

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
BEFORE THE  
TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS  
BINGO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

October 28, 2024

10:00 a.m.

AT

1801 Congress Avenue  
George H. W. Bush Building  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room 4.300  
Austin, Texas 78701

Transcript prepared by Rev.com and Commission staff from an audiovisual recording.

## APPEARANCES

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

William T. Smith III (Trace), Chairman

Tommy Duncan Jr.

Victor Kuykendoll

Floyd Olive

Dr. Demetrick "Tre" Pennie

Jason Pohl

Veronica Uriegas

Audrey Walter

## COMMISSION STAFF:

Bob Biard, General Counsel

LaDonna Castañuela, Director of Charitable Bingo Operations

Elizabeth Godfrey-Weidig, Open Records Coordinator

Tyler Vance, Assistant General Counsel

## PUBLIC:

Kimberly Kiplin

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PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2024 (10:00 a.m.)

AGENDA ITEM I

MR. VANCE: All right, we have everybody here, let's go ahead and get started. We don't have a chair at the moment. LaDonna will probably be here later; she's in a meeting. But until then, I'll help assist in running this thing. At the moment, we don't have a chair, so I guess I'll have to do it. But let's take an opportunity here -- I know most of you guys all know each other, but we do have several new members -- so let's just take an opportunity to introduce each other or introduce yourselves to the audience, to each other. Let's start with Mr. Kuykendoll.

MR. KUYKENDOLL: Sorry about that. Victor Kuykendoll, a new public member to the Bingo Advisory Committee. I'm a former chief of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. I live out in central Texas, Wakefield, Texas, and I'm excited to be here. Thank you.

DR. PENNIE: Dr. Tre Pennie, retired 22-year Dallas Police sergeant, president of the National Fallen Officer Foundation, one of the new members for the public here on BAC, and looking forward to knowing you all. Thank you.

MS. URIEGAS: Veronica Uriegas. I have a couple of bingo halls here in Austin. I am the charity lessor.

CHAIRMAN SMITH: Trace Smith, member of the BAC. I've been in bingo since 1988, helping charities achieve their monetary goals.

MR. DUNCAN: Tommy Duncan, representing the distributors and K&B Sales for All Saints Texas.

1 MR. OLIVE: Floyd Olive, representing manufacturers. I've been  
2 with Everi Games in the manufacturing business for 28 years.

3 MR. POHL: Jason Pohl, I am at Brazos Bingo out of Bryan,  
4 Texas. I've been in bingo since '99.

5 MS. WALTER: Audrey Walter. I'm new to the group. I am a  
6 conductor out of Lockhart and haven't been here for very long; only a  
7 couple of years into bingo, so --

8 MR. VANCE: Thank you all very much. Let's start this meeting  
9 as we do with all the others to pledge allegiance to the US flag and the  
10 Texas flag.

11 (Pledges recited)

12 AGENDA ITEM II

13 MR. VANCE: Okay. Well, given the introductions, I don't think  
14 we need to do the roll call, although I will note that Ms. Melody Green  
15 is not here, but she will be -- or presented on her behalf a statement,  
16 in a little bit.

17 AGENDA ITEM III

18 MR. VANCE: The next item is going to be the meeting minutes  
19 from August 6th. Do we have any public comments on those? Seeing none,  
20 we'll move on to the approval. Does anybody have a motion to approve the  
21 meeting minutes from August 6th?

22 MS. URIEGAS: I move we approve the meeting minutes.

23 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I'll second.

24 MR. VANCE: All in favor?

25 (Chorus of "ayes")

26 Okay, the minutes have been approved.

## 1 AGENDA ITEM IV

2 MR. VANCE: The next item is going to be the selection of the  
3 BAC chairperson. There is no standardized procedure for this. The last  
4 time we did it, it was just done on a motion of one of the members.  
5 That's an option. We could do a secret ballot, however you guys want to  
6 do it. But we'll start with the public comment, and I know that Veronica  
7 has a statement from Melody Green regarding the selection of the  
8 chairperson, so we'll allow her to read that now.

9 MS. URIEGAS: (reciting statement on behalf of Melody Green)  
10 Good morning, fellow BAC members. Since the date was changed, I am unable  
11 to attend the October 28th meeting as I will be out of the country.  
12 Since I will not be there to nominate Trace Smith for chairman, I would  
13 like to tell you why I believe he is the best candidate.

14 Trace has worked tirelessly in the past few years as  
15 chairperson for our industry and charities. He has prepared many time-  
16 consuming reports for us, the Lottery Commission and commissioners. These  
17 are detailed reports which are vital to the bingo industry and charities.  
18 He has to arrive early and stay extra days on his own dime to deliver  
19 and explain the reports. He has personally been involved in bingo for  
20 over 30 years; I remember working with his father. I feel that his  
21 leadership and integrity is one of the main reasons the BAC has been a  
22 force for change and remains important to our industry. So, I'm asking  
23 you to please vote for Trace Smith for chairperson. I look forward to  
24 our next in-person meeting in December. Thank you for your time and  
25 consideration. Melody Green.

1                   And at this time, I would like to move that we nominate  
2 Trace for the BAC chairperson again.

3                   MR. VANCE: Do we have a second?

4                   (Chorus of "seconds")

5                   MR. VANCE: We've got several seconds. Do you want a discussion  
6 or do you just want to vote on it?

7                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let's just vote for it.

8                   MR. VANCE: All right. All in favor?

9                   (Chorus of "ayes")

10                  MR. VANCE: Any    opposed?    Nope.    Motion    passes.    Trace,  
11 congratulations.

12                  CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you very much. I'm deeply honored by  
13 everybody's support. I appreciate it. And God bless Melody for doing  
14 that. I know Melody is suffering while she's in Italy this week and she  
15 wishes she could be here. But thank you all very much. I appreciate that.  
16 That's very humbling.

17                  MR. VANCE: Trace, we do need you to select a backup in the  
18 event that you're not available for a meeting, someone to stand in your  
19 place as the chairman.

20                  CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. I'd like to nominate Melody Green for  
21 that position, since she's not here to defend herself.

22                  MR. VANCE: Take that Melody.

23                  CHAIRMAN SMITH: Miss another meeting, Melody.

24                  MR. VANCE: All right, well, with that, since you're the  
25 chairperson, I no longer have to drive this train, so it's all yours,  
26 onto the next item.

