CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION
7 MAY 2021

MEETING DATE / LOCATION:
7 May 2021
WebEx Conference Hosted:
CNGC Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
John Sparks, Chairman
Stephen Barrick, Vice Chairman
Linda O’Leary, Commissioner
Richard Hull, Commissioner

COMMISSION STAFF:
Janice Walters Purcell, Executive Director
Jeannie Bunch, Compliance Officer
Jonathan Rhoads, Gaming Systems Analyst
Tiffany Cochran, Compliance Manager
Kelsey Coachman, Clerk I
Kristi Cole, Licensing Agent III
Audra Imhoff, Audit Manager
Velma Coon-Santos, Gaming Commission Auditor III

CHEROKEE NATION ENTERTAINMENT:
Gary Weddell, Gaming Operations
Bear Christensen, Senior Director of Compliance
Jennifer Provence
Josh Anderson
Donald Childers, Surveillance and Loss Prevention
Tim Mannon, Corporate Gaming
Kyle Culver, Marketing
Angelia Jobe, Senior Manager IT

VISITORS:
John Young, Office of the Attorney General
Mitch Moren, CNB Audit
CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
7 May 2021
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I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order at approximately 9:38 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Chairman Sparks stated, “If the Clerk will call the roll, we’ll call this meeting or order.”

Kelsey Coachman appearing for Tammy Perry called roll.

Present: Chairman Sparks
Vice Chairman Barrick
Commissioner O’Leary
Commissioner Hull

Not Present: Commissioner McGeady

A quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Sparks stated, “Welcome everyone. Thank you for being here. The next Item on the Agenda is the Approval of the Agenda. It’s Item number III, in our previously distributed packet. Do we have a Motion to Approve the Agenda?”

Commissioner Hull made a Motion to Approve the Agenda; Commissioner Barrick seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks asked, “Do we have any questions on the Motion? Any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Seeing none, the Motion passes.”

Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Sparks stated, “Next Item is the Approval of the Minutes, similarly that’s been previously distributed. Do we have a Motion to Approve the Minutes?”

Commissioner Barrick made the Motion to Approve the Minutes; Commissioner Hull seconded the Motion.
Chairman Sparks asked, “Do we have any questions on the Motion? Any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Seeing none, the Motion passes. The Minutes are Approved.”

Motion passed.

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Sparks stated, “The next Item is the Introduction of Guests. We can see everyone on our list. Nice to have you all. Somebody feels like they need additional recognition, let me know. Otherwise, we’ll keep moving.”

VI. CNE REPORTS

Chairman Sparks stated, “The next Item is Item number VI the CNE Reports, which we will entertain in Executive Session. Do we have a Motion to enter into Executive Session?”

Commissioner O’Leary made the Motion to enter into Executive Session.

Chairman Sparks asked Commissioner O’Leary, “Commissioner O’Leary, was that Motion to enter into Executive Session for A. B. and C., all the parts of the CNE Reports underspace?”

Commissioner O’Leary affirms, “Yes.”

Commissioner Hull seconded the Motion.

Entered Executive Session at approximately 9:47 a.m.

Exited Executive Session at approximately 10:56 a.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Revised 2021 Amended TICS Republish to invite public comment

Chairman Sparks stated, “The next Item on the Agenda is Item VII, Old Business. In particular Item VII.A. Revised 2021 Amended TICS Republish to invite public comment. Executive Director would you like to address that? Or you would you like me to recognize Counsel Young, Assistant AG.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell responded, “Recognize Counsel Young please.”

John C. Young stated, “Thank you, Chairman Sparks. It looks like the TICS, when the final publication went up, went up on the correct web portal. They went where the law requires them to go. They did go on to a slightly different tab and I think it’s not quite a clean as I would like it to be. What I’m advising the Commission to do, and asking permission to do is republish them under a separate provision of the APA, which allows me to put them up for one (1) more month and solicit comment. I’m not advising and this provision doesn’t
allow the Commission to go into rule making right now. It instead contemplates that it's a matter under consideration and we're inviting public comment on it. So like I'll be doing on the next Item, I'm going to ask the Commission to Approve publication beginning on the 14th, May 14th.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Mr. Young? Yea, I messed up. I guess as we go into this. So this is in order. I will entertain a Motion to Approve to republish the Revised 2021 Amended TICS for public comment. Would someone make that Motion?”

