

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE

TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

BINGO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 12, 2023

10:00 a.m.

AT

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE OFFICE BUILDING
1700 N. Congress Avenue, Room 170
Austin, Texas 78701

Proceedings reported by electronic sound recording;
transcript prepared by Verbatim Reporting & Transcription
LLC.

1 APPEARANCES

2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

3 William T. Smith III (Trace), Chairman

4 Emile Bourgoyne

5 Jason Pohl

6 Michael Anastasio

7 Melodye Green

8 Stacie Johnston

9 Corey Harris

10 Tommy Duncan Jr.

11 Veronica Uriegas

12 COMMISSION STAFF:

13 LaDonna Castañuela, Director of Charitable Bingo Operations

14 Tyler Vance, Assistant General Counsel

15 PUBLIC:

16 Tom Stewart, Texas Charity Advocates

17 Ronnie Baker, Roy Bingo Supplies

18 Floyd Olive

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P R O C E E D I N G S

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 (10:00 a.m.)

AGENDA ITEM 1

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Today's December 12th, it is 10:01 a.m. and we'll call the Bingo Advisory Committee meeting at the Texas Lottery Commission. We'll start off this morning with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US and the Texas flags. And if you'll please rise, place your hand over your heart.

(Pledges recited)

AGENDA ITEM 2

CHAIRMAN SMITH: And we'll start off with roll call. Jason Pohl.

MR. POHL: Here.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Tommy Duncan.

MR. DUNCAN: Here.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Veronica.

MS. URIEGAS: Here.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Melodye.

MS. GREEN: Here.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Stacie.

MS. JOHNSTON: Here.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Corey, are you on?

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I see him, yes.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

1 MR. HARRIS: Me? Yes. Here.

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Gotcha.

3 MR. HARRIS: Sorry. Couldn't hear if you
4 called me or not.

5 CHAIRMAN SMITH: There we go. And Emile.

6 MR. BOURGOYNE: I'm here.

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. And Michael, did
8 you make it on?

9 MS. CASTAÑUELA: I don't see Michael.

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Michael had some
11 difficulties this morning trying to dial in, so, he may or
12 may not buzz in a little bit later. Okay. We do have a
13 quorum present.

14 AGENDA ITEM 3

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Moving on to item number 3,
16 meeting minutes from October 11th, 2023 meeting. Any public
17 comment on those? Those were posted on the website. No?
18 Any other comments?

19 MR. BOURGOYNE: I move waiving reading of the
20 minutes and to approve them.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you, Emile. We have a
22 motion to accept the meeting minutes as posted on the
23 website.

24 MR. DUNCAN: Second.

25 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Tommy, we have second. All

1 in favor?

2 (Chorus of "ayes")

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Any opposed?

4 (No responses)

5 CHAIRMAN SMITH: All in favor, none opposed.

6 Meeting minutes are accepted.

7 AGENDA ITEM 4

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Moving on to item number 4,
9 update on public comment for rules package discussed at the
10 October 11th meeting. We'll open this up to public comment
11 at this time. If none, LaDonna, do you have any updates on
12 the rules review -- or the public comment package that we've
13 got to submit to the commissioners tomorrow?

14 MS. CASTAÑUELA: So that was the -- is my mic
15 on?

16 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes.

17 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Okay. So that was the
18 legislative implementation package, and I understand there
19 were no comments received. So it'll be up for the Commission
20 meeting tomorrow for adoption.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. And the BAC voted
22 to endorse that rule package at the last meeting, so we'll do
23 that again at the meeting on Thursday. Any other comments on
24 item number four?

25 //

1 AGENDA ITEM 5

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: All right. Moving on to item
3 number 5, Sunset update. Any public comment from anyone? We
4 do have some Sunset members here today. If there's anything
5 y'all would like to comment. If not, we'll move on. Nope.
6 Okay.

7 All right. Excellent. LaDonna, does staff
8 have anything on that?

9 MS. CASTAÑUELA: We're trudging along on a
10 number of requests and we've had a number of meetings
11 including, we did visit a bingo hall here in Austin in
12 October. And that's it.

CHAIRMAN SMITH:
13 Excellent. Any other comment? Excellent.