1 CHAIRMAN SMITH: All right, thank you, sir. Next item.  
2 Commission rule 402.102(i) reads as follows: Who conducts the BAC  
3 meeting? The BAC must annually select a presiding officer to conduct  
4 meetings and general business. The presiding officer must designate a  
5 member of the BAC to conduct meetings and general business in the  
6 presiding officer's absence. We have done that.

7 AGENDA ITEM V

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So, item number five, training on Open  
9 Meetings Act and the Public Information Act presented by Bob Biard, TLC  
10 general counsel, and Elizabeth Godfrey-Weidig, public information  
11 coordinator. Is the light green?

12 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: Light's green.

13 CHAIRMAN SMITH: There we go.

14 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: There we go. Okay. Good morning,  
15 Commission members. My name is Elizabeth Godfrey-Weidig. I'm the public  
16 information coordinator for this agency. I will be speaking to you  
17 regarding the Public Information Act and open records that we receive.

18 The Texas Public Information Act is also known as the Open  
19 Records Act; it gives the public the right to access government records,  
20 information. It's presumed that all the information is open and belongs  
21 to the public. That's the transparency issue. This chapter is 552 of the  
22 Texas Government Code. Next slide please.

23 So, what is public information? Public information is items,  
24 information that is collected, assembled, maintained under a law or  
25 ordinance, or in connection with the transaction of official business  
26 of a governmental agency. Public information is what we receive --



1 information we receive, create, forms we fill out, as well as any  
2 information in the database that we collect to do our jobs.

3 I do want to indicate that -- what records, what are an  
4 official state records versus transitory information. So here are some  
5 examples. So, something open record that are public information -- like  
6 a notice of a meeting or written information about the BAC issues that  
7 you're discussing, notes taken during your meetings -- that's all  
8 information that could be considered public. Texts between committee  
9 members regarding BAC issues, that texts through phone are also subject  
10 to the Public Information Act. Let me go to the next slide.

11 Who's subject to the Act? So, this Act is applied -- the law  
12 is applied statewide, so it applies to counties, cities, executive and  
13 legislative branches of the government, including ourselves. It's  
14 basically entities that receive public funds are subject to this Public  
15 Information Act. Next slide please.

16 There are only two requirements for a public information  
17 request: one is, it must be in writing; two, it must be for information  
18 that is in existence at the time of the request. So, if I have a verbal  
19 request, it does not create -- it doesn't make the law -- we have to  
20 have it written -- it doesn't enable the Act that way. The Act also --  
21 I explain to people why you need to do it in writing -- there's  
22 protections on both sides because of the law, how it's written. So, I  
23 know exactly what a requester wants and that way we can do our process  
24 and get that information back out to them.

25 The information that already exists, sometimes we get items  
26 that -- I want six months of data in the future. Well, that information

1 doesn't exist yet. So, really, we are deadline-oriented and -  
2 information, so, it's going to be information from that point to the day  
3 the request is received, so if we have data that's after, or information  
4 that's after that, it's not going to be responsive. So, we also encourage  
5 record retention on those items. Next slide please.

6 Just some employee roles. Our agency staff are the folks that  
7 are receiving and creating this information during the course of their  
8 business; that information is the subject. We also have a dedicated  
9 division liaison who is a single point of contact for me to reach out  
10 when we have a public information request and ask them to gather that  
11 data.

12 Public information coordinator; I serve as a single point of  
13 contact for the agency, and I also coordinate gathering documents. I  
14 monitor the requests that come in and I communicate with our requesters  
15 regarding clarifications or if they have questions about the Public  
16 Information Act; items like that.

17 We also have our TLC attorney that oversees open records and  
18 myself. So, Deanne Rienstra will be our attorney that will write the  
19 attorney general if we have items that we want to withhold from an open  
20 records request.

21 And then Office of the Attorney General is in charge of  
22 uniformity in application and the interpretation of the Act. They're in  
23 charge of that part of the law. We can do the next slide, please.

24 So, if you get a public information request directly to you  
25 -- if it's an electronic item, we ask that people are directed towards  
26 our cloud-based software, into our website. It takes them to the portal

1 where they can submit their open records request directly to us. If you  
2 get somebody who wants to make an open records request, you can send  
3 them directly my way; you can send them to the website. There are several  
4 links into the website where you can go in and make a public information  
5 request. I ask that, including staff, don't forward the request because  
6 it's not considered received until it's submitted into the portal,  
7 officially. Now, if you get something in the mail, a little different -  
8 - I don't think y'all will have that experience, but if you do, we want  
9 to note the date that we received it because I need to know that for  
10 deadline reasons. You're going to make sure I get a copy of it or just  
11 make sure it comes over and I'll process it my way. If you can get the  
12 next slide, please.

13           So, important deadlines. I do ask if -- with the public  
14 information it starts immediately. So, we are required to provide  
15 information promptly and it is within a reasonable amount of time. So,  
16 I don't want folks to have an open records request come to them and they  
17 drop all their other duties to fulfill this request -- we all still have  
18 job duties -- this is as assigned, and it comes in. So, we have a five-  
19 day internal deadline, which I'll send that request out to that liaison  
20 in that division. They have five business days to talk to their folks,  
21 get the data back to me so we can review it. And then 10 business days  
22 -- which is listed in the Public Information Act -- is when we are  
23 required to provide a response, not necessarily release documents, but  
24 provide a response to a requester regarding their request. We're going  
25 to give them an update either, hey, here's your documents, we need more  
26 time, I need clarification, we're going to write the AG. So that 10-day

1 deadline is a hard deadline. It helps us with, because it's a process,  
2 we have one right after another.

3           The 15 days is -- if we've written the Attorney General's  
4 Office regarding an open records request, we must submit the documents  
5 that we do not want released to the Attorney General's Office for ruling.  
6 So that's the legal side -- that we have to submit those documents. Next  
7 slide, please.

8           Continued deadlines -- is just very important -- we do not  
9 count holidays, skeleton crew days, inclement weather days, here. They  
10 don't count towards that 10 business days. So, it's very important that  
11 we coordinate with -- when it came in, when it's due, what are our  
12 deadlines internally and making sure we're hitting our marks on that  
13 10th business day. Next slide.