Commissioner O'Leary made the Motion to Approve to republish the Revised 20221 Amended TICS for public comment; Commissioner Barrick seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, now we have a Motion and a second. We’re on the Motion under questions.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I have a question.”

Chairman Sparks responded, “Excuse me, Executive Director, yes?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell asked, “He’s asking that it be published May 14th. That work has to come out of CNGC, and that is next week. So we’re going to need an additional week. We’re going to run into some problems if we don’t.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Ok, so let’s hold off the issue of the precise date for now.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I think we’re going to have to put a date in there.”

Chairman Sparks asked Counsel John Young “Would you mind continuing your explanation of the issue.”

Counsel John Young replied, “I think that’s it, other than I would feel a little bit better if we put it back up and give it thirty (30) more days of comment. When it goes up is not really important to me. If there's a work flow issue, I understand. But I would like to invite more public comment in the off chance that it wasn’t quite as clean as I wanted it to be last time.”

Chairman Sparks responded, “So, Commissioners in affect as he stated, information was put up for public comment, the location on the website could be better. It definitely wasn’t hidden, nor was it, can anybody claim that the public didn’t know what was going on. But out of an abundance of caution, and as permission to transparency, this request is being made. I sure think it’s appropriate. I would encourage the support of the Commission. Is there any other questions by any of the Commissioners? Ok, well then the only other thing is the Minutes. You know what let’s just make sure we’re doing this right. Executive Director when would be a good date, do you believe for, logistically, to post?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, “A week from the 14th. The 14th is next week, we would need an additional week.”
Chairman Sparks responded, “Ok, so that’s the 21st. Do you have any…”
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “We have the audit on the 20th, so.”
Chairman Sparks replied, “What about the, you want to push it to the 28th?”
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell answered, “The 28th would work.”
Chairman Sparks asked, “And how many days are we going to go with this?”
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, “Thirty (30), so that would be the 29th would be the first day.”
Chairman Sparks replied, “Is there any benefit to posting them June 1st and run to the end of June 30th? Is there any negative reason?
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I think there would be a benefit to posting it the 28th as opposed to June 1st, because we have to use those for audit purposes and we have to have all our audit in September 30th.”
Chairman Sparks responded, “Ok, that’s good. Alright, so then will someone make a Motion to Amend the Motion before us to republish the 2021 TICS starting May 28 2021?”
Commissioner Barrick made the Motion to Amend the Motion to republish the 2021 Amended TICS starting May 28, 2021; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.
Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, we have a Motion and a second. Do we have any questions on the Motion?”
Commissioner Hull asked, “Chairman, is that ask of both A. and B.?”
Chairman Sparks replied, “I think we’re just on A. right now.”
Commissioner Hull responded, “Ok, thank you.”
Chairman Sparks asked, “Any other questions on the Motion to Amend? Seeing none, any debate? I’ll close debate. Just thanking everyone for the accommodation on this. Seeing no further debate. All in favor say aye.”
Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none the Motion to Amend passes. Now on the Motion as Amended, to republish. Any further questions on the Motion as Amended? Hearing none, is there any debate? Hearing none, all in favor say aye.”
Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed. Hearing none the Motion as Amended passes.”

B. Barred Patron Republish to invite public comment

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re now moving on the VII.B. as I understand it we have a similar situation. Is there a Motion to republish the Barred Patron Language starting May 28th?”
Commissioner Hull made the Motion to republish the Barred Patron Language starting May 28th; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you so much Commissioner O’Leary, we have a Motion and a second. Assistant AG Young, you are recognized for explanation brief or lengthy as you deem appropriate.”

Counsel John Young stated, “Thank you, Chairman Sparks. The Barred Patron, when it was published, the APA cover sheet on it had typos on it that I think were a little confusing. I think there’s no question the public had notice of it. I think there’s no question the public had an opportunity to comment, but again I want to err on the side of caution and transparency. And I’d like to put it out for public comment one (1) more time just to see if there’s any chance there’s a little bit of clean up out there that I need to do.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “And just as an overriding issue. This republishing will not disrupt the current implementation. It’s in full force as we speak and will continue to be so, is that right?”

