

KANSAS RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION

MINUTES – APRIL 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

(A.)

Chairman David Moses called the April 18, 2025, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Eisenhower State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas. Notice of this meeting was given to the public via the KRGC and Public Square websites and the agency's social media pages. Commissioners Brandon Jones, Larry Turnquist, and Mike Fleming were also present. Others present included Executive Director Don Brownlee, General Counsel Judith Taylor, Director of IT&C-s Dennis Bachman, Director of Security, Licensing, and Backgrounds Roger Bailey, Director of Gambling DJ Lopez, Director of Casino Operations Rick Wilson, Government Relations Manager Randy Evans, and other staff.

MOTION, APPROVE AGENDA

(B.)

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

MOTION, APPROVE MARCH 14, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

(C.)

Commissioner Fleming (Jones) moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2025, meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

MOTION, APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

(D.)

Commissioner Turnquist (Jones) moved to approve the consent agenda (six items). Motion carried 4-0.

LOTTERY GAMING FACILITY REPORTS/ITEMS; BOOT HILL CASINO & RESORT

(E.1.a.)

Ryan Deutsch, General Manager, reported:

- March 2025 revenue numbers compared to March 2024:
 - Total gaming revenue decreased 3.39%
 - Total slot revenue was down 6.66%
 - Table games revenue was up 36.68%
- March 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Revenue \$20,027.00
 - Down 43.06% from March 2024.
 - Handle was up 3.91%
 - Hold was down 40.72%
 - Digital Sportsbook Revenue: \$3,610,018.00
 - Down 32.08% from March 2024
 - Handle was down 3.03%
 - Hold was down 17.89%
 - March Madness Wagers
 - \$154 on Florida at +2,500, which paid out just over \$4,000
 - A four-team parlay with all the one-seeds winning their regions for \$1,000 that paid just over \$11,000
 - On the digital sportsbook there was just over 1 million bets placed during March Madness.
- Upcoming Events and Promotions:

- Weekly Food and Beverage Specials
- 2x Tuesdays Bonus
- Wild Wins Free Play Bonus
- Spring Fling Hot Seats
- Maverick's Adventure – Ultimate Getaway
- Hosted Player Offers
- VIP Promotions
- Upcoming Entertainment & Events
 - SW Storm Arena Football – March – June
 - Los Tigres del Norte – May 11
 - Larry the Cable Guy – June 28
 - Los Tucanes de Tijuana – June 29
 - I Want My 80's Tour – July 25th
 - Dustin Lynch – July 26th
- Chairman Moses asked what the odds are for Aaron Rodgers to retire or play. General Manager Deutsch responded that he did not know the exact odds and the Chairman's guess was as good as his.
- Chairman Moses asked if the group Three Dog Night was the original band. General Manager Deutsch said that he was unsure. General Manager Kuplen said that there was only one original band member.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;
KANSAS STAR
(E.2.a.)

Alli Kuplen, General Manager, reported:

- March 2025 revenue numbers compared to March 2024:
 - Total gross gaming revenue was up 2.1%
 - Total slot revenue down 0.2%
 - Table games revenue up 20.02%
- March 2025 Sports Wagering revenue
 - Retail Sportsbook Revenue -\$7,000.00.
 - Down compared to March 2024's revenue of \$65,000.00.
 - Digital Sportsbook Revenue: \$2,000,000.00
 - Down from March 2024's revenue of \$2,900,000.00.
- March 2025 Sports Wagering
 - \$85 million was wagered on FanDuel online in March. This was up over \$20 million from February.
 - The total handle in retail was \$1.07 million for March. This was up over \$150k from February.
 - The majority of the handle in retail was for College Basketball, the 2nd most popular event of the year to bet on, behind the Super Bowl. College Basketball was 87% of the overall handle in the month of March.
 - The largest payout at retail was a jackpot winning March Madness ticket. It was a \$25 parlay with 14 legs that paid out \$104,000.
- Upcoming Events and Promotions:
 - Double Down | Friday and Saturdays in April | 10am -11:59pm
 - Golden Anniversary Hot Seats | Thursdays in April | 6pm - 9pm
 - Master Chef Fry Pan Gift Giveaway | Friday, April 4 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Master Chef 2-Qt Saucepan Gift Giveaway | Friday, April 11 | 4pm - 9pm
 - Master Chef 4-qt Pan w/ Lid Gift Giveaway | Friday, April 18 | 4pm - 9pm

- Master Chef 4.5qt Dutch Oven Gift Giveaway | Friday, April 25 | 4pm - 9pm
- \$11,000 VIP Drawings | Saturday, April 5 | 6pm - 7pm
- Titanium Tier Renewal | Saturday, April 12 | 6pm-8pm
- Emerald Stick Vacuum Tier Gift | Saturday, April 19 | 4pm - 9pm
- Onyx Tier Renewal | Saturday, April 26 | Arena | 2pm-6pm
- Upcoming Entertainment & Events:
 - Reptile Convention | Arena | Thursday, April 11-Sunday, April 13
 - Fortune Feimster “*Takin Care of Biscuit*” Tour | Arena | June 8
 - 98 Degrees | Arena | October 18
 - General Manager Kuplen announced that the 98 Degrees concert has been cancelled because the band’s frontman is shooting a movie.
 - Chairman Moses noted that the facility hosted the Chiefs of Police event and received high praise about the breakfast buffet.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;
HOLLYWOOD CASINO
AT KANSAS
SPEEDWAY
(E.3.a.)