14           And, wrapping up is -- the penalties. There are penalties for  
15 violating the Public Information Act. So, you can have criminal and civil  
16 penalties and that is if it's discovered that willful destruction and  
17 mutilation and removal without permission, altering a public document.  
18 And that's a whole nother ball of wax, but just to make you aware that  
19 we have -- there are penalties in place. And that wraps up my -- anyone  
20 have questions? My name is, if you have the, I don't know if you have  
21 the screen, my name -- Bach Tu is our Bingo liaison for open records  
22 requests. So, if you see an email from her reaching out to you regarding  
23 information requests that comes in, she's the individual that'll reach  
24 out to you for that. And I'll take any questions if you have any.

1 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Not really a big question, but have there  
2 been a lot of, or any public information requests for the Bingo Advisory  
3 Committee, lately?

4 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: There have not been any requests for the  
5 Commission [sic], for you all specifically.

6 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Cool.

7 DR. PENNIE: Yes. And any requests that -- if there's a  
8 perceived notion that someone may be seeking litigation, you're going  
9 to automatically send those to the AG, correct?

10 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: So that's something that we'll provide  
11 the exception to and we'll write the AG if we want to withhold that  
12 document.

13 MR. KUYKENDOLL: I think there were some former discussions  
14 that were held about possibly assigning email addresses to the committee.  
15 Have we heard the disposition on that? Because it may help speed things  
16 along, especially if we're out of the country or whatever and we aren't  
17 going to be able to provide a response.

18 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: Like a dedicated email?

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah, I think that was an email that I sent  
20 out right after we had our new appointments. It was recommended to us  
21 to set up a separate email account from your personal just to conduct  
22 Bingo Advisory Committee business. So, yeah --

23 MR. KUYKENDOLL: Right. I just was worried about the response  
24 deadlines if we're unable to reach a committee member and get that  
25 information, you know I mean, the agency doesn't have access to my BAC  
26 email address.

1 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Oh, okay.

2 MR. KUYKENDOLL: You see what I'm saying.

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes.

4 MR. KUYKENDOLL: Whereas if it's an agency email, they have  
5 access to just pull it automatically from their IT resources.

6 DR. PENNIE: That could be something we'll work on with the  
7 website update as well. We're looking to do some updates with the website  
8 and we can also look at email accounts and what that would be.

9 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So, for clarification, are you talking about  
10 maybe -- was it cloud, crowdsourcing or clouding the email? Is that what  
11 you're talking about?

12 MR. KUYKENDOLL: So, an agency email address is accessible by  
13 the agency themselves without our involvement and our interaction.  
14 Whereas the email addresses that we set up ourselves the agency would  
15 have to ask us to produce that information as responsive. Whereas the  
16 agency can be more proactive in pulling that information themselves and  
17 providing that to meet this ten-day deadline if they had an agency email  
18 address.

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay, I see what you're saying. Tyler, you  
20 want to weigh in on this or LaDonna maybe?

21 MR. VANCE: I think he's absolutely correct about the - the  
22 kind of ease with which we can access internal emails as opposed to  
23 external. I'm not sure. You'd have to talk to LaDonna and IT about the  
24 availability of creating those for you or if you guys want them to. I  
25 mean, that's up to you all. I can understand most people don't want 20  
26 different email addresses to manage, but it would be easier for us --

1 in the event that we got an open records request -- that we could just  
2 tap into your internal emails.

3 MS. CASTAÑUELA: I have no idea --

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent point.

5 MS. CASTAÑUELA: -- I have no idea how possible that is, but  
6 I can certainly --

7 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Is that something that the commissioners  
8 would need to vote on or is that something that the staff could do?

9 MS. CASTAÑUELA: No, I just need to talk to our IT division,  
10 find out if that's possible.

11 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Great catch. Yeah.

12 MR. KUYKENDOLL: Thank you. And very good report. Thank you  
13 ma'am.

14 MS. GODFREY-WEIDIG: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you very much. Okay, next up -- item  
16 number --

17 MS. CASTAÑUELA: It looks like Bob is here to do his part of  
18 this item.

19 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Oh, sorry.

20 MS. CASTAÑUELA: He just snuck in.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I didn't see you sneaking in, Bob. I'm sorry.

22 MR. BIARD: This is my first time at this table. Thanks. Sorry  
23 I was a little late. We have a Commission meeting tomorrow -- as you all  
24 know -- I was briefing one of our commissioners. So, did Liz already  
25 talk about the -- okay, the Public Information Act. I'll start off just  
26 making a couple of comments that I don't know if Liz covered or not

1 about the Public Information Act. It applies to records relating to  
2 public business of the BAC. And Liz may have covered this, but the points  
3 I think are really important are that there are records that are  
4 considered transient, meaning that it's like notes you're making when  
5 you're reading a book, just something that you write down to remind you  
6 of something later on so you don't want to forget. These are records  
7 that you don't have to keep. You don't have to have a box where you keep  
8 everything you ever write anything about the BAC in. And so that probably  
9 applies to many of your written communications with each other and draft  
10 documents. And this only applies to records, it doesn't apply to phone  
11 conversations or anything unless they're recorded, they happen to be  
12 recorded. So if something is transient -- and you don't have to keep it  
13 -- and that means that you can throw it away -- the documents that you  
14 are familiar with, like the BAC, the minutes of these meetings, formal  
15 recommendations that are made to the board, the reports that are  
16 statutorily required -- these are maintained, these are public records  
17 and they would be responsive to someone who is asking for records of the  
18 BAC.

19           One caveat I want to make about these transient communications  
20 are that -- and they could be notes to other people or they could be  
21 notes just to yourself -- but while there may not be a requirement to  
22 maintain these as official records, if someone were to ask for them --  
23 for like BAC member communications and notes -- and you have not thrown  
24 them away, you can't then decide, oh, now I want to throw them away. I  
25 mean, if you have kept them, and if they're responsive to something that  
26 someone asks for, then you're going to need to turn them over to Liz or



1 whoever in the Bingo, probably her liaison, and Bingo probably will reach  
2 out to y'all for those documents. Now, I don't want to shock you too  
3 much, especially with new members, because I don't remember ever getting  
4 an open records request for any BAC documents. But we think it's  
5 important for you to be aware of it because it could happen anytime;  
6 there's always a first time. So, you can't wait for a request and then  
7 throw your transient documents away. So, just be mindful of your notes  
8 and records, especially if you say anything in them that you might not  
9 want the whole world to see. Whether it's something bad about someone  
10 or just that sort of thing. Just be mindful of what you write down and  
11 what you keep. And that's all I wanted to say about the Public Information  
12 Act. I'm sorry if that's duplicative of what Liz already said.