Counsel John Young replied, “Correct, as with the previous provision we published, this only says that it’s going out for comment, but the Commission itself is not going into rule making. The law stays valid, the reg stays valid with this one as it does with the other.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Alright, any further questions on the Motion? Alright seeing none, any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes. Thank you all for that. Executive Director, Assistance AG Young, Thank you both for your work on that. It’s much appreciated. Anyone else under Old Business. Seeing none. We are moving along.”

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Permits & Licenses

1. Employees

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re moving along the next Item is Item VIII. New Business. In particular New Business under Permits & Licenses, VIII.A.1. Employees. So, VIII.A.1. We had a revised list as I understand, and it is consistent with what is listed on the screen, if we could roll back one (1) page. Who would like to be recognized to present this?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell responded, “Kristi Cole was going to present, well actually someone else in licensing, Meghan Thompson was because Kristi Cole is up for renewal.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Ok. Executive Director could you handle this?”
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell responded, “Ok, I can. So licensing had thirty-seven (37) permits and twenty-one (21) suitability determinations and twenty-eight (28) Orders. They had some renewals, ten (10) of those included employees from CNGC. We did a revised license, using the information the NIGC told us that we needed to use. And of those it negated the need for several ones including a beverage associate, a café associate, a barista and cocktail server, and a mixologist. These specifically were not to be fingerprinted by the FBI so we made a revision on that and we’re submitting those for approval.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Do we have a Motion to Approve the recommendation of the staff to Approve the thirty-seven (37) temporary permits, twenty-one (21) suitability determinations, twenty-eight (28) orders, and one hundred seventy-one (171) renewals? Do we have a Motion to Approve staff recommendation?”

Commissioner O’Leary made the Motion to Approve staff recommendation; Commissioner Barrick seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Great, we have a Motion and a second. Do we have any questions? Seeing none, any debate? Seeing none, I’ll close debate. Executive Director thank you for pinch hitting.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, “Thank you.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “With that, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes.”

Motion Passed.

2. Vendor and Vendor Representatives

Chairman Sparks stated, “We are now on VIII.A.2. Vendor and Vendor Representatives. Executive Director is there someone you’d like to designate? Or would you like to handle that?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell asked, “Is there anyone one from licensing? Well then, I’ll just go ahead and so we have zero (0) company orders, seven (7) individual orders, eleven (11) company renewals, and sixty (60) individual renewals to be Approved. In order to be a vendor it has to be gaming related. And it is not required by NIGC although, generally for compact purposes, they have asked about this, so that is the reason we license vendors.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, well let’s handle the rest under the regular order. Do we have a Motion to approve staff recommendation to Approve the items listed?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Approve staff recommendation; Commissioner Barrick seconded.
Chairman Sparks stated, "Thank you, we have a Motion and a second. Do we have any further questions on the Motion? Any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say, aye."

Chairman Sparks asked, "Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes. So that was VIII.A.2. Anything else under VIII.A.2?"

B. Game & System Approvals

1. EGM Approval Memorandum

Chairman Sparks stated, "Let's go on to VIII.B. Game & System Approvals. Similarly Executive Director would you like to handle that or designate another?"

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, "Actually, Tiffany Cochran with Compliance."

Chairman Sparks responded, "Alright. Ms. Cochran are you available online with us today?"

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, "I will text her."

Chairman Sparks responded, "Ok. I think it would be very good for her to be on for B.2."

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, "Yes, we’re contacting her. I would actually prefer if she did these, because there are Affirmations of Executive Director Approval."

Chairman Sparks stated, "Oh, yes, yes, good point. Ms. Cochran you are recognized for item VIII.B.1. What’s the Motion you would request the Commission make?"

