OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
10:00 A.M. – June 1, 2022
Meeting Held Virtually – Microsoft Teams Live Event

The regular meeting of the Ohio Casino Control Commission (Commission) was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair June Taylor. Commissioners Sheetal Bajoria, McKinley Brown, Will Lucas, Lynn Slaby, and John Steinhauer were also in attendance. Chair Taylor introduced Sheetal Bajoria as the Commission’s newest Commissioner. Commissioner Bajoria has a CPA accounting background and is an entrepreneur as the co-founder and president of MDSolutions Inc., a traffic safety sign and design company. Chair Taylor welcomed Commissioner Bajoria and encouraged everyone to introduce themselves and review her bio on the Commission’s website. Next, the minutes of the May 18, 2022, meeting were approved following a motion by Chair Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Lucas.

Then, Executive Director Matthew Schuler provided a sports gaming update. Mr. Schuler announced, in accordance with House Bill 29, that the universal start date for sports gaming to go live in the state of Ohio will be January 1, 2023. The date was chosen with several factors in mind. First and foremost, the addition of sports gaming to Ohio will be the state’s largest gaming expansion in its history, with no less than 3,000 applications currently anticipated. It was imperative to consider the volume of applications, as well as the time it would feasibly take for all sports gaming operators to make the necessary arrangements to go live by the universal start date. While it might be easier for online operators to go live, brick and mortar establishments, and bars and taverns have more hurdles to pass. These businesses will need to distribute equipment and kiosks, and onboard additional employees. Mr. Schuler reiterated that House Bill 29 states that all forms of sports betting must have the opportunity to launch at the same time, and this universal state date ensures each type of sports betting has that opportunity.

Next, Mr. Schuler presented an updated sports gaming implementation timeline. Mr. Schuler indicated that the updated timeline, as well as updated FAQs, and application forms will be available on the Commission’s website. Mr. Schuler noted that the previous timeline only went up through July 15th but has been expanded to include additional deadlines through the January 1, 2023, universal start date. The newly added deadlines were then reviewed. On August 1st, applicants may begin submitting compliance documents necessary to go live, including responsible gaming plans, facility plans, equipment testing, geolocation procedures, house rules, and required procedures. The compliance document submission window will close on November 2, 2022. November 2nd is also the deadline in which all standard sports gaming employee applications must be submitted. Lastly, December 2nd will mark the deadline to have all equipment ready for Commission verification in order to go live by the universal start date of January 1, 2023. Mr. Schuler ended his update noting to stakeholders that it will be essential to meet these deadlines to ensure applicants have everything in place to go live by the universal start date.
William Cox, Deputy General Counsel, presented for consideration the first batch of new administrative rules to regulate sports gaming for final filing. These rules include those related to general provisions, provisional licensing, and independent testing laboratories, which form the cornerstone to allow the Commission to begin accepting sports gaming license applications, as well as certify independent testing laboratories. Mr. Cox explained that the Commission previously approved the rules at its February 16, 2022, meeting. After receiving approval, the rules were filed with the Common Sense Initiative Office (CSIO) and then with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR). After completing the rule-review process, the new rules became eligible for final filing. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to adopt proposed Resolution 2022-21, approving the final filing of Ohio Adm.Code 3775-1-02 — 08, 3775-4-99, and 3775-15-01. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slaby and approved.

Next, Mr. Cox provided a sports gaming rule update. He reported that the remaining rule batches have all been initially filed and are currently being reviewed by either CSIO or JCARR, which is a more formal and slower process. Mr. Cox indicated the Commission will continue to update the website with rule updates on these batches as they come available.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed,

Lara B. Thomas
Commission Secretary
Approved: June 15, 2022