14 AGENDA ITEM 6

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Moving on to item number 6,
16 rules review update. Every so often we have to go through
17 the rule review process and we go through all the rules in
18 the Bingo Enabling Act. I think most of the BAC members
19 should have gotten a full binder of rules to start reviewing,
20 but we haven't actually formally started that process for us
21 to go through the rules. We're ready to do that whenever
22 staff's ready to include us on that.

23 MR. VANCE: This is Tyler Vance, Assistant
24 General Counsel. We don't have a defined schedule on it
25 right now, but -- so it was published in October, so it would

1 need to be closed by April. And what we did last time was we
2 passed around a copy of all the rules. I think you guys
3 formed a committee on this, a subcommittee. And then we met
4 separately. It wasn't a BAC meeting. I think it was open to
5 the public, but it was really just the committee members and
6 myself and the industry attorneys. And we just hashed it
7 out. We went line by line through every rule. I provided
8 staff's comments. There were certain things that we wanted
9 changed, and then you guys provided your input. I revised
10 it, sent it back. There's a little bit of back and forth,
11 but it mainly -- most of it took place in a single meeting
12 that we had, it was a long one, in the old building upstairs
13 with the rules committee members. So I would recommend that
14 you guys do that again.

15 I think that worked really well where you
16 appoint some kind of rules committee and it -- last time it
17 did involve the Steves and Kim Kiplin and so it doesn't have
18 to be just BAC members. You can appoint anybody you want.
19 And then we'll work with that committee. And then at the end
20 of that process, the rules review was adopted without changes
21 in April, and then at the next meeting in June, we came with
22 all the proposed changes.

23 And I think that worked well last time. So I
24 suspect we'll do a similar process this time, so we'll let --
25 you know, we'll go back and forth with you guys with this

1 committee, the BAC will vote to approve or recommend or not
2 whatever final changes we have, then the rule review process
3 will be closed without any changes. And then at the next
4 meeting we'll bring in all the proposed amendments that came
5 out of the rule review.

6 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. And when did you say
7 that the -- it should be completed by?

8 MR. VANCE: I believe April. It's six months
9 from October. Yeah. We should look at this -- last time I
10 think we knocked it out and it was like February or March.

11 MR. DUNCAN: It was.

12 MR. VANCE: I started circulating things at
13 the beginning of the new year, and then we had that meeting,
14 that special meeting was in, I think the end of February,
15 right before a commission meeting.

16 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. I know that the -- go
17 ahead, Tommy.

18 MR. DUNCAN: It worked well.

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes.

20 MR. DUNCAN: Yeah.

21 MR. VANCE: Yeah, I think one -- one thing
22 I'll say now that we don't have our own building, I don't --
23 might want to schedule this out further in advance so we can
24 get a room for this committee meeting. I'm not sure what the
25 availability is since it's not our own room that we can just

1 go to whenever we want anymore.

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Does it have to be in this
3 room?

4 MR. VANCE: I don't think so because it's not
5 going to be a BAC meeting, it's not an official BAC meeting,
6 so it can be held anywhere.

7 MS. CASTAÑUELA: It can be a conference room.

8 MR. VANCE: Yeah, we can have it in any
9 conference room. You might want to tack it on to, you know,
10 the next BAC meeting, Commission meeting, you know, so that
11 everyone's here anyway. Do it the day before or the day
12 after, depending on what the schedule is. Maybe not the -- I
13 think the next one's in early February. So we might -- we
14 could try it in early February or try something in March,
15 give it an extra month. Maybe we could meet in February and
16 do the preliminary stuff, and then have a -- one of those
17 special meetings in March to wrap it all up before the
18 Commission meeting.

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. I know that several of
20 the -- and this will tie in later with a brief presentation
21 by Tom Stewart. There have been a -- three major interest
22 groups in the bingo industry have had meetings all over the
23 state collecting information in regards to the rule review.
24 They've done this on their own time, so there's some
25 information that we'll need to gather from those groups as

1 well. So -- yeah. So do we want to --

2 MR. DUNCAN: Let's form the committee.

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah, that's what I was going
4 to say, if we want to do the committee on that. Obviously,
5 if you've got a recommendation, start --

6 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Trace --

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. CASTAÑUELA: I just want to let you know
9 that the next BAC meeting is scheduled for January 31st
10 because the Commission meeting is scheduled for February 1st.