Tiffany Cochran stated, "For this month we are requesting Approval for forty-four (44) new electronic game themes/game clients:

- 9 AGS
- 19 VGT
- 1 Interblock
- 3 IGT
- 10 Aristocrat
- 1 Scientific Games
- 1 Aries

We have five (5) new gaming cabinets:

- 3 Aries
- 2 Aristocrat

Six (6) new main programs/OS:

- 4 AGS
- 1 VGT
• 1 Aries

We have (6) six new gaming components:

• 2 AGS
• 1 VGT
• 3 Aries

And then we also have one (1) Executive Director Approval:

• 1 VGT

that we’re requesting an Affirmation for that is highlighted in yellow on your Memo. We have reviewed these items and are recommending approval as listed and previously distributed.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Is there a Motion to Approve the staff recommendation as stated?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Approve the staff recommendation as stated; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, any questions on the Motion? Any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none the Motion passes.”

Motion passed.

2. Everi Compliance v3.5.3.6 Memo

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you. Now to VIII.B.2. Ms. Cochran are you prepared to speak to that item? And what Motion would you like the Commission to entertain?”

Tiffany Cochran stated, “CNE has submitted and requested approval for the installation and implementation of the Everi Compliance software version 3.5.2.6. This Everi Compliance software will replace the current NEWave system version 4.1. NEWave is the main system for compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act (Title 31). The current system, NEWave, will no longer be supported by Everi. So that’s one of their big reasons that they are going to be switching over to Everi Compliance. This upgrade also includes enhancements that will allow the system addition functionality for reporting and compliance.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Ok, let’s stop there for a second. Trying something new on this. I think it’ll be more, as far as our rules of order and procedure. Do we have a Motion to Approve staff’s recommendation of the installation and implementation of the Everi Compliance software version 3.5.2.6?”

Commissioner Barrick made the Motion to Approve staff’s recommendation of the installation and implementation of the Everi Compliance software version 3.5.2.6; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.
Chairman Sparks stated, “We have a Motion and a second. We’re now on questions. Thank you for allowing me to interrupt there.”

Commissioner Hull asked, “Chairman, I have a question. Does our Agenda say 3.4.3.6?”

Tiffany Cochran replied, “The Agenda does say that. It would need to be corrected, because the version that we are requesting Approval for is 3.5.2.6.”

Commissioner Hull stated, “That was my concern. I didn’t know if that was an error. And so with that Motion, previous Motion, would that be with the amendment on that Chairman?”

Chairman Sparks responded, “So that’s a great point. Ms. Cochran let me ask is the correct version 3.5.2 or 3.5.3?”

Tiffany Cochran replied, “It’s 3.5.2.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Two (2), ok. So I think we’ll need to Amend the Agenda. Let’s do that after this.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “Chairman that is a scrivener’s error.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes, right. Not substantive just a scrivener’s error. And we’ll correct that for the record. But because it’s a scrivener’s error I don’t think we need to suspend the current Motion, or table the current Motion to correct the Agenda and go back. So, thank you Commissioner Hull for that. We’re still on the Motion we have questions for Ms. Cochran. Ms. Cochran if you would take a question from the Chair. If you would proceed with what you were saying. Thank you again for the interruption.”

Tiffany Cochran stated, “Ok, so I just want to be clear. I don’t know if maybe I missed it prior to me joining. Do we just need to make our recommendation first and then wait, or what’s the process you’re wanting to try?”

Chairman Sparks replied, “So what I’m doing is I’m just trying to have questions and answers after we’ve made a Motion and seconded. So we know if the discussion is in order or not. I guess what I’m doing is requesting the Motion the staff would like first and then once we make that Motion, then we can add that explanation on the Motion.”

Tiffany Cochran stated, “Ok, I just wanted to make sure that I understood.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yea, and by the way this just, I just had this epiphany just within the last two (2) minutes, so I’m sorry for calling an audible there without letting anyone else know. Go ahead, thank you.”

