



THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2026
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission

Matthew Blair, Chairman
James Brady, Vice Chair
Caryn Candisky
Nita Gupta
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
Ray Durant, Deputy Director, Office of Investigations & Security
Percy Turner, Deputy Director, Office of General Services
Marisol Halligan, Office of Product Innovation
Jimmie Hicks, Deputy Director, Office of Responsible Gambling
Jon Dillinger, Project Manager, Office of Executive
Susan Diamond, Office of Responsible Gambling
Joan French, Office of Legal Counsel
Barbara Stoffers, Office of Legal Counsel
Marni Santoro, Office of Legal Counsel
Simeonia Mays, Deputy Director, Office of Racino Operations
Mike Gonzalez, Deputy Director, Data Analytics
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
Carla Reeves, Office of General Services
Alex Snyder, Office of Executive
Scott Basom, Office of Investigations & Security
Barry Hurst, Office of Sales

Additional Attendees

Ed Dick, Jack Entertainment
Sam Porter, Ice Miller
Debbie Pirone, Marcus Thomas
Scott Chapin, Marcus Thomas
Elizabeth Abate, Marcus Thomas
Spenser Hickey, Hannah News
Matthew Becker, Penn Entertainment
Mark Basedow, Lotto.com
Jess Panora, Bet MGM
Crystalline Bryant, MGM Northfield
George Balajan, Intralot
Gina Lawwill, Miami Valley Gaming
Claire Hickman, Dickinson Wright
Emily Vendetti, Marcus Thomas
Kathleen Lenhardt, Penn National Gaming
Samantha Alonso, MGM Northfield
Jeff Hale, Scientific Games
Shanna Bray
Lori Blair

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 August 12, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gupta. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of one (1) No-Change Administrative Rule in Proposed and Final Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented one (1) No-Change Administrative Rule in Proposed and Final.

- 3770:3770:1-6-06 - Special lottery drawings or promotions

Chairman Blair moved to approve one (1) No-Change Administrative Rule in Proposed and Final Form, with Commissioner Brady on offering a second to the motion. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the other Commissioners present.

Approval of three (3) Amended Administrative Rules in Proposed and Final Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented three (3) Amended Administrative Rules in Proposed and Final Form.

- 3770:1-6-01 - Conduct of lottery games by the state lottery
- 3770:1-6-03 - Prices of lottery tickets (Rescission)
- 3770:1-6-07 - Public information (Rescission)

Chairman Blair moved to approve three (3) 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.

Resolution to Approve twenty-two (22) new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Game Themes

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented a Resolution to approve twenty-two (22) VLT game themes.

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with twenty-two (22) VLT game themes with Commissioner Brady 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 August totaled \$365.7 million, which is \$13.6 million or -3.6% lower than compared to the same period last year, and \$8.7 million below forecast. Draw-based games totaled \$173.1 million, \$8.9 million or -4.9% lower than the same month last year.

Daily draw games generated \$62 million in sales, down approximately \$2.3 million or 3.5%. Multi-state games sales were \$36.2 million, a decline of \$6.3 million or 14.9%. Mr. Slyman noted that Powerball reached over \$1 billion in August, it did not outperform a similar jackpot level from last year. Keno sales were \$55.8 million, down \$0.9 million or 1.6%. Quick Play sales totaled \$13.3 million, an increase of \$0.6 million or 5% over last year.

Scratch-off sales for the month of August totaled \$192.7 million, a decrease of \$4.7 million, or -2.4%, compared to the same month last year. The \$10 price point led all categories with \$50 million in sales, representing 26% of total scratch-off sales. The \$50 games followed with \$41.4 million, accounting for 21.5% of sales. VLT revenue for August was \$129 million, an increase of \$0.7 million or 0.5% over last year. Of this amount, \$85.4 million was distributed to the racinos as commissions, and \$43.2 million represented revenue for the Ohio Lottery.

Lastly, total prize expense for August was \$242.2 million, representing 65.6% of total sales. Pick 4 prize payouts were 65% of sales, while Pick 5 payouts were 86%. Scratch-off prize expense was 71.5%, which came in lower than normal and helped offset the higher prize expenses in other categories. Operating expenses were slightly higher than both last fiscal year and the current forecast.

Director's Update

Director, Michelle Gillcrist, reported that the Lottery's transfer to the Lottery Profit's Education Fund (LPEF) for the month of August was approximately \$122.6 million, which was \$5.8 million less than profits generated last year. Fiscal Year-to-Date the Lottery has transferred \$288.2 million to the LPEF. Director Gillcrist noted that the Lottery's LPEF commitment mandate for FY '2027 is approximately \$1.472 billion.

Director Gillcrist announced the kickoff of the Combined Charitable Campaign throughout the state, encouraging employees and commissioners to donate to over 900 local, regional, and international charitable organizations.

Lastly, Director Gillcrist informed the Commission that every September the Lottery joins the American Gaming Association and celebrate Responsible Gambling Education month. Director Gillcrist invited Deputy Director, Jimmie Hicks, to provide an update on responsible gambling education efforts, including the 'Wellplayed Ohio' campaign, research-based messaging, and the development of a player behavior index, with a focus on responsible play.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed the Commissioners that the next meeting will be held on October 14, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. via teleconferencing and in person. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Gillcrist
Director



Matthew Blair
Commission Chair