11 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Okay. Excellent.
12 Okay. Anybody got any recommendations on that?

13 MR. DUNCAN: Well, this is Tommy Duncan. Last
14 time it was myself, Melodye, it was Emile. He won't
15 obviously be at that one. I believe it was Kim Kiplin. I
16 believe Fenoglio was there.

17 MS. GREEN: Steve was there, yeah.

18 MR. DUNCAN: So I mean, I'd like to be on it.
19 I don't know about Melodye.

20 MS. GREEN: Yes.

21 MR. DUNCAN: Okay. And you know, there's
22 really -- and Veronica?

23 MS. URIEGAS: I would do it. Add me to the
24 list.

25 MR. DUNCAN: We can all do it. Yeah.

1 MR. POHL: Yeah, let's add all to the list.

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah. Okay.

3 MS. URIEGAS: Stacie says yes as well.

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. I would definitely be
5 interested in that as well. Is there any one online that
6 would want to do that? Be part of the rule review, going
7 line by line about all the rules? Nope. Don't blame you.

8 Tom Stewart, would you like to be a part of
9 that or would you like to -- I know you've got some info
10 later that you're going to present on that kind of stuff, so.
11 Okay. Anybody else interested in being a part of the rule
12 review process?

13 MR. BAKER: Ronnie Baker, Roy Bingo Supplies.

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Anyone else?

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You might want to repeat
16 that name for the record.

17 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Ronnie Baker wanted to be on
18 the rule review committee for the --

19 MR. DUNCAN: Rules review.

20 MS. URIEGAS: Rules review.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Rule review, thank you.

22 MS. URIEGAS: There's a young lady on the back
23 left as well.

24 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes. Ann with Texas -- Texas
25 for Charitable Bingo. Good addition. Okay. So, so far we

1 have Tommy, Melodye, Steve Fenoglio, Steve Bresnen, Kim
2 Kiplin, Veronica, Stacie, Ronnie, Ann, and I.

3 Anyone else interested?

4 MR. POHL: Add me in.

5 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Jason. All right. Okay.

6 MR. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman?

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, sir.

8 MR. HARRIS: Do you have enough members for
9 that?

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: We do, sir.

11 MR. HARRIS: Okay. Okay.

12 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah, this is good. This
13 would be an in person, very long, drawn out type situation.

14 All right. So we have our rules committee for
15 rule review. Any other comment on the rule review update?

16 MS. URIEGAS: Do we want to do that the day
17 before? Set the date?

18 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Let's -- there's several of
19 the people that we've voluntold to be on this committee, so
20 let's send out some emails and see.

21 MS. URIEGAS: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN SMITH: But that would be probably
23 what I would --

24 MS. URIEGAS: Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN SMITH: -- think would happen, but

1 let's, you know, get everybody's schedule together. But yes,
2 I would assume that we would probably do that the day before
3 if it's conducive to Tyler's schedule and LaDonna's as well.
4 But maybe before, day before the January 31st BAC meeting.

5 MR. DUNCAN: Trace, we should probably meet on
6 our own before and because staff's going to have theirs, and
7 get all our ducks in a row for that long day.

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes. I agree with that. I
9 agree.

10 MR. DUNCAN: I mean, I agree with Tyler. If
11 we do it sometime mid to end of February with the staff and
12 he'll have it ready by April at that point, I'm sure.

13 MR. VANCE: Yeah, I think that's the goal. So
14 in April we have to close the rule review process. And so we
15 would like to have all this knocked out when we do that so
16 that we can say, okay, we're closing the rule review process,
17 but, you know, staff and BAC and industry have collaborated
18 and we've reached some conclusions for the next step. And
19 then we propose that in June.

20 MR. DUNCAN: We did it in two meetings last
21 time, once with us and --

22 MR. VANCE: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. Okay. We can do
24 that. Let's -- we'll get everybody on an email chain and get
25 everything settled out. Maybe a conference call, a Teams

1 meeting, whatever you call it. But yeah, and I appreciate
2 the insight on that as well, Tommy. Okay. Moving on -- any
3 other discussion on that real quick?