Tiffany Cochran stated, “So along with their submission CNE has submitted a letter of intent which was attached to the Memo that was distributed. They also provided release notes, hardware requirements and specifications, a topology, and user guides, and lab results. CNE did experience a couple of hiccups with the testing but we’ve been keeping up with them. And they’ve been good about letting us know about any testing. Right now
they only have one (1) issue that CNE is still working with the vendor on, however there is an actual manual process for that recording. The issue that their experiencing is the global payment VIP echeck that are started and completed at the kiosk is not reporting back to Everi Compliance, however there is a manual process to retrieve those reports. And so CNE has requested a resolution where it would be automated. So the issue is technically resolved and its working as it is intended. The only issue is they would like it to be automated instead of manual. There will be training prior to any golive at the property. The NEWave server will be stored at the properties for historical data should it be needed. And there is no anticipated blackouts for this implementation. So at this time we are requesting Approval for the Everi Compliance Software 3.5.2.6.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, so we have a Motion and a second. And we’ve had an explanation. Are there any further questions by the Commissioners, Executive Director, Counsel, any further questions? Alright, seeing none. Any debate? Seeing none, I’ll close debate. Thank you again for my change of direction there midstream. With that, we’ll close debate. All in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed. Hearing none, at this point I will entertain a Motion to Amend the Agenda to correct the scrivener’s error on VIII.B.2. Would somebody like to make that Motion?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Amend the Agenda to correct the scrivener’s error; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, we have a Motion and a second. Any questions?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell asked, “Chairman? Just for clarification this is a Motion to Amend the Agenda previously Approved due to a scrivener’s error. Correct?”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes. Any further questions? Any debate? As discussed, I’ll close debate then. Memorialize again, this is only a scrivener’s error, not substantive so, it’s the opinion of the Chair that the sequence of the Motion in relationship to the on the underlined, in relationship to the correction of the Agenda is appropriate. As a Point of Order. So with that, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none the Motion passes. Thank you.”

Motion passed.

3. Theoretical Hold Percentage Adjustment Affirmation of Approval

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re now to VIII.B.3. Ms. Cochran, what is the Motion you would like the Commission entertain?”

Tiffany Cochran responded, “The Motion we are requesting is Approval for the Theoretical Hold Percentage Adjustment.”
Chairman Sparks replied, “Great, do we have a Motion to Approve staff recommendation as stated?”

Commissioner O'Leary made the Motion to Approve staff recommendation as stated; Commissioner Hull seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, we have a Motion and a second. We are now on questions. Question from the Chair if you would continue your explanation?”

Tiffany Cochran responded, “Yes, sir. CNE has submitted a request for Executive Director Approval to move forward with an adjustment to theoretical hold percentages on some VGT machines, in accordance with section 7.9 of the CNGC TICS. This request required a configuration change to the slot master file for the hold percentages. I did confirm with Monica Richards that this is in fact the 7.9 c two (2) and three (3). Executive Director Approval was granted to allow CNE to move forward with the configuration change to the slot master file for the theoretical hold percentage to some VGT machines before the smoke shops opened on May 1st. On April 27th CNE made the VGT hold adjustments (system changes) for the Roland Travel Plaza and West Siloam Springs Smoke Shop. I wanted to make sure the Commission knew that this was not a hard configuration change that normally takes place. It was a system change that was able to be completed in the slot master file on the system. So it wasn’t a hard configuration change. And so at this time we are requesting Affirmation of Approval for the Theoretical Hold Percentage Adjustment to the VGT machines.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, we have a Motion and a second and an explanation. Do we have any further questions? Commissioners, any questions? Executive Director, do you have a question? Or counsel?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I have a question.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Oh yes, you do? Yes, please.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “So on the Affirmation of Approval, I would like Ms. Cochran to explain that process. She does due diligence. She makes the recommendation prior to any Executive Approval. So I would just kind of like her to explain that process.”

Chairman Sparks responded, “Ms. Cochran if you would?”

Tiffany Cochran stated, “Yes, to reiterate what Ms. Purcell said is whenever CNE submit their requests, I do go and look through it to make sure we are covering all of our bases. And any questions that I may have, I do ask and they are answered by CNE prior to recommending Approval from Executive Director Purcell.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “And Ms. Cochran is very thorough.”
Chairman Sparks stated, “Did you know? So that is in the form of a question. Did you know? Thank you any further questions? Alright, any debate? Seeing no debate. I’ll close debate on this one as well and just reiterate what Executive Director Purcell said as well as Ms. Cochran. The reason we do this is just so CNE can be responsive in regard to market changes and other matters. So far this seems to be working well. Or at least I hope. I guess if they didn’t they would let us know. With that, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes. Thank you all for that. Anything else under VIII.B.? Seeing none.”