13 I want to talk a little bit about the Open Meetings Act,  
14 mainly because it does not apply to the BAC, but there are some risk  
15 areas that you need to be aware of to make sure it stays that way,  
16 because the attorney general has issued some opinions about advisory  
17 committee saying if they don't stay within these certain guardrails, you  
18 might suddenly find yourself a governmental body who needs to comply  
19 with the Open Meetings Act because this is where the real decisions are  
20 being made. But y'all are an advisory body and that's really the key  
21 point of the Open Meetings Act message I want to bring you today.

22 So, the policy of requiring open meetings being public -- so,  
23 if the public has the opportunity to be present and see how the decisions  
24 are being made -- it applies to a governmental body that controls or has  
25 supervisory authority over public business or policy, and, basically,  
26 that means a body that has decision-making authority. So, the Bingo

1 Advisory Committee is not a governmental body under the Open Meetings  
2 Act because it does not control or supervise public business or policy.  
3 The BAC is purely advisory: it exists to advise the commission on  
4 charitable bingo matters. The Commission is the governmental body. Some  
5 advisory committees in state government -- and they exist, there's many  
6 of them across state government -- some of them are subject to the  
7 Meetings Act by statute, but this one is not.

8           Our rule says that the BAC's sole duty is to advise the  
9 Commission; the BAC has no executive or administrative powers or duties  
10 with respect to the operating of the Charitable Bingo Operations  
11 Division. So, the good news about not being subject to the Open Meetings  
12 Act is that any number of you can get together outside of these meetings  
13 and talk about business without having to worry about whether you're  
14 violating the law. You don't have to worry about whether there's a quorum  
15 present, anything like that, or publishing advanced notice that y'all  
16 are having these discussions; you don't have to worry about any of that.  
17 But we have borrowed some concepts from the Open Meetings Act that's in  
18 the Commission's BAC rule, and those include an advanced public notice  
19 -- the Commission requires the BAC to post notice of these meetings with  
20 an agenda a full ten days before a BAC meeting -- and that's actually  
21 longer than the statute requires for governmental agencies, which is  
22 just seven full days.

23           The meeting notice under our rule, it has to include the time,  
24 day and location of the meeting as well as the agenda items. And it says  
25 that the BAC presiding officer shall request the Commission, through  
26 Commission staff, to post the notice on the Commission's website; and

1 that's what we do. And the Legal division works with the Bingo division  
2 to get those notices put up on the website before these meetings. Unlike  
3 an open meeting, the BAC agenda is not published in the Texas Register.  
4 The Texas Register is a publication that comes out of the Secretary of  
5 State's Office. It's sort of the official notice of the state of Texas  
6 for all state agencies for their public meetings, for their proposed  
7 rules, their adopted rules. Commission's public meetings, they are  
8 published on the Texas Register -- the notice is published in the  
9 register. For BAC, we just do it on the Commission's website. We're  
10 required to do it on the Commission's website.

11           Now, the BAC also is required to keep minutes of its meetings  
12 and that is something that is required in the Open Meetings Act; and  
13 this is just good practice -- you all have a record of what you all  
14 talked about and what decisions were made. The BAC, just like the  
15 Commission does, they may consider a transcript of these meetings to be  
16 the minutes. And -- I think the rule says the Commission will provide a  
17 court reporter for transcript service or, if a court reporter is not  
18 available, to provide a transcript of each BAC meeting. So, we had  
19 discovered recently a service that's artificial intelligence -- is the  
20 way for our first attempt to dip our toe into AI -- and it's for our  
21 Commission meetings. And we found a service that works really well and  
22 it's very inexpensive. It costs about a fifth of what it costs to get a  
23 court reporter to transcribe these proceedings and it takes a whole lot  
24 less time. So, we've been really happy with that process. And Legal and  
25 then Tyler, we normally vet those, go through those transcripts and post  
26 those on the website as well. So those are the minutes of your meetings,

1 which y'all come back and approve; that's pretty much at the next BAC  
2 meeting. Tyler may tell me some of this is being amended in the upcoming  
3 rule proposal; I'm not sure if any of this is or not. The AI service was  
4 sort of the main thing that is different from what we've done in the  
5 past. We've only been doing that for maybe four or five months, but it's  
6 worked really well, and I don't see us going back to using a court  
7 reporter, probably.

8           So, the one caveat I want to mention -- so that these meetings  
9 remain not subject to the Open Meetings Act -- is what is referred to  
10 in several attorney general opinions as a governmental body routinely  
11 rubber-stamping recommendations that are made by an advisory committee  
12 without having a full discussion of it. We try hard to avoid this and  
13 that's one of the reasons why the statute requires a designated Bingo  
14 commissioner, which we have, always had, and we have one now. And that's  
15 why we also have LaDonna, the Bingo director, and Tyler Vance who is  
16 pretty much dedicated to Bingo -- I would say it's 98% of what he does  
17 -- and other agency staff involved in your meetings and working with you  
18 as you develop recommendations. So, they'll help you vet your ideas and  
19 get staff's perspective on the feasibility of rule changes and other  
20 process changes, action items to recommend to the Commission.

21           And as you know, the Lottery Commission board looks to the  
22 Bingo commissioner and staff before acting on recommendations from the  
23 BAC. So, we think -- and we try to have substantial involvement of the  
24 Commission staff and the Bingo commissioner for that purpose to avoid  
25 the accusation that the board is just rubber-stamping your  
26 recommendations -- to my knowledge, there's never been an issue regarding

1 the Commission's independent judgment when deciding bingo matters, but  
2 we all need to be mindful that the BAC is purely advisory and that the  
3 Commission does not simply rubber-stamp BAC recommendations.

4         If we don't pay attention to these restrictions, the AG --  
5 there's a potential that the attorney general could decide that, well,  
6 these meetings are where the real decisions are being made -- so you  
7 don't want that to happen because if that happens all of a sudden this  
8 is going to have to be treated like an open meeting. So, being an advisory  
9 committee gives you more flexibility to talk amongst yourselves without  
10 having to let -- nobody has to know. And I think that helps, I think  
11 that really makes these advisory committees a lot more productive, a lot  
12 more practical, a lot more useful for you to have that flexibility. So,  
13 I just wanted you all to be mindful of that caveat. And with that, I  
14 think that's all I really wanted to tell you about today -- both the  
15 Public Information Act on the Open Meetings Act -- but if y'all have any  
16 questions, I'll try to answer them.

