

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF  
SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL RIVERBOAT COMMISSION**

**October 18, 2016 at 4:45P.M.  
Reding & Santiago, PLC Offices  
FORT MADISON, IOWA**

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm by Steve Staebell, president (BRL)

Commissioners Present:

Dave Walker (BRL), Terry Johnson (BRL), Chuck Kempker (FM), Justin Pieper (FM), Joe Steil (KK), Kirk Brandenberger (KK)

Guests:

Rob Higgins – General Manager Catfish Bend Casinos

Reporter from the Daily Democrat was present for the meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2016 MEETING WAS  
WAIVED UNTIL THE JANUARY MEETING:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- A. July Financial Report
  - a. Dave Walker made a motion to approve the July financial report, said motion was seconded by Joe Steil.
  - b. Report passed on unanimous voice vote.
- B. August Financial Report
  - a. Dave Walker made a motion to approve the August financial report, said motion was seconded by Kirk Brandenberger.
  - b. Report passed on unanimous voice vote.
- C. September Financial Report
  - a. Dave Walker made a motion to approve the September financial report, said motion was seconded by Terry Johnson.

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- b. Report passed on unanimous voice vote.

### **CATFISH BEND CASINOS L.C. REPORT:**

Rob Higgins indicated that the casino had a fabulous year in 2015. He made the point that even though revenues have gone down this year they are still up from 2014. Rob handed out a copy of the casino's newest free play Sunday promotion to the board. He informed the board that the payback of the casino has been consistent, and in fact is third in the state. He indicated that December's entertainment is going to be the Oak Ridge Boys which expects to be a very good draw.

Mr. Higgins went on to discuss that they are starting renovations for their new rental Panera and owner Coldstone. He also discussed the plans for the new 86 room Hampton Inn Suites which will be going up with opening expected next year. New renovations are also taking place in the waterpark, with the addition of a new slide and some other amenities.

#### Other Business:

Steven Staebell reminded the board that election of officers takes place at the January meeting and the importance of being present

Discussion was had on the reports to the IGA which wants our information by the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month. Want to highlight our expenditures and to advise everyone of how the grant money is spent. The report is included in the license report.

Regarding the SIRRC Governance Report the state has approved and removed term limits due to the special nature of our organization being a pass through type entity.

A motion was made by Chuck Kempker to approve CPA Associates for the SIRRC audit. The motion was seconded by Terry Johnson and passed on unanimous vote.

A discussion was had concerning the IGA conference call. A request for timely financial report was made. The smoking issue has been brought up, however, it doesn't appear that will go forward. Other casinos along the river have been having reduced revenues which have been attributed to Illinois video poker in bars. Rob Higgins indicates that Catfish Bend has not seen this loss of revenue and he opined that it may be the result of a difference between a bar patron and a casino patron.

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Motion was made by Chuck Kempker to change the hours of the casino and seconded by Terry Johnson was approved by voice vote. A copy of the schedule is attached as Exhibit "A".

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Joe Steil made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Commission, Terry Johnson seconded said motion.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote

Meeting adjourned at 5:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Reding

**Reding & Santiago, PLC**

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ATTORNEY FOR COMMISSION

Catfish Bend Casinos II, LLC's proposed schedule for days and hours of operation as a gambling structure are as follows:

**Daily Hours of Operation**

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

Friday – open at 8:00 a.m. and will remain open until 3:00 a.m. on the following Monday.

**Holiday Hours**

The Casino **will not close** at 3:00 a.m. on the **Memorial Day** (5/30), and **Labor Day** (9/5) holidays. For the **Thanksgiving Day** holiday, the Casino will open at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and will remain open until 3:00 a.m. on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. For the **Christmas** and **New Year's Day** holiday, the Casino **will open at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, December 23<sup>nd</sup>, and will remain open until 3:00 a.m. on Monday, January 2, 2017.**