Motion passed.

C. IHP Transfer Request Memo

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re on to VIII.C. the internal transfer, the progressive fund transfer. Who would like to speak? Ms. Bunch is that you?”

Jeannie Bunch replied, "Yes, that would be me, sir.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Would you like a Motion to Approve the transfer of the retired progressive funds to promotions for the amount listed in the Memo?”

Jeannie Bunch responded, “Yes please. That would be the recommendation is for Approval.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Alright, do we have a Motion to Approve staff recommendation?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Approve staff recommendation; Commissioner Barrick seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Great, we have a Motion and a second. We’re now on questions, so, Ms. Bunch do you have anything else to add?”

Jeannie Bunch responded, “Not for the transfer request.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Ok, any other questions by the Commissioners? Executive Director or counsel. Seeing none, any debate? Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, Motion passes. Thank you.”

D. Promotions Memo

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re now on to VIII.D. Ms. Bunch it looks like you are up again. Do you have a request for a Motion from the Commission?”

Jeannie Bunch responded, “Yes, I have a request for Approval for the promotions listed in the Memo there. There are two (2) new ones and then a few listed for Affirmation.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “So there’s a request for a Motion to Approve the Calendar of Events and Promotions as provided in the meeting packet. Do we have such a Motion?”
Commissioner Barrick made the Motion to Approve the Calendar of Events and Promotions as provided in the meeting packet. Commissioner O'Leary seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, we have a Motion and a second. Do we have any further questions for Ms. Bunch? Ms. Bunch if you would take a question from the Chair. What’s new and different of this request?”

Jeannie Bunch replied, “The only different in this request is there are two (2) listed that have not received Executive Director Approval prior to today. And those two (2) are listed first there for corporate properties. Those will be executed across all properties or the properties that are listed within the GCR.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Ok, any follow-up questions by Commissioners? Executive Director? Counsel? Seeing none, any debate? Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes.”

Motion passed.

E. SICS Memo

Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re moving on to E. the SICS Memo. System of Internal Controls Standards. And Ms. Cochran, it appears from the Agenda that you may be speaking to this one. If that is correct.”

Tiffany Cochran responded, “It will be Ms. Bunch that will be presenting the SICS Memo.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Ah, a little twist, ok. Ms. Bunch is there a Motion that you would like the Commission to entertain?”

Jeannie Bunch stated, “I make a Motion that those policies be Approved as listed there. And I have one (1) change to add on the CAG175, it’s just a formatting change that after we put the packet together, CNE sent over an additional final copy stating that there was just a format issue on like A, B, C, and 1, 2, 3, and we have filed that with our finalized packet and paperwork here and recommend them Approved as listed.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, so it would be fair to say, that you are requesting Approval of the changes to the SICS, the Amendment to the SICS, as circulated in the packet with the only alteration being the conforming the numbering to document number CAG175?”

Jeannie Bunch replied, “Correct.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Do we have such a Motion?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Approve the Amendment to the SICS; Commissioner O'Leary seconded the Motion.
Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, we have a Motion and a second. Do we have any other questions on this Motion?”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I have a question for Ms. Bunch.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes, Executive Director you are recognized.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell asked, “Ms. Bunch we have Mr. Hull who is a relatively new Commissioner, so could you explain the SICS to him and the purpose of it?”

Jeannie Bunch responded, “Well these policies what are already in place for CNE to use and follow. And as operations change or reviews are done to meet the other control standards, they revise these. They submit them to us and we go through a review process of reviewing what they’re changes are. Anything that we might see they missed or add to or change, we work back and forth with CNE on those to get a final copy that meets all internal controls that they need. They’re a work in process constantly in keeping these up to date for day to day operations.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “Thank you.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Indeed. Any further questions?”

Bear Christensen asked, “Chairman, may I say something?”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes.”

Bear Christensen stated, “My group, I have a bunch of policy writers and they work very well with Ms. Bunch and Ms. Cochran and since they’ve come on board and taken this task up. And so, I would like to recognize them. I think we have a great working relationship right now. I think like Jeannie said, it takes a lot to continuously deal with these. Based on changing nature of operations, and those sorts of things. And so we’ve gotten nothing but good comments from my people in regards to how they are able to work with Tiffany and Ms. Bunch. So I just wanted to let the Commissioners know that.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Did you know?”

