



THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2026
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission

Matthew Blair, Chairman
James Brady
Janet Creighton (Via Teams)
Nita Gupta
Jonathan Hughes
Angela Mingo
Martin Sweeney

Ohio Lottery Commission Attendance (In-Person & Remote)

Nicole Kostura, Assistant Director, Office of Executive
Marilyn Berrios, Office of Executive
Nicholas Ciofani, Deputy Director, Office of Government & Community Relations
Charles Lopresti, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel
Dan Carter, Office of Legal Counsel
Martin Morrow, Deputy Director, Office of Product Innovation
Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director, Office of Marketing
Danielle Frizzi-Babb, Deputy Director, Office of Communications
Richard Perk, Deputy Director, Office of Sales
Ed Slyman, Deputy Director, Office of Finance
Greg Beyer, Deputy Director, Office of Internal Audit
Joan French, Office of Legal Counsel
Ian Litherland, Office of Legal
Simeonia Mays, Deputy Director, Office of Racino Operations
Marisol Halligan, Office of Product Innovation
Kenneth Dauenhauer, Office of Marketing
Percy Turner, Deputy Director, Office of General Services
Pam Strickland, Office of Product Innovation
Valerie Murphy, Office of Internal Audit
Terri Jones, Office of Marketing
Sandrell Wheeler, Office of Investigations & Security
Peter McGinty, Office of Internal Audit
Angela Close, Office of Sales
Brad Feightner, Office of Sales
Molly Fanta, Office of Marketing
Barry Hurst, Office of Sales
Sharisse Russell, Office of Racino Operations
Matt Clever, Office of Racino Operations
Richard Kline, Office of Sales
Rebecca McLemore, Office of Marketing

Jacqueline Cunningham, Office of Communications
Carla Reeves, Office of General Services

Additional Attendees

George Balajan, Intralot
Carla Kuchta, Intralot
Joseph Schmansky, AGO
Mark Basedow, Lotto.com Inc
Rhea Mejicanos, AGT
Saba Asgedom, Bet Mgm
Carly Ringlespaugh, Ice Miller
John Oberle, Ice Miller
Sarah Faust, Dickinson-Wright
Sarah O'Driscoll, The Shipyard
Tim Kelley, Penn Entertainment
Spenser Hickey, Hannah News
Debbie Pirone, Marcus Thomas
Emily Venditti, Marcus Thomas
Steve Ranere, IGT
Christine Hughes
614-721-4475

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Matthew Blair, called the meeting of the Ohio Lottery Commission to order at 12:00 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sweeney moved to approve the January 14, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gupta. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of four (4) Scratch-Off Games in Proposed and Final Form

Martin Morrow, Deputy Director of Product Innovation, presented four Scratch-Off Games in Proposed and Final Form.

- Lottery Operating Procedure 1088: Sapphire Blue 7's (\$1.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1089: Bonus Cash Wheel (\$5.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1090: Instant Jackpot (\$10.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1091: Millionaire Blowout (\$50.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve four (4) Scratch-Off games in Proposed and Final Form, with Commissioner Brady offering a second to the motion. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of one (1) New Administrative Game Rule in Proposed Form

Charles Lopresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented one New Administrative Game Rule in Proposed Form.

- 3770:1-9-988 - Ohio lottery commission game rule nine hundred eighty-eight

Chairman Blair moved to approve one (1) New Administrative Game Rule in Proposed Form. with Commissioner Mingo offering a second to the motion. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Resolution to Approve twenty (20) new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Game Themes

Charles Lopresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented a Resolution to approve twenty (20) VLT game themes.

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with twenty (20) VLT game themes with Commissioner Gupta offering a second to the Motion and the Motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

Office of Finance Report

Chief Fiscal Officer, Ed Slyman, provided the financial update for the month of January. The traditional lottery games sales for the month of January totaled \$339.9 million, down \$5.9 million or -1.7% compared to last January. Mr. Slyman noted that the sales were \$18.6 million below forecast, a shortfall of 5.2%. Daily Draw games generated \$61.1 million, down -0.5% year-over-year. Year-to-Date sales are up \$11.3 million, or -2.6%.

Mr. Slyman reported that Multistate Games totaled \$21.8 million in sales, up \$1.5 million or 7.2%. Quick Play sales were \$13.3 million, up 3.8% from the same time last year. Monitor game sales, which include Keno & Lucky One, were \$54.5 million, up approximately \$2 million, or 3.8%. Keno sales have increased by nearly \$16 million year-to-date, reflecting 6.3% growth compared to last year.

Scratch-Off game sales in January totaled \$183.6 million, down \$9.4 million or 4.8% compared to last year. Breaking that down by price point, the \$10 price point led with \$42.3 million in sales, representing 23% of total sales. The \$20 games followed with \$37.7 million, accounting for 20.5% of sales, and the \$5 games sold the highest number of tickets at 6.1 million, which made up 26% of all tickets sold for the month.

Total prize expense for the month of January was \$237.2 million, which is 69.8% of sales, higher than average. Pick 3 prize expense was close to 58% of sales. Scratch prize expense was 79.3% of sales, which is expected and normal due to redeemed tickets from the holidays.

January Video Lottery Terminal Revenue totaled \$112.1 million, with \$74.2 million paid to racinos as commissions and \$37.6 million retained by the lottery. Year-to-Date, VLT revenue is up \$33.9 million, or 4.3% compared to last year.

Lastly, CFO Slyman reported that operating expenses for the month of January were \$18 million, which is less than last year by 4.1%.

Director's Update

Assistant Director, Nicole Kostura, provided the update on behalf of Director Michelle Gillcrist. Assistant Director Kostura reported that the lottery's transfer to the Lottery Profit's Education Fund (LPEF) for the month of January was \$116.6 million. Assistant Director Kostura noted that this was \$2.7 million less than the budgeted commitment for the month, it was still \$8.1 million higher than last January. Year-to-Date, the lottery has transferred \$922.9 million to the LPEF, which is \$38.4 million the lottery's commitment and \$45.9 million more than last year.

Assistant Director Kostura updated the Commissioners on the allocation of lottery profits, highlighting a \$10 million initiative for school bus safety grants. The Department of Education and Workforce recently awarded these grants to 371 school districts and county boards of developmental disabilities statewide. Assistant Director Kostura is pleased to see lottery profits be used towards something tangible and to help make sure Ohio's school children are getting to and from school safely.

Assistant Director Kostura and Rick Perk, Deputy Director of Sales, along with the Commissioners and staff, recognized Brad Feightner's retirement in March after nearly 35 years of public service, including 15 years with the Ohio Lottery Sales Division, highlighting his contributions and impact on the organization.

Assistant Director Kostura invited Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director of Marketing, to provide an update on the support for the upcoming 'Millionaire for Life' multi-state draw game and the 'Set for Life' scratch-off family, detailing campaign elements, player engagement tactics, and differentiation from existing games.

Lastly, Assistant Director Kostura announced that next month is Responsible Gambling Awareness Month, with Jimmy Hicks, scheduled to present the new Ohio Lottery campaign 'Well Played Ohio' at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed Commissioners that the next meeting will be held on March 11, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. via teleconferencing and in person. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

p.p. Nicole Kostura 
Michelle Gillcrist
Director

p.p James Brady 
Matthew Blair
Commission Chair