



THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 12, 2026
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission

Matthew Blair, Chairman
Caryn Candisky
Janet Creighton
Nita Gupta
Jonathan Hughes
Angela Mingo
Martin Sweeney

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
Danielle Frizzi-Babb, Deputy Director, Office of Communications
Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director, Office of Marketing
Richard Perk, Deputy Director, Office of Sales
Ray Durant, Deputy Director, Office of Investigations & Security
Piper Bruce, Intern, Office of Legal Counsel
Samantha Antczak, Intern, Office of Legal Counsel
Scott Pollick, Office of Sales
Jimmie Hicks, Deputy Director, Office of Responsible Gambling
Susan Diamond, Office of Responsible Gambling
Joan French, Office of Legal Counsel
Pam Strickland, Office of Product Innovation
Barbara Stoffers, Office of Legal Counsel
Marni Santoro, Office of Legal Counsel
Margaret Tomaro, 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
Peter McGinty, Office of Internal Audit
Sandrell Wheeler, Office of Investigations & Security
Brent Collier, Office of Internal Audit
Valerie Murphy, Office of Internal Audit

Rebecca McLemore, Office of Marketing
Molly Fanta, Office of Marketing
Samantha Crites, Office of Internal Audit
Carla Reeves, Office of General Services
Rod Tyree, Office of Investigations & Security

Additional Attendees

Ed Dick, Jack Entertainment
John Oberle, Ice Miller
Debbie Pirone, Marcus Thomas
Scott Chapin, Marcus Thomas
Elizabeth Abate, Marcus Thomas
Spenser Hickey, Hannah News
Joseph Schmansky, Ohio Attorney General
Sarah O'Driscoll, The Shipyard
Matthew Becker, Penn Entertainment
Mark Basedow, Lotto.com
Holly Guenther, Boyd Gaming
Jess Panora, Bet MGM
Crystalline Bryant, MGM Northfield
Sarah Faust, Dickinson Wright
Todd DeBoe, Ohio AGO
Robin Williams, Pollard Banknote
Josh Deutsch
Christine Hughes

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Creighton moved to approve the July 8, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sweeney. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of seven (7) Scratch-Off Games in Proposed and Final Form

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

- Lottery Operating Procedure 1119: *Luck of the Irish Tripler* (\$1.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1120: *Emerald Green* (\$2.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1121: *My Money Maker* (\$5.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1122: *Fantastic 10's* (\$10.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1123: *Monopoly® Own It All* (\$50.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1126: *Fun Starts Here* (\$0.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1127: *Triple Tripler* (\$1.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve seven (7) Scratch-Off games in Proposed and Final Form, with Commissioner Gupta offering a second to the motion. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of two (2) Amended Scratch-Off Game Rules in Proposed and Final Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented two Amended Scratch-Off Game Rules in Proposed and Final Form.

- Lottery Operating Procedure 1113: *2027 Multiplier* (\$2.00)
- Lottery Operating Procedure 1116: *100X the Win* (\$20.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve two (2) Amended Scratch-Off Game Rules in Proposed and Final Form with Commissioner Candisky offering a second to the Motion and the Motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

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

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

- 3770:2-3-06 Video lottery licenses; fines

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

Resolution to Approve fifty-seven (57) new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Game Themes

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented a Resolution to approve fifty-seven (57) VLT game themes.

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with fifty-seven (57) VLT game themes with Commissioner Creighton 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 July totaled \$356.4 million, which is \$1.6 million or -0.4% lower than compared to the same period last year. Draw-based games totaled \$169.5 million, \$6.3 million or 3.8% higher than last July. Pick 3, Pick 4, and Pick 5 generated \$61.7 million, a decrease of \$4.2 million or 6.4% year-over-year. Multistate games reached \$33.6 million, an increase of \$12.8 million or 61.6%, when compared to last FY. Keno and Lucky One sales were \$55.3 million, down \$0.6 million or -1%. QuickPlay sales totaled \$12.9 million, down \$1.1 million.

Scratch-off sales for the month of July totaled \$186.9 million, a decrease of \$7.8 million, or -4.0%, compared to the same month last year. July VLT gross revenue reached \$132 million, an increase of \$12.4 million or 10.4% compared to July of last year.

Lastly, total prize expense for July was \$235.1 million, representing 66% of total sales. Operating expenses for July were slightly lower than last FY and lower than forecasted.

Director's Update

Director, Michelle Gillcrist, reported that the Lottery's transfer to the Lottery Profit's Education Fund (LPEF) for the month of July was approximately \$126.5 million, which was \$10 million more than profits generated last year. Fiscal Year-to-Date the Lottery has transferred \$165.6 million to the LPEF. Director Gillcrist noted that the Lottery's LPEF commitment mandate for FY '2027 is approximately \$1.472 billion.

Director Gillcrist recognized and thanked an employee who is retiring on September 1, 2026. Tom Callahan has served as a Lottery Sales Representative in the Region 9 (Lorain) office since joining the Lottery on 3/22/2010. Tom Callahan and his Manager Brian Patterson joined the meeting via teams to share a few words.

Director Gillcrist updated the Chairman and Commissioners on ongoing gaming systems conversion efforts, including staff training on the new GEM Intelligence (GEMi) application and preview of new vending machines, with plans to showcase these to the Commissioners at a future meeting.

Director Gillcrist reported participation in the North American State and Provincial Lotteries conference, with several staff members presenting on marketing, fraud investigation, responsible gambling, and auditing. NASPL announced this year's recipients of the Powers Award. The Powers Award recognizes Lottery professionals who demonstrate exceptional drive, commitment, and integrity. Director Gillcrist was pleased to report that she was able to nominate and award Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director of Marketing, as one of this year's recipients.

Lastly, Director Gillcrist announced that Deputy Director Jimmy Hicks and Susan Diamond will give a presentation during Responsible Gambling month in September, as part of ongoing education efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed the Commissioners that the next meeting will be held on September 9, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. via teleconferencing and in person. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Gillcrist
Director



Matthew Blair
Commission Chair