

PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024

NORTHWEST OFFICE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 117, HARRISBURG, PA
MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING

Tim Holden, Chairman
Randy Vulakovich, Board Member
Darrell Clarke, Board Member
Rodrigo Diaz, Executive Director
Michael Vigoda, Board Secretary

[Office of Chief Counsel](#)
[Bureau of Licensing](#)
[Bureau of Human Resources](#)
[Bureau of Accounting & Purchasing](#)

[Office of Retail Operations](#)
[Bureau of Product Management](#)
[Financial Report](#)
[Other Issues](#)

PUBLIC MEETING – 11:00 A.M

CALL TO ORDER *Chairman Holden*

Board Secretary Michael Vigoda indicated that a quorum of the Board was present, and Chairman Holden called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

OLD BUSINESS..... *Secretary Vigoda*

A. Motion to approve previous Board Meeting Minutes of the July 10, 2024 meeting.

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich

Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve previous Board Meeting Minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

As explained in the printed Meeting Agenda, certain matters being presented for “official action” at today’s meeting have been discussed during Executive Sessions held prior to today’s meeting as permitted by the Sunshine Act.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board reserved 10 minutes for public comment.

No public comments were offered.

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NEW BUSINESS

From the Office of Chief Counsel.....Jason Worley, Chief Counsel

(1) Bolla, Inc. ALJ Appeal
440-442 South Pennsylvania Avenue
Morrisville, PA 19067-1208
License No. R-18381/LID 51834
Citation No. 23-0732

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to reverse the decision of the ALJ as to count 6 of the citation and remand the matter for the imposition of an appropriate penalty regarding count 6 as embodied in the draft opinion and order prepared by the Office of Chief Counsel.

(2) Jeff-Ron Inc. ALJ Appeal
t/a Ringer’s Roost
1801-03 Liberty Street
Allentown, PA 18104
License No. H-468/LID 6064
Citation No. 23-0797

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to reverse the decision of the ALJ as to count 2 of the citation and remand the matter for the imposition of an appropriate penalty for count 2 as embodied in the draft opinion and order prepared by the Office of Chief Counsel.

(3) The American Legion Home Association of ALJ Appeal
Montgomery
185 Broad Street
Montgomery, PA 17752-1438
License No. CC 6152/LID 48358
Citation No. 23-0815

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to reverse the decision of the ALJ and remand the matter for the imposition of an appropriate penalty as embodied in the draft opinion and order prepared by the Office of Chief Counsel.

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- (4) **21 E. Chelten, Inc.** Resolution of Appeal Pending in the
19-21 East Chelten Avenue Court of Common Pleas of
Philadelphia, PA 19144-2130 Philadelphia County
License No. R-2064
LID 72426

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to resolve the pending appeal by approving the renewal of the license.

- (5) **Adoption of Advisory Notice No. 9 (14th Amendment of Advisory Notices**
Revision) and Advisory Notice No. 10 (9th Revision)

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to adopt Advisory Notice No. 9 (14th revision) and Advisory Notice No 10. (9th revision).

- (6) **Carver's Saloon, Inc.** Resolution of Appeal Pending in the
2349 Fairmount Avenue Court of Common Pleas of
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130-2515 Philadelphia County
License No. R-7108
LID 41545

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to resolve the pending appeal by approving the renewal of the license.

From the Bureau of Licensing Tisha Albert, Director of Regulatory Affairs
Andrew Stuffick, Director, Bureau of Licensing

- (1) **Bala Ji Holdings, Inc.** Double Transfer – Restaurant
t/a Hops Brews and Sunshine
R-10478 (LID No. 114571) Case No. 23-9080 **HOLD – 4/10/24 SESSION**
509 East Ohio Street
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County **Conditional Licensing Agreement**

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the transfer with an amended conditional licensing agreement.

