

Minutes of Meeting of the Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission

January 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
Quality Inn, Fort Madison, Iowa

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Dave Walker (Brl); Jason Hutchinson (Brl-via phone); Terry Johnson (Brl-via phone); Kirk Brandenburg (KK-via phone); Dave Schwarz (KK); Joe Steil (KK-via phone); and Justin Pieper (FM-via phone).

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Steven Link (FM) and Chuck Kempker (FM)

EX-OFFICIAL MEMBERS:

Present was Jon Billups by telephone.

Also present are Rob Higgins, General Manager Catfish Bend Casinos LLC and Mitchell L. Taylor, Counsel for the Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: None.

MEETING MINUTES:

Terry Johnson made a motion to approve the October __, 2021, Minutes of the meeting, Chuck Kempker seconded it. The minutes were approved by the Commission by unanimous voice vote. See attached Exhibit "A".

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Dave Walker made a motion after presenting the Treasurer's Report for the months of July, August, and September 2021. The motion was seconded by Justin Pieper. The reports were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Commission. See attached Exhibit "B".

CATFISH BEND CASINOS LLC REPORT:

Rob Higgins, General Manager, reported:

- A general report of the 2021 operations and successes of Catfish Bend Casinos was reported.
- Complications with result of Covid. The Casio continues to have the normal staffing issues, the result of Covid and availability of labor. The Casio is working through this and has Covid protocols so far that has been successful.

- A report of Legislative efforts by the Casio, particularly on behalf of Rob Higgins, who was on his way back from Des Moines working on Legislative issues at the time of the meeting. Mr. Higgins set forth that Legislative agenda being worked on including, but not limited to:
 - The ability to transfer funds from online accounts available on a guest cellphone. Cash will always be permitted to be used but it is the belief of the Casio that the future dictates the review of this issue.
- January promotions by Catfish. Rob explained that he was excited about the response during the NFL and College Football Seasons, particularly the result of sport bets being made.
- Letters of Appointment required have now all been executed, submitted, and approved.

AUDIT:

Dave Schwarz and Dave Walker reported that the CPA & Associates “second audit” of the Iowa Regional Riverboat Casino has been completed. A copy of the Report was provided to the Commissioners in attendance and sent by email to those participating by phone. See attached Exhibit “C” for the Audit Report from CPA & Associates.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS:

The Bylaw amendments set forth in a November 30, 2021, report to the officers of the Commission was discussed, considered, and upon Motion made by Joe Steil, seconded by Justin Pieper were unanimously approved. Counsel was directed to prepare Restated Bylaws for the Commission containing the ability of the Commission to meet by telephonic, video conferencing, or additional technology as well as a Board attendance policy requiring Commissioners to attend two (2) of four (4) meetings annually. See attached Restated Bylaws.

The Commission directed Dave Schwartz to sign the amended Bylaws with full authority on behalf of the Commission amending the same. The Bylaws are amended in accordance with the existing Bylaws requirements of a super-majority. The Bylaw amendments were passed unanimously at a Board of Directors meeting for which there was a quorum.

CONTRACT WITH CATFISH BEND CASINOS LLC:

The Commission tasked counsel to send a proposed draft of a Renewal Contract with the Casino and begin discussions of a Contract with the Casino in hopes of having a final agreement by April 2022 for consideration at the Commission’s Board Meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Upon Justin Pieper's motion, seconded by Terry Johnson, the following officers for the Commission were unanimously approved by the Board of Directors:

President	Dave Schwartz
Vice President	Justin Pieper
Secretary	Terry Johnson
Treasurer	Dave Walker

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Terry Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, was seconded from Joe Steil. The Motion to adjourn was passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell L. Taylor
Counsel for Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission

Dave Schwarz, President
Southeast Iowa Regional River Boat Commission