17         CHAIRMAN SMITH: Any questions?

18         DR. PENNIE: Yes, sir. Real quick, is there a standard timeline  
19 for purging the records? Let's say there are email communications that  
20 we, amongst ourselves -- I mean, right now we're using a designated email  
21 to communicate, but let's say we wanted to have those records removed -  
22 - what is their retention timeline for those records that we want to  
23 purge, transient records that we want to purge that may potentially be  
24 open records that someone what to request?

25         MR. BIARD: Well, the transient records, you don't have to  
26 keep them for any period of time. You can throw those away whenever. Now

1 for other -- I mean we have a records -- the agency has a records  
2 retention schedule. I don't have it handy right now. Tyler do you --

3 MR. VANCE: It's worth considering -- before you got here,  
4 they were talking about creating their own internal email addresses --  
5 so that record retention schedule applies to all the employees, and I  
6 wonder if they got official TLC email addresses if then you would be  
7 subject to that records retention policy.

8 MR. BIARD: What we have is -- it is set by our IT department  
9 -- and this came down from the executive director several years ago --  
10 30 days is it, emails only exist on our system, on our email Outlook  
11 network, for 30 days, and they're purged automatically unless you go in  
12 there and deliberately move an email into a network folder to save it  
13 for later. So, our general standard for emails is 30 days. And I don't  
14 know, so you're thinking about making that a --

15 MR. VANCE: I think they were discussing it earlier, the  
16 possibility of getting TLC email addresses because it would make it  
17 easier for us, the staff, in the event that we got an open records  
18 request, to access that without needing them to actively do it for us.  
19 But now that you mentioned that, I don't think the record retention  
20 schedule applies to their personal email addresses, but I think if you  
21 got a state one, that'd be a different story.

22 MR. BIARD: Well, I mean I think we're sort of stuck with the  
23 honor system on that to a large extent. Even if you set up a TLC-based  
24 email address, I mean that doesn't prevent you from communicating with  
25 each other by text or any other way. But really, for records, I mean

1 just for process purposes, I mean it might make things a little easier  
2 to have a dedicated email address for the BAC.

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Well, I think whatever is decided, I think  
4 we'll be ready to comply with. If you decide that you want us to do  
5 that, we'd be glad to do that. I do agree with Mr. Kuykendoll that there  
6 are occasions when we're out of town or can't be reached and that may  
7 throw out the ten-day deal on the responses. And we definitely don't  
8 want to do that. So, we'll do whatever staff recommends.

9 MR. BIARD: And then we might need to look at just updating  
10 the records retention schedule. It might need a new category for -- and  
11 we can decide how long to keep those records for. That's a good question.  
12 We never really thought about -- for the things we have to keep, there's  
13 probably an item in there for the reports that come from the BAC, I am  
14 gonna bet, but -- we'll take a look at the records retention schedule.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So, just a quick question, if that does  
16 happen and we do get an agency email, who all would have access to that  
17 email? Would the commissioners have access to it? Would the staff have  
18 access to it? I mean --

19 MR. BIARD: I think that's probably something that we would  
20 talk to Commissioner Fields about, maybe get some feedback from the other  
21 Commissioners side. I think that's just set up, I think that's a decision  
22 that gets made at some executive level about who's going to have access  
23 and ultimately decide --

24 CHAIRMAN SMITH: If we do do that, we would know who would  
25 have access before then, correct?

26 MR. BIARD: Sure. I mean as far as you --

1 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I mean, I'm just asking questions, not that  
2 I care.

3 MS. URIEGAS: I have a question -- would they have to submit  
4 something for open records to require to look at that? I mean, like he's  
5 saying, who would get to look at that? Would anybody, or would it have  
6 to be requested to look at our emails? Just a question.

7 MR. BIARD: For a member of the public?

8 MS. URIEGAS: Yeah.

9 MR. BIARD: A member of the public would have to --

10 MS. URIEGAS: Or no, from the staff as well.

11 MR. BIARD: I guess however we decide to set it up, I think  
12 our IT department, which is here with us today. I mean, I think that  
13 they can set those parameters on the account however it gets decided.

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Not that I really care. I was just curious.  
15 It really doesn't matter. I mean, it's stuff.

16 MR. BIARD: But I wouldn't anticipate -- I mean, we don't have  
17 this with other groups within department staff within the agency. It's  
18 not like I can go in and look at just anybody's emails. So, I think that  
19 wouldn't be an issue -- I think just a matter of how it's decided to be  
20 set up.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Sorry for a weird question.

22 MR. BIARD: No.

23 CHAIRMAN SMITH: It's not something I'm very familiar with,  
24 so I don't know how all that works yet. Okay. We'd be glad to do that  
25 if that's what staff decides. We'd be glad to do that.



1 MR. BIARD: But there you have obviously no requirement that  
2 you'd have to get set up on a state of Texas email system to have your  
3 advisory committee, but if it would be convenient to do so, we can.

4 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay, excellent.

5 MR. KUYKENDOLL: I think the main point is whether or not our  
6 emails would be subject to open records, which I think has already been  
7 established they would be, even if they're set up as personal emails  
8 versus an agency email. And just as far as efficiency and everything  
9 else involved, it may be better to have an agency email versus that. And  
10 I understand your concern about who would have access. My experience  
11 working for a state agency is that, I mean, IT can see it just like  
12 Gmail can see Gmail.

13 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yeah.

14 MR. KUYKENDOLL: But past that it's just like you pointed out  
15 --

16 MR. BIARD: Yeah, it's like --

17 MR. KUYKENDOLL: -- can't just go into somebody else's email.

18 MR. BIARD: We don't generally have like a -- unless someone's  
19 been hiding this from me for 16 years -- I don't think there's anybody  
20 who just goes around and kind of routinely just peeks at people's emails.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Well, like I say, I don't mind doing it  
22 either way. It's whatever staff decides and if the commissioners want  
23 us to do that, we'll be glad to do that. If staff wants us to do it,  
24 we'll be glad to do that as well.

25 MR. BIARD: Sure.

1           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Just give us some direction and we'll get it  
2 done. Anything else, sir? Any more questions for Mr. Bob Biard? No?