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- (2) **Dev’s Beverage, Inc.** Double Transfer & Request for Interior Connections with Another Business – Distributor
D-896 (LID No. 119385)
62 South Main Street
Montgomery, Lycoming County

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the transfer and request for interior connection with another business.

- (3) **J. D. Tincum, Inc.** Notice of Change in Business Structure – Hotel
H-1599 (LID No. 55508) Case No. 23-9148
211 East 2nd Street
Tincum Township
Essington, Delaware County

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.

- (4) **Victor A. Gregori, Jr.** Renewal – District 7
t/a Force Hotel
H-2490 (LID No. 35136) Case No. 2023-35136 **HOLD – 5/1/24 SESSION**
Bennetts Valley Highway **Conditional Licensing Agreement**
Jay Township
Force, Elk County

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the renewal with a conditional licensing agreement.

- (5) **GSU, Inc.** Renewal – District 5
t/a Gooski’s
R-12862 (LID No. 39114) Case No. 2023-39114
3117 Brereton Street
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.

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- (6) **Mac's Bros., Inc.** Renewal – District 9
D-3853 (LID No. 28137) Case No. 2023-28137
924 Northern Boulevard
South Abington Township
Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.
- (7) **McGuire's Pub, Inc.** Renewal – District 3
t/a McGuire's Pub
R-17708 (LID No. 64128) Case No. 2023-64128 **HOLD – 2/14/24 SESSION**
130 West Centre Street
Mahanoy City, Schuylkill County **Conditional Licensing Agreement**
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the renewal with an amended conditional licensing agreement.
- (8) **No Limit Studios, LLC** Renewal – District 5
t/a Mindful Brewing
R-14250 (LID No. 95551) Case No. 2023-95551
1001 Washington Avenue
Scott Township
Carnegie, Allegheny County
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.
- (9) **Northern Tier Beverage, Inc.** Renewal – District 9
D-819 (LID No. 26889) Case No. 2023-26889
133 North Main Street
Mansfield, Tioga County
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.

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- (10) **Walk The Plank, Inc.** Renewal – District 7
t/a The Shippen Inn
R-18709 (LID No, 71828) Case No. 2023-71828
11142 Route 208
Elk Township
Shippenville, Clarion County
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to hold for a conditional licensing agreement.
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- (11) **West Side Six Packs To Go, LLC** Renewal – District 9
R-10599 (LID No. 56437) Case No. 2023-56437
2127 Washburn Street
Scranton, Lackawanna County
- HOLD – 6/26/24 SESSION**
Conditional Licensing Agreement
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the renewal with a conditional licensing agreement.
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- (12) **Hillbilly Haven of Fairhope, LLC** New Tavern Gaming License
t/a Hillbilly Haven
R-18673 (LID No. 65242)
804 Fairhope Road
Fairhope Township
Fairhope, Somerset County
- Motion Made:** Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke
- Board Decision:** Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the tavern gaming license. Chairman Holden noted that this is the 103rd approved tavern gaming license.

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*From the Bureau of Human Resources Jason Lutcavage, Director of Administration
Jennifer Haas, Director, Bureau of Human Resources*

Personnel Actions

There were 20 personnel actions presented for consideration.

- (1) Erica Ash – Removal
- (2) Noah Black - Removal
- (3) Jenissa Bruno – Removal
- (4) Alexander Caycoya – Removal
- (5) Amanie Cyphert – Affirm Removal
- (6) Brandon Daniels – Removal
- (7) Tara Ford – Removal
- (8) Christa Greene – Removal
- (9) Anna Hovanec – Removal
- (10) Mark Kindy – Affirm Removal
- (11) Aniyah Landers – Removal
- (12) Charles Landsperger - Removal
- (13) Stacy Maggs – Affirm Removal
- (14) Alexandria Martell – Affirm Removal
- (15) Victoria McIntosh – Removal
- (16) Celena Nolan – Removal
- (17) Kristi Patrick – Affirm Removal
- (18) Michelle Plummer – Removal
- (19) Tymir Whitmore – Removal
- (20) Andre Willis – Affirm Removal

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the proposed personnel actions received from the Bureau of Human Resources.