Bear Christensen stated, “That’s right. The more you know.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Finish that statement with ‘did you know’ so it’s a question. It’s kind of like Jeopardy. Any other questions? Nope, no questions. Debate? Debate on the Motion? No debate. All in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes. Thank you very much.”

Motion passed.

F. Implementation Follow-Up Memo
Chairman Sparks stated, “We’re moving on VIII.F. the implementation follow-up Memo. On the matters contained there in.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I’m going to defer to Ms. Imhoff to go over this.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, Ms. Imhoff, is there a Motion you would like the Commission to entertain on this matter?”

Audra Imhoff replied, “No, not at this time. This is just for informational purposes. It does look like we were able to close out some of the issues, mostly due to the new amended TICS.”

Chairman Sparks responded, “Alright, you’d like the Commission to just receive this Memo for informational purposes?”

Audra Imhoff replied, “Yes, sir.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “I think we can do that. Is there anything you would like to highlight in that regard?”

Audra Imhoff responded, “No, not at this time.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Commissioners, do you have any questions? Seeing none, we won’t have any debate on this so, the item will be received. Anything else under VIII.F.?”

G. Final Audit Report—Accounting 21-01AP

Chairman Sparks stated, “Next is VIII.G. and are you, will you speak to that as well?

Audra Imhoff replied, “I would actually like to defer this to Velma Coon-Santos, because I transferred recently from CNE and Revenue Audit. I didn’t want there to be any conflict of interest with this final report.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “So Ms. Coon-Santos is going to talk about the revenue audit. We have the report up for you.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Alright, will there be action requested on this?”

Velma Coon-Santos replied, “I believe our action is to be able to release this audit. Sorry Excuse me.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Ok.”

Velma Coon-Santos asked, “Are there any questions or comments regarding our Revenue Audit Final Report?”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Before we go there, do we have a Motion to adopt the staff recommendation to release this Revenue Final Audit Report May 7th? Do we have such a Motion?”
Commissioner Barrick made the Motion to Adopt staff recommendation to release the Revenue Audit Final Report on May 7, 2021; Commissioner Hull seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you we have a Motion and a second. We are now on questions on the Motion. So if you would accept a question from the Chair? Do you have anything Ms. Coon-Santos? Do you have anything you would like to highlight in this regard?”

Velma Coon-Santos replied, “I know with our audits we kind of review all the controls that are in place regarding the certain department which was over revenue. Incoming/outgoing revenue within the casino operations.”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Ok, do we have any further questions by any of the Commissioners? Any additional questions? Seeing none. Do we have any questions by Executive Director or counsel? Seeing none, any debate? Seeing none, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, the Motion passes. Thank you, is there else under item VIII? Roman numeral VIII?”

Kristi Cole asked, “Yes, Chairman. I have a question.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “This is a Point of Order, who’s this?”

Kristi Cole replied, “This is Kristi.”

Chairman Sparks responded, “Yes, yes.”

Kristi Cole stated, “I apologize, I was getting back on the meeting. Did I miss section VIII.A.? Did we address those?”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes, we had someone pinch hit for that. And we were able to struggle through.”

Kristi Cole responded, “I apologize the WebEx kicked me out. I had to rely on a text message to know when to get back.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Yes, well hopefully next time we will all be together.”

Kristi Cole asked, “Just to clarify, were those Approved?”

Chairman Sparks replied, “Yes they were, narrowly. Under a cloud of uncertainty. Just kidding. No the Executive Director stepped in and did a marvelous job.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “Thank you.”

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Chairman Sparks stated, “So with that, speaking of which, the next item is IX. The Executive Director Report. Executive Director, do you have anything else to report?”
Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell responded, “Yes, I just want to say on the licensing regulations, we are following up on the previous Commission’s directive. And aligning the list of licenses with the revised ordinance and those regulations and also the compact. So we are working being in compliance, there’s a lot of components that go into that. There’s licensing, there’s any questions that we have for CNE, HR, what the position is and I do want to say thank you to the Commission for passing that regulation and it has gone through the APA process. So we will be doing a lot of reviewing as the licensing comes in until we have it down to a fine art. I also want to say that, as to the SICS and Jeannie Bunch and Tiffany Cochran. Those come in pretty fast, and there’s a quick turnaround, and I really appreciate the work that they put into it. As do I appreciate the work that the entire staff puts in because they are very hard workers. And that’s all I have to say on the Executive Director Report.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you for that. Any questions for the Executive Director? None, ok, thank you.”