3           MR. BIARD: Thanks, and y'all don't see me a whole bunch. I  
4 mean, some of you know me from a long time, but I'm the general counsel  
5 and Tyler works with me, and I mean he does a great job. Bingo is one  
6 of those things where I just think it works better if you have an attorney  
7 who's dedicated to working with the Bingo division and the BAC. But I'm  
8 certainly always available to you if you ever need anything.

9           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Well, we appreciate that and definitely  
10 appreciate you letting Tyler be here. We have, and I've stated this  
11 before, we have in the past not had a lot of involvement from the staff  
12 and we're certainly grateful for the involvement we have now.  
13 Commissioner Fields who is in regular attendance almost -- I don't think  
14 she's ever missed a meeting, I don't think -- maybe one. One. Yeah. And  
15 so we're definitely grateful for that. And then of course Tyler and  
16 LaDonna and the rest of the staff that's always in attendance. We greatly  
17 appreciate that and it's certainly a pleasure to have everyone here to  
18 work together. I think we're making a lot of headway.

19           MR. BIARD: Thank you very much.

20           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you

21           MR. VANCE: Trace. A quick comment.

22           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, sir.

23           MR. VANCE: In the upcoming rules package, there's an  
24 allowance for the committee to meet virtually. It's not prohibited  
25 currently -- and we did it during COVID when we had to and on some other  
26 occasions -- but in the new rule package it will be allowed at your

1 discretion. And my understanding from IT is they've got a new version  
2 of Teams or Zoom. In the past we've had some trouble having people call  
3 in, but apparently the new software they're using is very good at  
4 allowing people to call in and communicate both ways rather than just  
5 to watch. So, something to consider going forward. That rule probably  
6 won't be adopted until February, but again, there's no prohibition on  
7 it currently. It's just to make it clear that you can do it if you want.

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. Thank you.

9 AGENDA ITEM VI

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So that's the next item on our agenda -- is  
11 the rule review update.

12 MR. VANCE: Sure. So, the rule review proposal, the rule review  
13 itself will be closed tomorrow after almost a year of being open. And,  
14 of course, we've all discussed it several times, had many meetings about  
15 it. And in the rule package that's associated with the rule review with  
16 the amendments and new rules and repeals of, I believe it's 44 different  
17 rules that will be proposed tomorrow. And if it's proposed by the  
18 Commission, it will be published in the Texas Register. And then we've  
19 got a public meeting scheduled for November - or December the fourth,  
20 which will be after, presumably, the next BAC meeting, the day before  
21 the Commission meeting in December. So, once it gets published, there'll  
22 be opportunities for -- you can submit written comments, via email, you  
23 can show up to the public hearing on December 4th. And then, yeah,  
24 unfortunately we can't adopt it in December. It'll be too soon. So, it  
25 looks like the earliest opportunity to adopt those rules would be in  
26 February.

1           There are a couple changes to the proposal that y'all haven't  
2 seen yet that weren't discussed that we just added at the last minute.  
3 One of them is just a general, a pronoun issue we were going to change.  
4 There's a couple of references in there that say that "the Bingo director  
5 or his designee" -- we were going to change that to "their," but it  
6 actually turns out that the proper way to do it is "his or hers;" and  
7 you save "their" for plural nouns. So, every reference that's currently  
8 open that was going to be turned into "their" will be turned into "his  
9 or hers," and then we'll get the other ones as they pop up over time.  
10 We're not going to open up the entire rules to fix every instance of  
11 this but, as they come up, we'll change them.

12           The other one more substantive is the rules currently exempt  
13 loteria cards and Braille cards from being bingo equipment, which means  
14 they don't need to be manufactured by a licensed manufacturer, they don't  
15 need to be approved by the Commission, and they don't need to be  
16 distributed by a licensed distributor. I've looked at the law and -- I  
17 don't know -- that exemption's been in there for at least 25 years and  
18 it's just, it cannot be supported legally. Those things are clearly bingo  
19 equipment -- they're used in the game of bingo -- so they need to be  
20 approved by the Commission, they need to be manufactured by a licensed  
21 manufacturer, sold by a licensed distributor. We understand there's I  
22 think three or four loteria cards that are currently approved, but it's  
23 only the player side, there isn't a caller side set of loteria. So,  
24 there's an opportunity there for the manufacturers to create some  
25 approved loteria caller side of the game. And as far as we know, there  
26 are no Braille cards approved at all. So, again, there's just no legal

1 justification for these exemptions -- they're both clearly bingo  
2 equipment, they need to be approved. We understand that might cause some  
3 disruptions. I don't know how often -- loteria comes up once in a while.  
4 I've never heard anything about Braille cards. But, certainly, once this  
5 rule gets removed -- and I would say even currently, the rule says that  
6 a Braille card is exempt, but again, I think it's just contrary to the  
7 letter of the law -- so, I would encourage everyone to stop allowing --  
8 the current rule says that a player can bring their own Braille card in  
9 and play. So, I would encourage everyone to stop doing that while this  
10 rule is pending. But assuming everything goes through, then, in February,  
11 those two rules will be changed to clearly state that loteria and Braille  
12 cards are bingo equipment and must be approved by the Commission. So  
13 hopefully the manufacturers will step up and provide those to the market  
14 as soon as possible.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent.

16 MR. VANCE: And other than that, everything's just as we've  
17 discussed as the BAC approved at the last meeting. And again, all that  
18 will be published and available for comment for quite a while, and then  
19 we've got the public hearing, so there's still plenty of opportunity to  
20 look at those rules.

21 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Do we as the BAC need to re-vote on that?

22 MR. VANCE: I suppose you could. Yeah, because the  
23 Commission's going to ask you tomorrow -- I know you told them at the  
24 last meeting that BAC approves closing the rule review process and moving  
25 forward with the proposals -- but I think it would help now that there  
26 are slight changes to those rules.

1 CHAIRMAN SMITH: And those are the only two, just the --

2 MS. CASTANUELA: Yes.

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: -- pronoun issue and then the loteria.

4 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Loteria and Braille.

5 MR. VANCE: And Braille. Yeah.

6 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Does anybody have any -- I mean, do we do  
7 that now?

