THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 14, 2026
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission
Matthew Blair, Chairman
Caryn Candisky
Jonathan Hughes
James Mermis
Matthew Szollosi
Martin Sweeney
Janet Weir Creighton

Ohio Lottery Commission Attendance (In-Person & Remote)
Michelle Gillcrist, Director, Office of Executive
Nicole Kostura, Assistant Director, Office of Executive
Marilyn Berrios, Office of Executive
Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel
Ed Slyman, CFO, Office of Finance
Dan Carter, Deputy Director, Office of Legal Counsel
Martin Morrow, Deputy Director, Office of Product Innovation
Greg Beyer, Deputy Director, Office of Internal Audit
Richard Perk, Deputy Director, Office of Sales
Danielle Frizzi-Babb, Deputy Director, Office of Communications
Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director, Office of Marketing
Percy Turner, Deputy Director, Office of General Services
Marisol Halligan, Office of Product Innovation
Margaret Tomaro, Office of Legal Counsel
Jon Dillinger, Office of Executive
Barbara Stoffers, Office of Legal Counsel
Marni Santoro, Office of Legal Counsel
Simeonia Mays, Deputy Director, Office of Racino Operations
Tom Spayd, Office of Racino Operations
Angela Brdar, Office of Sales
Ken Dauenhauer, Office of Marketing
Richard Kline, Office of Sales
Pamela Strickland, Office of Product Innovation
Rebecca Mclemore, Office of Marketing
Carla Reeves, Office of General Services
Sandrell Wheeler, Office of Investigations & Security
Molly Fanta, Office of Marketing
Scott Pollick, Office of Sales
Valerie Murphy, Office of Internal Audit
Theresa Jones, Office of Marketing
Samantha Crites, Office of Internal Audit

Brent Collier, Office of Internal Audit

Additional Attendees
Sam Porter, Ice Miller
Scott Chapin, Marcus Thomas
Elizabeth Abate, Marcus Thomas
Matthew Becker, Penn Entertainment
Mark Basedow, Lotto.com
Jess Panora, Bet MGM
Crystalline Bryant, MGM Northfield
Andy Ashby, Jack Entertainment
Holly Guenther, Boyd Gaming
Gina Lawwill, Miami Valley Gaming
Robin Williams, Pollard Banknote
Judith Bird, Hannah News
Sarah O'Driscoll, Fahlgren
Jermel Carr, Intralot
Todd DeBoe, AGO
Joseph Schmansky, AGO
Saba Asgedom, Bet MGM
Samantha Alonso, MGM Northfield
Jeff Hale, Scientific Games
Michelle Simon, Scientific Games
Christine Hughes

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.

Commissioner Oath of Office

Chairman Blair welcomed new Commissioner, James Mermis, on his appointment by the Governor to the State Lottery Commission and congratulated Commissioner, Caryn Candisky, on her reappointment. Both Commissioners were sworn in by Chairman Blair.

Election of Vice Chairman

Chairman Blair presided over the meeting and called for the election for Vice Chairman to fill the vacant Vice Chair position. Chairman Blair nominated Martin Sweeney for the position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Creighton. There were no other nominations. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sweeney moved to approve the September 9, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Candisky. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Internal Audit Update

Audit Committee Member Sweeney provided an update on the September Audit Committee meeting. The item of note during the audit meeting included the review and approval of the Fiscal Year 2026 Internal Audit Annual Report. Commissioner Sweeney noted that the Internal Audit team completed nine different projects over the past year. The

results of the Merchandising audit were discussed and had four key objectives. First objective was to evaluate the current inventory management practices; Second, to determine if the Lottery utilized formalized metrics when procuring merchandise; Third, to determine if quarterly evaluations of Lottery contracts are being completed. The last objective was to evaluate user access to the Inflow application. The overall results of the audit conclusion were "Well Controlled with Improvements Needed." The Internal Audit team has continued to monitor the implementation progress of prior audit recommendations.

Appointment of Audit Committee Chair

Chairman Blair asked Commissioner, Caryn Candisky, to serve as Chair of the Internal Audit Committee. Commissioner Candisky agreed to assume the open Audit Committee Chair position.

Approval of six (6) Lottery Operating Procedures in Proposed and Final Form

Marisol Halligan, Scratch-Off Product Manager, presented six (6) Lottery Operating Procedures in Proposed and Final.