4 AGENDA ITEM 7

5 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Moving on to item number 7,
6 Emile Bourgoyne. Emile, before I give you the floor for a
7 moment to speak I just want to say what a valuable asset you
8 have been to the Bingo Advisory Committee over the years.
9 Your knowledge and your expertise have overwhelmed us at
10 times and we've had to play catch up over the years. But we
11 appreciate you and we are definitely going to miss you. Even
12 though you'll still be technically on the committee until the
13 end of December, this is our last meeting for this year, but
14 we love you and we wish you the best of luck in your future
15 endeavors. And the floor is yours, sir.

16 MR. BOURGOYNE: Well, I'm very sorry I
17 couldn't be here today in person, but, things just didn't
18 work out on my end. It's been an honor and a privilege to
19 serve on this committee, and I've had the blessings of both
20 my bosses, Phil Glassman at Gamco and later the Pollards, to
21 allow me to be on this committee and represent all
22 manufacturers, not just the one that I work for. And that's,
23 I would hope that my predecessor, whoever follows me, has the
24 same latitude to do that. And it's been fun.

25 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Well, thank you, Emile.

1 Anybody else want to -- have anything to add on that? No.
2 Well, Emile, we certainly appreciate you. We hope you don't
3 turn into a stranger. We hope that when we do get in a bind
4 later down the road, I'm sure we will, that we're able to
5 reach out and bother you from time to time with a phone call.

6 MR. BOURGOYNE: If I can help, I'll be here.

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: We appreciate it, Emile.

8 Thank you so much, sir. Any public comment. Okay.

9 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Trace?

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, ma'am.

11 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Just want to let you know, it
12 looks like Michael Anastasio is online. Looks like he's with
13 us.

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Excellent. Glad
15 you're with us, Michael.

16 AGENDA ITEM 8

17 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Moving on. Item
18 number 8, new Bingo Advisory Committee member selection. We
19 have had four applications. I sent you all the first one I
20 thought was legitimate. The other two, they were not
21 manufacturers, they were just operators. And we are looking
22 for a manufacturer to fill the manufacturer position. So we
23 did wind up getting two applications for the -- two approved
24 applications for the manufacturer position. The first one
25 was Larry Segebarth. I don't know if y'all remember looking

1 at his application. And the second one was Floyd Olive.
2 Which many of y'all know both of those gentlemen. I do not
3 have Larry's, it's not pulling up. I can't bring up Larry's
4 application right now. But at this time I'd like to invite
5 those two applicants to come up and give a brief talk about
6 theirself or kind of tell us what what they envision
7 themselves doing. Although we have their applications
8 already.

9 MR. DUNCAN: I believe there's only one.

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: We'll just -- yeah, okay. So
11 Larry's not here today. Floyd, if you wouldn't mind coming
12 up and giving us a brief description of what you do, how you
13 do it, and how long you've been in the industry. Right
14 there, sir.

15 MR. OLIVE: Yes, my name's Floyd Olive. I
16 started working in a bingo hall back in '86 selling paper,
17 selling pull-tabs. Worked my way up to working in the cage
18 and ultimately the pull-tab manager at (indiscernible) --
19 this is going to sound bad, but Choctaw bingo. I know this
20 is a sore spot with a lot of Texas charitable organizations,
21 because they do take a lot of business from Texas.

22 From there I started working with
23 (indiscernible) King, which turned into Video King, which is
24 now F3. So all totaled in the bingo industry I've been
25 around for about 37 years. I've worked all throughout the

1 United States and outside in military organizations with
2 bingo. I've seen a lot of different programs. I've seen a
3 lot of stuff that worked, a lot of things that didn't. I'd
4 like the opportunity to bring some of that knowledge to the
5 charitable organizations.

6 I know that Everi is fully committed to the
7 charitable organizations in Texas, and not just Everi, but
8 all manufacturers I feel are deeply involved with the
9 organizations and would really relish the opportunity to
10 help.

11 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you very much. And
12 what products does Everi do? Is it mostly just video or is
13 it paper, tabs, everything or?