8 MR. VANCE: I think, yeah.

9 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Without us have seeing it. I mean --

10 MR. VANCE: Sure.

11 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I've read it. I got the email, I read it. I  
12 didn't see any issue. Anybody got any issues on that? I'm going to refer  
13 to our one single attorney from the public today, Ms. Kim Kiplin. Have  
14 you read that or had an opportunity to look at it? Your microphone is -  
15 -

16 MS. KIPLIN: Good morning. For the record, my name's Kimberly  
17 Kiplin. I'm an attorney here in Austin, Texas. I am a member of the rule  
18 review subcommittee. I did review the latest iteration. I don't really  
19 have any comments. I think it's clear that the definition of bingo  
20 equipment under the Bingo Enabling Act is so broad that it would include  
21 the loteria and the Braille cards. Just going back in time, I don't  
22 really remember the loteria. I think these rules were promulgated in  
23 2005. Admittedly, I was a general counsel at that time, and there was a  
24 Bingo director, and what I do remember historically was more of an ADA,  
25 Americans with Disabilities Act, issue on the Braille cards. And then  
26 in talking with the former Bingo director, I think it had to do with the

1 fact that if it was not exempted at that time, then it would be considered  
2 to be bingo equipment and have to be manufactured by a licensed bingo  
3 manufacturer and distributed by a licensed bingo distributor. Now, having  
4 said all that, I think the statute is pretty clear and taking a look at  
5 it myself very recently, and I think if there was a desire to try to  
6 exempt loteria, which is a common game that you can find in like a  
7 Walmart, then I think that's gonna -- that would require a legislative  
8 change to go forward. With what's happening with the rule review and the  
9 proposed rules -- I think really what's happening is the need to sync  
10 the rules up with the existing language, with the Bingo Enabling Act,  
11 and we've seen that on some other issues that we've talked about  
12 regarding distributors not being able to take back product because of  
13 that statute, probably more than you wanted to know. Happy to answer any  
14 questions.

15 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So, you don't foresee any issues with these  
16 two?

17 MS. KIPLIN: No, I think the only issue that I see is  
18 notification -- I don't know, for the halls that you have, I don't know  
19 how many visually impaired players you have that are using Braille cards,  
20 and I don't know how frequently the game of loteria is actually being  
21 played in bingo halls. So, if there's a desire, then probably need to  
22 get some licensed bingo manufacturers to help provide those products.

23 MS. URIEGAS: It is currently -- it's already being produced,  
24 the loteria paper.

25 MS. KIPLIN: Okay.

26 MR. DUNCAN: Yeah. Has that been approved, loteria paper?

1 MR. VANCE: I think there are three or four.

2 MS. CASTAÑUELA: So, I've been looking into it more closely  
3 in the last several days. It looks to me like the loteria cards that are  
4 approved are the player cards, as opposed to when I played with grandma  
5 Fina years and years ago, there was also a deck for calling out the  
6 symbols. Anyway, so the player cards, but the player cards that I have  
7 seen also have, what is it, five columns and they say B-I-N-G-O at the  
8 top, and they've got a number in each of the little squares.

9 MR. DUNCAN: Right.

10 MS. CASTAÑUELA: So, basically, it's bingo. It's a bingo card.  
11 And I'm sorry, they're using the ball blower to call numbers. So, it's  
12 basically, it's bingo, it's loteria-themed bingo. It's not, again, the  
13 loteria that I played with grandma Fina.

14 MR. DUNCAN: So that doesn't have to be resubmitted after  
15 February.

16 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Those are fine.

17 MR. DUNCAN: Okay.

18 MS. CASTAÑUELA: What we have seen is actually bingo paper. I  
19 don't know if anybody is playing that true loteria game that I played  
20 with grandma Fina.

21 MS. URIEGAS: It's the actual -- because it does have the  
22 numbers on it.

23 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Yes.

24 MS. URIEGAS: It's similar I guess to the animal paper --

25 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Yes.

26 MS. URIEGAS: Just a different theme.



1 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Yeah. Yeah.

2 MS. KIPLIN: So, it sounds like they only issue maybe if you  
3 have a visually impaired player in who's using their own Braille card  
4 now they won't be able to. But just anecdotally it sounds like that's  
5 not really occurring. Any other questions?

6 CHAIRMAN SMITH: No, thank you very much. We appreciate you.

7 MS. KIPLIN: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SMITH: So, we should probably, okay, I'll go ahead  
9 and make the motion that the BAC approves the two new updated rules being  
10 submitted for public comment.

11 MS. URIEGAS: I'll second.

12 CHAIRMAN SMITH: We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

13 (Chorus of "ayes")

14 Any opposed? All right. Motion carries. Okay, Tyler, is that all you  
15 have for the rule review?

16 MR. VANCE: Yes, sir.

17 AGENDA ITEM VII

18 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay, excellent. Sunset update, item number  
19 seven. Tyler, you want to, is there anything you have on your end?  
20 LaDonna?

21 MS. CASTAÑUELA: What I can tell you is that the Sunset  
22 decisions from -- now I've forgotten the date -- September, of the  
23 September hearing are online. If you have not seen them, I don't have  
24 it up on the screen, but I can certainly help you offline to find it if  
25 you haven't found it. And that the staff is busy working on those  
26 management recommendations that were adopted.

1           Regarding Bingo -- most of those recommendations were adopted  
2 as they were in the Staff Report, except for the elimination of  
3 manufacturer, distributor licenses was not adopted. On grandfathered  
4 lessors, they did adopt a recommendation to allow grandfathered - to  
5 limit grandfathered lessors to 10 years on administrative hold, 10 years  
6 consecutive. Right now it's unlimited. So, 10 years consecutive on  
7 administrative hold. I think that's it for Bingo.

8           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. All right. Thank you very much. We  
9 appreciate that. Any questions on the Sunset update? Any public comment?  
10 Okay.

11                           AGENDA ITEM VIII

12           CHAIRMAN SMITH: We will move on to old business. Any public  
13 comment on old business. If not, we'll move on to new business.

14                           AGENDA ITEM IX

15           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Any public comment on new business? I do have  
16 one item. Oh, yes ma'am, go ahead.

17           MS. CASTAÑUELA: I have just one item. I don't know that it's  
18 new business, but I would like to introduce Brent Rougeau, who's at the  
19 back of the room. Hi, Brent. He is our new BAC liaison. He came on about  
20 a little over a month ago. So, you will start seeing communications from  
21 a new name. He has been working very closely with Marie on communications  
22 for this meeting and then for the next meeting, which is just about six  
23 weeks away, you'll be seeing communications from him. We'll continue  
24 working with him and training.