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*From the Bureau of Accounting & Purchasing Rodrigo Diaz, Executive Director
Melinda John, Chief, Purchasing & Contracting Administration
Ijeoma Ezekoye, Director, Bureau of Financial Management & Analysis*

Procurement Actions:

- (1) **Project Manager Staff Augmentation** – This resource will develop and execute a project plan to decommission our complex EBS, RMS, old LOOP portal, and RDW from our old testing and training lower environments. The project manager (PM) would also be responsible for coordinating and conducting a refresh for our new testing environments to support R4 which moves our Oracle Store Inventory Management and Oracle Point of Service to the cloud. We have a documented refresh plan but need a PM to work through it and reduce the timeline from 7 weeks to 2 to 2.5 weeks to execute. A dedicated PM will help to optimize the project plan and timeline. Lastly, the consultant PM would also be responsible for leading the R3 implementation of Oracle Merchandise Financial Planning and Enterprise Planning and the R4 implementation of Oracle Store Inventory and Operations Cloud Service and XOffice and XStore. Included in R4 are changes to the custom Associate Portal.

Procured via DGS Contract #4400024749 – VENDOR: **OST, Inc.** – TERM: 11 months for period 8/5/2024 through 6/30/2025 - **\$182,000.00 estimated cost.**

- (2) **PA Compute Services (PACS) AIX Extended Maintenance Support** – This renewal extends maintenance support coverage for the AIX operating system v7.1. It is being processed late due to needing updated pricing for this year and was caught up with all of the other PACS renewal updates with the extension.

Procured via DGS Contract #4400014635 – VENDOR: **UNISYS** – TERM: Through expiration date of 4/30/2025 - **\$53,305.00 estimated cost.**

- (3) **Lenovo ThinkSystem SR850** – This request is for Lenovo ThinkSystem SR850 server hardware that will accomplish the following goals: replace two existing ESX hosts within the NWOB datacenter which are approaching end-of-life as they were purchased in 06/2016; and allow for the upgrade of the NWOB ESX cluster from version 6.7 to 7.0 or higher. Version 6.7 is end-of-life as of 11/2023.

Procured via DGS Contract #4400025328 – VENDOR: **Pierson Computing Connection Inc.** - **\$68,990.00 estimated cost.**

Inter-Agency Charges:

None

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich

Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the procurement actions received from the Bureau of Accounting and Purchasing.

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From the Office of Retail Operations..... Rodrigo Diaz, Executive Director

- (1) #4809 – 362 South Walnut Street, Bath
Amendment
- (2) #6714 – 802 Shrewsbury Commons Avenue, Shrewsbury
New Lease (Remodel)
- (3) #0265 – 908 Little Deer Valley Road, Russellton
Exercise Option
- (4) #0296 – South Park Shops, 5149 Library Road, Bethel Park
Exercise Option
- (5) #1406 – 323 Benner Pike, State College
Exercise Option
- (6) #4647 – 237 Harleysville Pike, Route 113, Harleysville
Exercise Option

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the the recommendations received from the Office of Retail Operations.

From the Bureau of Product Management..... Vacant, Director of Product Management

VENDOR – ITEM NAME

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

“These items went to Board for the public meeting without pricing”

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Various | 1. Regular New Items Accepted |
| Various | 2. Regular PA New Items Accepted |
| Various | 3. Regular Recommended Delist |

1. Regular New Items Accepted

BRAND NAME AND SIZE

REASON

Edrington Americas

Brugal Anejo Rum 1.75 L 3, 10

Moet Hennessy USA

Woodinville Straight Bourbon 750 mL 5

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Oasis Wine and Spirits

Chicken Cock Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey 750 mL 5, 6
Sea Isle Spike Iced Tea Black Tea 4x355 mL Cans 5