14 MR. OLIVE: Electronics.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Electronics.

16 MR. OLIVE: Electronics. Yeah, we do not have
17 currently any of the paper or pull-tabs.

18 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Tommy, like to add
19 anything?

20 MR. DUNCAN: He knows everybody. He knows all
21 the manufacturers. He's easy to work with.

22 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Excellent. Any other
23 comment? Okay. We've got two applications. One's Larry
24 Segabarth. Larry's not here today. And we've got Floyd's.
25 So we kind of, normally we have more applications than this

1 for an open seat. Someone earlier suggested do we reopen
2 this or do we vote with the ones we have now? I'm okay with
3 voting with what we have now, if everyone else is, but if
4 anybody really wants to open this up for more applications, I
5 don't want to stifle anything at all, but I'm okay with
6 voting now if anybody wants to make --

7 MR. DUNCAN: That's how we picked our last
8 member; they were here.

9 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, I agree with you. Do we
10 have a motion on the floor?

11 MS. URIEGAS: Motion -- go ahead, Tommy.

12 MR. DUNCAN: No, you go ahead.

13 MS. URIEGAS: I make a motion we go ahead and
14 vote.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Excellent. All right.
16 We're going to go ahead and take a vote. All in favor for
17 Larry Segebarth.

18 (No responses)

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: All in favor for Floyd Olive.

20 (Chorus of "ayes")

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I believe the ayes have it.
22 So, Floyd, congratulations and my condolences. Floyd Olive
23 has been voted by the BAC to be the next manufacturers'
24 representative. Of course, we all know that the
25 commissioners have to approve that, and we'll present that to

1 them tomorrow. So hopefully they will confirm your
2 confirmation. Thank you, Floyd.

3 MR. OLIVE: Thanks, everyone.

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Appreciate it.

5 MS. GREEN: I have one question for Floyd. Is
6 Choctaw going to open bingo again?

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I can confirm they already
8 have.

9 MS. GREEN: They have?

10 MR. OLIVE: They're playing once a week in
11 their bar, kind of calling out bingo. But there is a lot of
12 talk about them reopening three to four days a week; on the
13 weekend and maybe one day during the week.

14 MS. GREEN: Of course. Okay.

15 MR. OLIVE: But I haven't heard anything other
16 than they were supposed to do that.

17 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. Thank you, Floyd.
18 All right. Well, that was easy. Okay, moving on.

19 AGENDA ITEM 9

20 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Item number 9, old business.
21 Open that up for public comment. No public comment. Okay.
22 Any other comments? Old business.

23 AGENDA ITEM 10

24 CHAIRMAN SMITH: All right. New business. We
25 do have -- Tom Stewart wants to talk about -- under new

1 business -- the industry meetings that were taking place all
2 over the state. There was three meetings; Dallas, Houston,
3 and --

MR. STEWART: Don't take all my --

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Don't take all your words?

5 MS. CASTAÑUELA: San Antonio.

6 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Oh, San Antonio. That's
7 right. But anyway, Tom Stewart with Texas Charity Advocates.

8 MR. STEWART: Thank you. For the record, Tom
9 Stewart, Executive Director of Texas Charity Advocates. And
10 before I go too much further, I'd just add my thanks to Emile
11 and his support. The charitable bingo community here in
12 Texas and particularly TCA wish you well in your dotage,
13 Emile, hope you have a good time.

14 MR. BOURGOYNE: Thank you, Tom.

15 MR. STEWART: And appreciate Floyd too for his
16 service and look forward to working with him as part of the
17 BAC.

18 As Trace mentioned, we had three bingo
19 community meetings over the last couple of months. They were
20 designed to do a couple of things. One, to help educate the
21 various members. They were hosted by Texas Charity
22 Advocates, the Bingo Interest Group, and Texans for
23 Charitable Bingo. Had one in Dallas, roughly 40 folks there;
24 one in San Antonio, roughly 40 folks there; and then we had
25 50 plus in the Houston area.