25           CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent.

1 MS. CASTAÑUELA: But I know he's very excited about it and I  
2 know I'm very excited about it.

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Pleasure to have you with us. The only thing  
4 I have under new business is -- since we have a full board and we have  
5 all the members here -- I would like to quickly go through the Bingo  
6 Advisory Committee 2025 annual work plan. There's a couple of things on  
7 here that we need to identify and maybe set up a committee for.

8 Number one is: identify potential rule or procedural changes  
9 that may help organizations address challenges related to conducting  
10 charitable bingo. Any potential recommendations on changes to how bingo  
11 games are played shall be clearly authorized by Texas Law.

12 Number two: monitor legislative activity that may impact  
13 charitable bingo, including issues related to recommendations and  
14 proposals by the Sunset Advisory Commission.

15 Number three: provide feedback and comments to CBOD staff and  
16 commissioners on changes to administrative rules in chapter 402 and  
17 additional amendments, including making recommendations in the 2024  
18 Charitable Bingo rules review. Final recommendation to the Texas Lottery  
19 Commission regarding adoption and whether any bingo advisory opinions  
20 should be incorporated into the rules.

21 Number four: work with CBOD staff to identify ways to increase  
22 online filing of quarterly reports and payments using the Bingo Service  
23 Portal. Tyler, LaDonna, do you think we need to -- I know we've visited  
24 that in the past and we've helped a little bit with that, getting the  
25 word out through the various trade organizations in bingo -- do you think

1 we need to set a committee on that to help out with that so we can, I  
2 know y'all are really wanting to go forward on paperless.

3 MS. CASTAÑUELA: So, even some of our rules are going to help  
4 us with that. I wanted to talk to our new presiding officer after this  
5 meeting to start -- talk about how we might set up a committee to talk  
6 about, especially industry input for improvements to the BSP. We will  
7 be looking at finishing up a conversion and improvements to it, Bingo  
8 Service Portal. So, we'll need some input from those folks that use it  
9 --

10 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay, so do you want --

11 MS. CASTAÑUELA: -- how we can make it easier and more  
12 attractive.

13 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay, we'll get together, then, and sort that  
14 out, and --

15 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN SMITH: -- we can do that at the next meeting then,  
17 maybe set up a committee for that. All right, number five: review  
18 components of the agency's Charitable Bingo website and the BSP and  
19 provide recommendations for improvements. We had done this in the past  
20 -- I know that the staff was working on some website stuff, so we put  
21 that off a little bit -- but I feel like we should probably have a  
22 committee for that. And I think there's somebody that's pretty well  
23 qualified to do that and has a pretty good knowledge of that. So, I'd  
24 like to, at this time, ask Dr. Pennie if he would lead up that committee  
25 and choose your members, whoever wants to be on that committee to go  
26 through that.

1 DR. PENNIE: Yes, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Dr. Pennie.

3 DR. PENNIE: No, absolutely. I'd love to take it over. I think  
4 there's a lot of information -- just in terms of accessibility and what  
5 the public sees on the website -- we want them to be able to get online,  
6 find information out without necessarily having to search for it. And  
7 then just like I said, we want to make the experience -- we want to make  
8 it enjoyable for the person going to the website, whether it's these  
9 hearings, we want them to be able to see it in broad view on the front  
10 page. We want to make the public more receptive to what we're doing and  
11 the great work that Texas Lotto is doing and what we're providing them  
12 in terms of feedback. So, I'd love to get with whoever's interested in  
13 working with the committee.

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: I think Mr. Kuykendoll had some really good  
15 recommendations earlier on some of this stuff too, if you'd like to do  
16 that.

17 MR. KUYKENDOLL: Glad to work with him on that. I do have a  
18 lot more questions and answers at this point, but I think it's part of  
19 the process, right?

20 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Yes, and we definitely appreciate that. And  
21 then anyone else who wants to get on that committee to help with the  
22 website, please do so, let Dr. Pennie know. And that way we can get that  
23 on the next agenda. That is one of the big things I know that LaDonna  
24 and Tyler had talked about to us in the past.

1           Number six: provide reports at each commission meeting, that  
2 includes status updates of the BAC's activities, industry  
3 accomplishments, challenges or concerns.

4           And number seven: develop the required BAC annual report to  
5 the Commission on the state of charitable bingo industry and submit to  
6 the Commission and to the Charitable Bingo director by July 15th, 2025.

7           That is the fiscal year 2025 annual work plan that is given  
8 to us by the commissioners every year, they get to do that, so, we  
9 definitely appreciate that from them; we've got a heavy workload this  
10 year, so -- just wanted to get that read into the record. So, we'll be  
11 making a committee appointment at the next meeting for item number four.

12           That being said, is there any other new business or any  
13 discussion that anybody would like to have? I would like to thank our  
14 new members for being here in person today. Thank y'all very much. It's  
15 been a pleasure meeting y'all. We'd like for you to be in person, but  
16 if you can't be in person, we definitely have the virtual option, which  
17 is good. So, there's always that avenue to attend the meetings. As we  
18 go forward in the year, there will be more and more workload. We do have  
19 the Sunset Commission that's going to be meeting. We also have a  
20 legislative session coming up in January. Is that - is it the 15th that  
21 it starts? Not sure? Okay.

22           I know it's early January, so there will be a lot of stuff  
23 for the BAC to be doing and monitoring to keep the commissioners  
24 informed. We do have Commissioner Fields here. Commissioner Fields, is  
25 there anything you want to add? No. Thank you. We appreciate it. Anyone  
26 else? LaDonna, Tyler?

1 MR. VANCE: January 14th.

2 AGENDA ITEM X

3 CHAIRMAN SMITH: 14th. Okay. All right. Let's move on to item  
4 number ten, set the date for the next meeting. I think we already have  
5 that as December 4th, correct?

6 MS. CASTAÑUELA: Yes. So, the next meeting of the BAC will be  
7 10 o'clock in the morning in this room on December 4th. For your  
8 information, the public comment hearing will be at one o'clock, same  
9 day. And then of course the Commission meeting the next day on December  
10 5th at 10.

11 CHAIRMAN SMITH: Excellent. All right, so we're all set with  
12 that.

13 AGENDA ITEM XI

14 CHAIRMAN SMITH: We only have one more thing on our agenda  
15 today -- is item eleven -- is adjournment. So, we will call this meeting  
16 of the BAC adjourned. Thank y'all very much for coming.

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