- Lottery Operating Procedure 1128: Cash Explosion® 40 ($1.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1129: Monopoly® ($1.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1130: Monopoly® ($2.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1131: Monopoly® ($5.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1132: Monopoly® ($10.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1133: Monopoly® ($20.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve six (6) Lottery Operating Procedures in Proposed and Final Form, with Commissioner Creighton on offering a second to the motion. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of one (1) Amended Administrative Rule in Proposed Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented one (1) Amended Administrative Rule in Proposed Form.

- 3770:2-8-01 - Definition, scope and purpose of the Ohio voluntary exclusion program

Chairman Blair moved to approve one (1) Amended Administrative Rule in Proposed Form with Commissioner Szollosi offering a second to the motion and the motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

Resolution to Approve forty (40) new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Game Themes

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented a Resolution to approve forty (40) VLT game themes.

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with forty (40) VLT game themes with Commissioner Sweeney 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 traditional Lottery games sales for the month of September totaled $335.1 million, which is $55.4 million or -14.2% lower than compared to the same period last year.

Daily draw games generated $61.4 million in sales, up approximately $1.6 million or 2.8%. compared to last year. Multi-state games sales were $21.4 million, a decline of $38 million or -64% from last year. Mr. Slyman noted that the significant negative variance was driven by the exceptionally large $1.8 billion Powerball jackpot that occurred in September 2025, creating an unusually high comparison point.

Keno sales were $54.4 million, a decrease of $9.6 million or -16% from last year. Quick Play sales totaled $13.4 million, an increase of $0.8 million or 6% over last year. Scratch-off sales for the month of September totaled $178.8 million, a decrease of $10 million, or -5.3%, compared to the same month last year.

Total prize expense for September was $224.2 million, representing 66.9% of sales. Mr. Slyman noted that lower-than-expected payouts for Pick 3 and Pick 5 helped offset higher payouts for Pick 4 and EZPLAY.

Lastly, Mr. Slyman provided a summary of the first quarter's performance. Mr. Slyman noted that in the first three months of the fiscal year total sales reached $1.06 billion, a decrease of $70.6 million, or -6.3%, compared to the same period last year. Total Draw Game sales are down $48.3 million, or -8.8%. Breaking it down by category: Daily Draw Games are down $4.8 million, or -2.5%, Multistate Games are down $31.5 million, or -26%, Monitor Games are down $10.4 million, -5.9%, and EZPlay Games are up $0.3 million, or 0.7%. Total Scratch-Off sales are down by $22.5 million, or -3.9%. VLT Gross Gaming Revenue for September was $119.5 million, an increase of $7.2 million, or 6.4%. Year-to-Date, VLT revenue has grown $20.3 million, or 5.6% year-over-year. Operating expenses for the year-to-date are $57.5 million, which is 1.6% lower than the first quarter of last year.

Director's Update

Director, Michelle Gillcrist, reported that the Lottery's transfer to the Lottery Profit's Education Fund (LPEF) for the month of September was approximately $115.7 million, this is $3.5 million less than our budgeted commitment for the month, and $10.5 million lower than last September. Fiscal Year-to-Date the Lottery has transferred $404 million to the LPEF. Director Gillcrist noted that this is $5.2 million below our commitment and $4.5 million behind last year.

Director Gillcrist recognized and thanked two retiring employees. Stephen Perry has served as Lottery Sales Representative in the Canton regional office (Region 7) since 1992 and Pam Burger has served as a Claims Representative in the Finance department, since 2016.

Director Gillcrist was pleased to report that the Lottery won a *Batchy* Advertising Award from the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries. The Lottery won for the Responsible Gambling Campaign, *WellPlayed Ohio,* in the Responsible Gambling Coordinated Communications category. Director Gillcrist credited the Lottery team and advertising partner, Hart, for their work on this campaign.

Director Gillcrist outlined the Lottery's first major gaming system upgrade in nearly two decades, including replacement of retailer equipment, staged kiosk deployment, training, and a planned system switch in late spring 2027. Director Gillcrist introduced Jeff Hale, General Manager, of the Scientific Games Facility in the Glenwillow area. Jeff Hale is leading this project and held a similar position in Maryland.

Lastly, Director Gillcrist reminded the Commission of the Combined Charitable Campaign throughout the state, with over 900 charities to choose from.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed the Commissioners that in observance of Veteran's Day, the meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Gillcrist
Director

Matthew Blair
Commission Chair