1 So we wanted to educate folks on the Sunset
2 process. It's been a while since we've been through this
3 process, so it was a good reminder for those who had been
4 through it before, but also an opportunity to educate folks
5 who hadn't been through this process before. And we also
6 wanted to give them a heads up on the rules review so that
7 they can be thinking about that -- that process as well when
8 we get into it in the early part of the year.

9 We also wanted to elicit feedback from the
10 community as we go through the Sunset process or things that
11 we might communicate to the Sunset staff. And broadly
12 speaking, there were about five big buckets that came out of
13 those meetings: administrative oversight; illegal gaming;
14 promotion of the game; improving the customer experience; and
15 then lastly, casino gaming, most broadly speaking were the
16 five issues that came up out of those meetings. And then we
17 tried to get into some in-depth discussion and some
18 specificity as to what the community might want to see done,
19 if possible, through the Sunset process or through standalone
20 legislation going into the next legislative session.

21 The types of things that -- that kind of came
22 up a little bit more specific under those different buckets;
23 penalty issue -- under the administrative oversight --
24 penalty issues, the understanding of the game by staff and
25 potential training opportunities there, IT issues, and the

1 usability of the various portals.

2 Under illegal gaming, we tried to come up with
3 a fairly comprehensive list of the types of illegal gaming
4 that we see, whether it's Facebook, illegal eight liners,
5 purse bingo, those types of things. And then possible ways
6 that that might be addresse.

7 Promotion of the game. We all know attendance
8 continues to be probably the biggest heartburn issue that the
9 community faces. I don't know where we'll end up this year,
10 but it's very likely that for the first time we'll have under
11 10 million in attendance. And that's down from I think, the
12 peak that that I would call the peak being somewhere around
13 18 million, 17 to 18 million in 2007-2008 time period. So
14 how -- what can we do to enhance and promote the game,
15 improving the customer experience. It kind of falls back to
16 the what are the tools in the toolkit.

17 We've got some good tools this last
18 legislative session in terms of eliminating the game cap and
19 increasing the session cap. What can we add to the toolkit
20 that conductors and operators have to attract more customers
21 to the game?

22 And then lastly, although it probably doesn't
23 fall under the purview of Sunset, there was broad discussion
24 about casino gaming and the possibility, and of course, with
25 the sale of the Mavericks to the Sands folks, there's been a

1 lot of discussion around that, and you've seen lots of
2 stories, particularly in the DFW area. But there was
3 discussion about what sort of posture that the charitable
4 bingo would be going forward in those issues.

5 So it's a broad overview, it was a good
6 discussion, it's an opportunity for us to get feedback from
7 the community as we prepare to sit down with Sunset staff and
8 talk about the agency and its role in regulating the game.

9 So I'm happy to answer any questions or
10 address any issues that I might have missed or that you want.
11 Yes, ma'am.

12 MS. GREEN: And just to, you know, I am from
13 DFW, so, the Mark Cuban sale; he had said, I mean, quote,
14 I'll never sell the Mavericks except to the Sands Resorts in
15 Las Vegas in order to get -- remove the Mavericks for a new
16 arena, new casino, and a new resort. And now they've bought
17 the land where Texas Stadium used to be. Very big, very big
18 piece of land.

19 So, this is very serious. I -- and she's got
20 \$35-billion left. She could buy everybody in the legislature
21 -- not buy them. She could donate generously. And I could
22 see them saying, well, let the people decide.

23 So as of right now, we probably have seven
24 years left to go as we know it in those large areas. And
25 it's going to be very important what the rules committee and

1 the Sunset do, because, you know, as you know, bingo's never
2 been run as a business. We're told how much we have to have,
3 how much we have to give away, who we have to buy from and
4 now it's basically a monopoly. You know, we're told how to
5 run our business exactly.

6 So, I think we have seven years to try to keep
7 going and make this work. Because if not, that 10 -- that --
8 the 10 million you're talking about, that's going to be in
9 just the small cities.

10 MR. STEWART: Look like the good old days.

11 MS. GREEN: Well, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio
12 will all be dead to the casinos. So anyway, it's very real.

13 MR. STEWART: Yes.

14 MS. GREEN: It's very real, so --

15 MR. STEWART: Absolutely.

16 CHAIRMAN SMITH: And I'm sure we'll get into
17 more specifics of that, but you're absolutely right. I think
18 the (indiscernible) was 75 miles, if I'm not mistaken, right,
19 Tom?

