

# **Minutes of Meeting of the Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission (SIRRC)**

**January 24 at 4:45 p.m.  
Catfish Bend Convention & Event Center**

## **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Dave Walker (Brl); Dave Schwarz (KK); Kirk Brandenberger (KK); Jason Hutchinson (Brl); Terry Johnson (Brl); Steve Link (FM); Justin Pieper (FM); Chuck Kempker (FM); and Joe Steil (KK).

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

None absent.

### EX-OFFICIAL MEMBERS:

Tom Broeker, Des Moines County Board of Supervisors and Jon Billups, Mayor of Burlington.

Also present are Rob Higgins, General Manager and Gary Hoyer of Catfish Bend Casinos LLC; Mitchell L. Taylor, Counsel for the Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission (SIRRC); and no non-participating audience.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: None.

### MEETING MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2022 meeting was made by Chuck Kempker. The motion was seconded by Terry Johnson. It was unanimously approved. See attached Exhibit "A".

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Dave Walker made a motion after presenting the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Kirk Brandenberger. The motion was unanimously approved.

### CATFISH BEND CASINOS LLC REPORT:

Rob Higgins, General Manager, reported to the Board on the following topics:

- Rob and Gary explained the coin-in report and the difference between the coin-in report and a revenue report;
- Rob reviewed the promotions ran in October, November, and December; promotions to run in January; as well as promotions anticipated to run in January, February, and March; and reported that he was excited about the upcoming promotions. The Casino has a number of promotions on the

forefront and will provide the Casino patrons the traditional flier promoting the same.

- Rob explained that 2021 was the best year that the Casino had and went through additional reports and comparative data to the Covid year and the year(s) of the construction of the Fertilizer Plant.
- Gary Hoyer announced that Rob Higgins had recently been appointed and elected by Gaming Associates, a State organization, to be the Chairman of this State organization. Rob was praised for his service locally and wished the best of luck with this new state position.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

- Dave Walker reported tax filings for the present year have been completed by Menke.
- Dave Walker reported that he continues to work with the additional accounting firm to complete their work.
- There was a discussion concerning Letters of Appointment from the member's cities. A member from each city responded affirmatively that they would assist in obtaining the new Letters of Appointment from each member's city.
- License and requirements of Board Members were discussed. Those that needed fingerprinted and renewed were reminded.
- The next order of business was the election of the officers. Steve Link made a motion that was seconded by Chuck Kempker that the officers should be designated for one (1) more year as set forth below:

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

A vote was called and it was unanimously approved and the officers set forth above were elected for the following year.

- The President Dave Schwartz called for any additional business from the Board. Gary Hoyer commented and discussed the content of the SIRRC Agreement with Catfish Bend Casinos. He recently has participated in a review of the Agreement with Racing and Gaming. Racing and Gaming has appointed a committee to review the Agreement. Gary reviewed the historical and present operations of the Casino and SIRRC and how the two have worked together in the past. There appears to be discussion relevant to SIRRC's distribution methodology which is being reviewed by

Racing and Gaming with a reporting conclusion anticipated by the Racing and Gaming Commission's meeting in March. Gary explained how funds are distributed between counties with casinos and counties without casinos. Responsive to questions posed by Dave Walker and Justin Pieper, a discussion was held about how funds are allocated and why.

- A general discussion was held, a motion was made by Terry Johnson, and seconded by Justin Hutchinson, that the Board's meeting on April 25, 2023 at 4:45 p.m., shall be held by Zoom meeting as permitted by the Bylaws. Counsel was directed to set up a video conferencing link for the April 25, 2023 meeting for the members.

ADJOURNMENT:

Terry Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Joe Steil. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned. A number of the Commission Members joined for dinner immediately thereafter in a separate room just off the meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mitchell L. Taylor  
Counsel for Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Schwarz", is written over a horizontal line.

Dave Schwarz, President  
Southeast Iowa Regional River Boat Commission