X. OPEN SESSION

Chairman Sparks stated, “With that we are moving on then to Open Session. Anybody like to be recognized for Open Session? Oh, Bear Christensen, requesting to be recognized at 11:47, before adjournment. You have the floor.”

Bear Christensen stated, “I just wanted to follow-up on something Executive Director Purcell said in regards to the new licensing regulation. We have been working with CNGC and with Ms. Purcell and Mr. Young and we have provided, I think a couple of weeks ago, we came up with a good list of those positions that were previously licensed and under the new regulation currently do not need to be licensed. And I don’t know if Mr. Young has anything to add to that on what the plans are going forward with those positions. So I just kind of wanted to bring that to the Commissioner’s attention and maybe ask Mr. Young to comment on that.”

Counsel John Young responded, “For the positions that were identified in consultation with CNE and Executive Director Purcell and I, we’ve identified quite a few that no longer need to be licensed. I think there might be a few more wrinkles in the hose that we need to work out to make sure like Ms. Purcell said, that we’re getting this down to a fine art. I’ll continue to work with Ms. Purcell and CNE to make sure we do that. Like I said, it’s been a very technical process.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Alright, anything else Mr. Christensen at 11:49?”

Bear Christensen replied, “No, I just appreciate the efforts that have been provided by both Ms. Purcell and Mr. Young during this process. This process has been going on since prior to the new regulation, but I think we’ve nailed it down quite a bit on the positions that we believe. We also, I just want to make the Commission aware that we believe although they might not meet the letter of the law in terms of requiring licensure, we also made sure in
our discussions to address those that may kind of fall in the grey area. And we erred on the side of caution to request those be licensed by CNGC and I know there’s going to be a lot of working through on processes on both sides making sure that we address the changes in an intelligent and definitely a practical way. So you’ll probably hear more from us on both sides as this process continues.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “And Chairman, I did want to say something in Open Session.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Yes, you are recognized at 11:51.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell replied, “Ok, I’m going to make it quick. The next Commission Meeting we have is scheduled to be in Tahlequah. And after listening to what the requirements are and everything, I just wanted to know if the Commission want to have that meeting live in Tahlequah?”

Chairman Sparks responded, “So, it’s the opinion of the Chair that we meet, in person, in Tahlequah. We’re going to adhere to safety issues regarding space and masking and whatnot. Obviously the more folks that are vaccinated the better for that. That is the intent unless there is a concern or disagreement to the contrary from any Commissioner or staff.”

Executive Director Janice Walters Purcell stated, “I just needed to know so I can reserve space at the conference room and make reservations for after.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Commissioner Hull do you have any objections to that, proceeding in that manner?”

Commissioner Hull responded, “No, I do not.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Commissioner O’Leary do you have any objection?”

Chairman O’Leary replied, “I don’t.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Commissioner Barrick, I saw you shaking your head, do you have any objection?”

Commissioner Barrick responded, “No sir, I’d like it to be in person.”

Chairman Sparks stated, “Great. Commissioner McGeady needs to show up if she wants her voices heard, just kidding. We’ll reach out to her to see if she has any objection. Alright, thank you for that. Thank you Executive Director for bringing that to our attention. Is there anyone else under Open Session at 11:53? No, ok.”

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sparks asked, “Is there a Motion to Adjourn?”

Commissioner Hull made the Motion to Adjourn; Commissioner O’Leary seconded the Motion.
Chairman Sparks stated, “Thank you, we have a Hull Motion. We have an O'Leary second. Any questions? Any debate? Alright in that case, all in favor say, aye.”

Chairman Sparks asked, “Any opposed? Hearing none, Motion passes at 11:54. Thank you all, well done.”

Motion to Adjourn passed at approximately 11:54 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairman Sparks

Date