MR. STEWART: The what?

20 CHAIRMAN SMITH: If a bingo hall's within 75
21 miles of a casino, they just forget them.

22 MR. STEWART: Yeah, one -- one of the things
23 that we heard in these meetings that, you know, the -- where
24 casino gaming comes -- well, I can't even remember now, but
25 it was something like lose up to, you know, half within that

1 75 mile radius, you lose about half of your business and
2 participation in the game. It bounces back a little bit in
3 the second and the third year, but you don't get it all back.

4 MS. GREEN: No. We're losing a huge number of
5 our people now just to Choctaw and WinStar.

6 MR. STEWART: Right.

7 MS. GREEN: Which are an hour from us. The
8 traffic is bad in Dallas, it takes you an hour just to drive
9 to the bingo hall, or you can go straight up to WinStar and
10 Choctaw. So, we're losing, it -- it -- this is really hard,
11 this is really rough. So we're just trying to hold on.

12 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Tom, thank you. Any other
13 questions for Tom?

14 MR. STEWART: Thanks.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Tom, thank you. Any other
16 comments on the meetings that we had? Excellent.

17 I do just want to thank Commissioner Fields
18 for being here. I see -- I finally see you around the
19 computer there, so we do appreciate your attendance on these
20 meetings. It really means a lot to us that you take the time
21 out of your schedule and come visit with us and check in on
22 us. We appreciate that very much. Thank you.

23 All right. No other new business?

24 AGENDA ITEM 11

25 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Let's go to item 11.

1 Setting the date for the next meeting. I think that's
2 already been set. Let's see.

3 MS. CASTAÑUELA: January 31st.

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: January 31st, all right. Go
5 ahead and mark your calendars for that.

6 MS. GREEN: Are you going to email us about
7 the rules?

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes. I will send out a blast
9 email with all the members for the committee and we will make
10 sure that y'all have your rule books and all that good stuff.

11

12 MS. GREEN: That's was I was going to say is
13 Veronica doesn't have a rule book.

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay.

15 MS. GREEN: They hand those out, right?

16 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah, they -- yeah. The
17 staff provided those. Yes. And those are the updated rule
18 books. They give this out in July of '23.

19 MR. VANCE: Yeah. What I -- so this is Tyler
20 Vance again. What I'll do is once we get that email group
21 going, I'll just send you guys a word file of the current
22 complete rules. And then that way you can redline and do
23 what -- you know, bring it in, print it out, mark it up
24 however you think.

25 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay.

1 MS. GREEN: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. Thank you very
3 much. Okay. Meeting is set for January 31st at 10:00 a.m.
4 right here. And any other things from the members?

5 MR. BAKER: Real quick.

6 MS. URIEGAS: Ronnie Baker.

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Ronnie?

8 MR. BAKER: I just would like everybody to
9 know that yesterday Van Myers lost his dad. And if y'all
10 didn't know that, it was unexpected, it was out of state.
11 And I actually put my name for it because I would bet they
12 want to do that. But he's with his family right now, so if
13 you will hold Van and his entire family in your prayers, that
14 would be appreciated.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah.

16 MR. BAKER: That's my boss, Roy Bingo.

17 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Sorry to hear that. So for
18 those of you who couldn't hear, Ronnie let us know that Van
19 Myers' father passed away unexpectedly this past few days.
20 So, definitely our condolences and our prayers go out to the
21 family.

22 //

23 AGENDA ITEM 12

24 CHAIRMAN SMITH: If no other comments, we will
25 adjourn the meeting at 10:38.

(Meeting adjourned)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF TEXAS)
)
COUNTY OF HARRIS)

I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Vendor in and
for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the
above-mentioned matter occurred as hereinbefore set out.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the proceedings of such were
reported by me or under my supervision, later reduced to
typewritten form under my supervision and control and that
the foregoing pages are a full, true and correct
transcription of the original notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
seal this 21st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Kimberly C. McCright
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Verbatim Reporting & Transcription, LLC
17049 El Camino Real, Suite 200
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281.724.8600