Southern Glazers Wine and Spirits of PA

Gemma di Luna Red Gem 750 mL 3, 19
TY KU Junmai Sake 720 mL 2, 3, 19

RECOMMENDED ACTION: We recommend the Board approve this action

2. Regular PA Spirits New Items

3 Sisters Rum Inc

3 Sisters Aged Rum 750 mL 16
3 Sisters White Rum 750 mL 16

Bluebird Distilling

Bluebird Distilling Char and Stave Café Amaro 750 mL 16
Bluebird Distilling Char and Stave Coffee Liqueur 750 mL 16
Bluebird Distilling Fine Townie Rye Whiskey 750 mL 16
Bluebird Distilling Regular Townie Bourbon Whiskey 750 mL 16

C and D Brewing Ventures Inc

Barrel 21 Whitetail Pennsylvania Straight Bourbon Whiskey 200 mL 16
Barrel 21 Woodcock Pennsylvania Straight Rye Whiskey 200 mL 16

Epsy House Spirits

Epsy House George 1794 Straight Bourbon Whiskey 750 mL 16

Majestic Wine and Spirits

Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey Maple Cask Finish 750 mL 16

Mingo Creek Craft Distillers

Liberty Pole Spirits Old Fashioned Cocktail 375 mL 16

Spruce Street Beverages LLC

Two Robbers Vodka 750 mL 16

RECOMMENDED ACTION: We recommend the Board approve this action

New Items – Recommended Listings

Reason Codes

1. Strong marketing support
2. High brand recognition
3. Line/Size extension of successful brand
4. Trade up opportunity
5. Growing category
6. Growing segment
7. National rollout

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8. Niche item / Limited distribution
9. High dollar profit potential
10. Trade out
11. High quality for the value
12. Innovative product/flavor
13. High sales through other PLCB channels (Luxury, Online, SLO)
14. Underrepresented category/segment
15. Hole in selection – consumer/store requests
16. PA Spirits
17. PA Wines
18. Licensee only
19. Probationary listing

3. Regular Recommended Delists

<u>BRAND NAME AND SIZE</u>	<u>CODE</u>
<u>Bluebird Distilling LLC</u> Bluebird Distilling White Rye Whiskey 750 mL	1324
<u>Capital Wine and Spirits</u> Susana Balbo Crios Rose of Malbec Mendoza 750 mL	3007
<u>Edrington Americas</u> Brugal XV Rum 750 mL	96072
<u>Luxco</u> Yago Sangria 3 L	7934
<u>Pernod Ricard USA</u> Mumm Napa Blanc De Blanc 750 mL	8553
<u>Majestic Wine and Spirits</u> Ballard Road Pinot Gris Oregon 750 mL	98428
Ballard Road Pinot Noir Rose Oregon 750 mL	98430
Middle Sister Sweet and Sassy Moscato 750 mL	5440
<u>Moet Hennessy USA</u> X by Glenmorangie Single Malt Scotch 750 mL	97692
<u>Western Spirits Beverage Company</u> Bird Dog Kentucky Straight Bourbon 750 mL	98698

EFFECTIVE DATE: The transference to closeout will become effective August 30, 2024

Motion Made: Board Member Vulakovich
Seconded: Board Member Clarke

Board Decision: Unanimously agreed (3-0 vote) to approve the recommendations received from the Bureau of Product Management.

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FINANCIAL REPORT *Michael J. Burns, Comptroller Operations, Office of Budget*

None

OTHER ISSUES

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board reserved 10 minutes for public comment.

No public comments were offered.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the PLCB will be a formal meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, beginning at 11:00 A.M. Prior to the public meeting, an Executive Session or Sessions will be held for the specific purposes as regularly set forth in the printed Board Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Board Member Vulakovich and seconded by Board Member Clarke, the meeting was adjourned.

The foregoing actions are hereby officially approved.

Chairman

Member

Member

ATTEST:

Secretary