



THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2023
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission

Matthew Blair, Chairman
James Brady, Vice Chairman
Caryn Candisky
Nita Gupta
Jonathan Hughes
Angela Mingo (Absent)
Mark Rickel
Martin Sweeney
Matthew Szollosi

Ohio Lottery Commission Attendance (In-Person & Remote)

Michelle Gillcrist, Director
Nicole Kostura, Assistant Director
Terri Jones, Office of Marketing
Dan Carter, Acting Chief Legal Counsel
Meg Rasmussen, Office of Legal Counsel
Joan French, Office of Legal Counsel
Michael Gonzalez, Chief Data Analytics Officer
Raymond Durant, Deputy Director, Office of Investigations & Security
Rich Wheeler, Office of Investigations & Security
Mary Neidert – Febus, Office of Investigations & Security
Rod Tyree, Office of Investigations & Security
Mike McCoy, Office of Investigations & Security
Scott Basom, Office of Investigations & Security
Kevin Parker, Office of Investigations & Security
Alissa Mason, Office of Investigations & Security
Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director, Office of Marketing
Rebecca McLemore, Office of Marketing
Ron Fornaro, Scratch-Off Product Manager, Office of Product Innovation
Marty Morrow, Deputy Director, Product Innovation
Pam Strickland, Office of Product Innovation
Kenneth Finan, Office of Investigations & Security
Tim O’Linn, Office of Investigations & Security
Prescilla Benavides, Office of Investigations & Security
Pat Carlin, Office of Investigations & Security

Reginald Willis, Office of Investigations & Security
Percy Turner, Deputy Director, Office of General Services
Azra Gusic, Office of General Services
Scott Frost, Office of VLT Management
Jon Dillinger, Sports Gaming Operations Manager
Ian Litherland, Office of Sports Gaming
AJ Snyder, Office of Sports Gaming
Chelsea Heck, Office of Sports Gaming
Angela McCracken, Office of Sports Gaming
Susan Diamond, Office of Responsible Gambling
Rick Perk, Deputy Director, Office of Sales
Edward Slyman, Deputy Director, Office of Finance
Danielle Frizzi Babb, Deputy Director, Office of Communications
Simeonia Mays, Deputy Director, Office of VLT Operations
Thomas Spayd, Office of VLT Operations
Ricky Neal, Office of VLT Operations
Matthew Clever, Office of VLT Operations
Greg Beyer, Deputy Director, Office of Internal Audit
Samantha Crites, Office of Internal Audit
Brent Collier, Office of Internal Audit
Valerie Murphy, Office of Internal Audit
Joseph Volpi, Office of Internal Audit

Additional Attendees

Kathy Lenhardt, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley
Rob Swedinovich, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley
Ed Dick, Jack Entertainment
Gina Lawwill, Miami Valley Gaming
Nicholas Monti, MGM Northfield Park
Larry King, IGT
Colleen Rowan, IGT
Nora Larson, Recovery Resources
Kathleen Lenhart, Hollywood Gaming
Samantha Alonso, MGM Northfield Park
Jennifer Park, Aftermath
Claire Bennett, CJ Law Policy
Justin Remschneider, Boyd Gaming
Holly Guenther, Boyd Gaming
Jon Oberle, Ice Miller
Sam Porter, Ice Miller
Jess Panora
513-934-7196

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Blair called the meeting of the Ohio Lottery Commission to order at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held in-person at Hollywood Mahoning Valley and via teleconferencing.

Chairman Blair recognized and thanked the Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley General Manager, Rob Swedinovich, and his racino staff for hosting the meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chairman Blair requested approval of the minutes from the October 11, 2023, Commission meeting. Chairman Blair made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brady. The motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of Five (5) Scratch-Off Games in Proposed And Final Form

Ron Formaro, presented five (5) scratch-off games for approval:

- OLC Operating Procedure 839:
**839_ Game Rule, Triple Win (\$2.00)*
- OLC Operating Procedure 840:
**840_ Game Rule, Limited Edition (\$5.00)*
- OLC Operating Procedure 841
**841_ Game Rule, \$500,000 Extra Play (\$10.00)*
- OLC Operating Procedure 842:
**842_ Game Rule, Mega Multiplier (\$10.00)*
- OLC Operating Procedure 843:
**843_ Game Rule, \$2,000,000 Ultimate Cash (\$20.00)*

Chairman Blair moved to approve the five (5) scratch-off games, with Commissioner Gupta offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of Five (5) Scratch-Off Game Rules available for Recission presented in Proposed and Final Form.

- 3770:1-9-606 Game Rule Six Hundred Six, *Holiday Cash*
- 3770:1-9-680 Game Rule Six Hundred Eighty, *Holiday Lucky Times 10*
- 3770:1-9-749 Game Rule Seven Hundred Forty- Nine, *Holiday 50X The Money*
- 3770:1-9-750 Game Rule Seven Hundred Fifty, *\$1,000,000 Merry Multiplier*
- 3770:1-9-754 Game Rule Seven Hundred Fifty-Four, *Holiday Countdown (Gigantic)*

Chairman Blair moved to approve the five (5) scratch-off games for recission, with Commissioner Brady offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Resolution to Approve Video Lottery Terminal Game Themes

Acting Chief Legal Counsel Dan Carter presented a Resolution to approve twenty-four (24) Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) game themes for inclusion in the video lottery game theme library. Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution, with Commissioner Rickel offering a second to the Motion. The motion was approved.

Financial Report

Chief Fiscal Officer Ed Slyman provided the Commission with a financial update for the month of October. Total sales from traditional lottery games for the month were \$386 million, which was \$14.9 million, or 4.0 % higher increase over last October.

Mr. Slyman reported that Scratch-Off game sales for the month were \$9.2 million, or 5.2.% higher than last year. Powerball sales were \$45.0 million or \$9.3 million or 26% vs last October. Pick Games were up \$3.0 million or 4.9% as well. Mr. Slyman also reported that Keno was all down for the month compared to last fiscal year.

Turning to the Racinos, Mr. Slyman informed the Commission that Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR) from VLTs for the month was \$108.4 million, which was \$0.6 million less than last year. Lastly, Mr. Slyman reported the prize expense represented 65.3% of traditional sales, which is higher than normal expected payout.

Executive Director's Report

Chairman Blair asked Director Gillcrist to give the Director's report. Director Gillcrist reported that the Lottery's transfer to the Lottery Profits Education Fund (LPEF) for the month of October was \$126.2 million. This transfer was \$7.6 million more than our budgeted commitment for the month and \$4.9 million more than last October.

Director Gillcrist reported that the Lottery donated 2,845 pounds of food to the Toledo Food Bank, derived from annual Cash Explosion Facing Hunger campaign. Ms. Gillcrist stated that this campaign allows contestants and their families to donate non-perishable food when they come to a show taping.

Additionally, Director Gillcrist informed the Commission that the Lottery won a Batchy Advertising award from the North American Association of State & Provincial Lotteries (NASPL) in the "Responsible Gambling Communications Television" category. This award was for the Lottery's recent responsible gambling holiday ad "Back in the Day" that reminds players that while lottery tickets make great gifts, they are not for kids.

Director Gillcrist then introduced Raymond Durant, Deputy Director of Investigations & Security. Deputy Director Durant introduced the members of both his traditional lottery and racino investigator team and provided an update on the operations of the Lottery's Investigations & Security department.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed Commissioners that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. via teleconferencing and in person and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Gillcrist
Director



Matthew Blair
Commission Chair