talk about why it was in the early 1800s. That it was so important not to have states like Georgia getting involved on Indian reservations because the stuff that was going on in the early 1800s was, and I don't want to quote former President Trump, but it was wild. I'll just say that it was really wild what was going on. They say that at one point, State of Georgia sold to speculators, land speculators, three times as much acreage as they even had under their control. And this was land where tribes were settled, and it was an amazingly horrific situation. So, the Supreme Court has unbelievably gone all the way back through the history why this was such a big deal in the 1800s, and that how did it happen that our government decided that a reservation was actually part of a state and that the federal government and the state government had to take jurisdiction hand in hand and work cooperatively on problems of concern to each and how the tribes figured in. Anyway, I won't say*

*anything more, I feel like I'm publicizing a racy novel, but I'm telling you, these people on the Supreme Court have won my respect in a way that I find very surprising. Sometimes you hear decisions from the Supreme Court, and you might even think these people are dopes. I know you guys aren't so just courteous as I am, but reading this thing, I'm like, "Wow, these people are super, super smart." So that's all I wanted to say. I've passed along a copy of the decision and all their arguments. If anybody wants to read it, I think we're going to hear more about this in the future. That's my comment. Thank you for your time."*

**Chair Levy** announced that the Commissioners would be going into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss current and potential agency litigation with legal counsel, including tribal negotiations. This is anticipated to take three hours adjourning around 12:30 PM. The Commission will return to the public meeting for adjournment only.

Executive Session adjourned at 12:25 PM and the public meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.