Lydia Garvey, General Manager, reported:

- March 2025 admissions were down 8.1% compared to March 2024
- March 2025 revenue numbers compared to March 2024:
 - Total gross gaming revenue increased 1.1%
 - Slot revenue increased 1.5%
 - Table games revenue decreased 2.1%
- March 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$130,465.00
 - Down 76% from March 2024.
 - Handle was down 42%
 - Hold was 2.92%.
 - Handle percentages: NCAA 58%, NBA 20%, and MLB 6%
 - Digital Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$95,241.00
 - Down 89.5% from March 2024.
 - Handle was down 43%
 - Hold was 3.7%
 - Handle percentages: NCAA 61%, NBA 22%, MLB 5%, and NHL 5%.
- Recent/Upcoming Events and Promotions:
 - April 4 – Power Punch Board Payout
 - April 5 - \$20,000 Lucky Bunny Board
 - April 12 – VIP Gift Giveaway
 - April 18 – Easter Pay Day Weekend
 - April 26 – Pick, Pull & Win
 - May 2 - \$100,000 Rollin Riches
 - May 3 – Horse Race Roll
 - May 5 – Race to Paradise NCL Cruise Giveaway
 - May 10 – Day of Winners
- Chairman Moses asked how the hotel was coming. General Manager Garvey responded that the facility is still in the conversation with the developer. There is overall approval on the concept and are in discussion with the flag.

LOTTERY GAMING
FACILITY
REPORTS/ITEMS;
KANSAS CROSSING
CASINO
(E.4.a.)

Jeff McKain, General Manager, reported:

- March 2025 admissions were up 1.5% compared to March 2024
- March 2025 revenue numbers compared to March 2024:
 - Coin in was down 0.5%
 - Table game drop was down 18%
 - Net gaming revenue was up 0.4%
- March 2025 Sports Wagering revenue numbers
 - Retail Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$142,612.00
 - Up compared to March 2024's revenue of \$4,452
 - Retail wagers were \$1,039,835 vs \$673,067 in 2024. An increase of 54%.
 - Top Sports: NCAA, NBA, and MLB
 - Largest winning wager won \$21,000 on the Milwaukee Bucks vs Dallas Mavericks game.
 - Digital Sportsbook Taxable Revenue: \$1,684,866.00.
 - Up compared to March 2024's revenue of \$537,585.00
 - Digital wagers were down 20% coming in at \$45,708,767.00
- Events and Promotions:
 - March
 - Kiosk games on Tuesdays.
 - **Camp 49** promotions every Wednesday.
 - **Golden Ticket Treasure Hunt** promotion every Friday.
 - **Ford Bronco give-a-way** promotion on Saturdays.
 - Casino gifts on Sundays.
 - Corral concerts included *A Tribute to John Denver* (8th) and 90's *Fool House* (29th).
 - April
 - Kiosk games on Mondays and Tuesdays.
 - **Camp 49** promotions every Wednesday.
 - Casino Hot Seats on Thursdays.
 - **Big Money Cash Wheel** promotion every Friday.
 - **Battle in Mine** promotion on Saturdays.
 - Casino gifts on Sundays.
 - Corral concert to feature *Montgomery Gentry* (11th).
- Chairman Moses noted that the Pittsburg State Women's Basketball Team made the elite eight and asked if the facility does anything to recognize area successes like that. General Manager McKain responded that the facility has not done anything for that specific event, but does participate in other community engagements.

HISTORICAL HORSE
RACING FACILITY
LICENSEE

Scott Beeler, Gillies Representative, reported:

REPORTS/ITEMS;
GILLIES
(E.5.a.)

- Construction continues, the schedule remains the same. Mr. Beeler said that the soft opening will be December 15th and a grand opening on New Year's Eve.
- Discussion continues with staff over the memorandum of understanding.
- Chairman Moses noted that a neighboring development has had reported delays and problems. Chairman Moses asked if that has any impact, or has the potential to have impact, on what the facility licensee is doing. Jason Watkins responded saying no, that it probably will not directly affect the facility licensee. Mr. Watkins added that they believe the neighboring development works to their advantage by drawing in more people. Chairman Moses said that he knows some of the people involved in that project and they have not always completed projects as anticipated and asked if Mr. Watkins had any concern in that regard. Mr. Watkins responded there was not.

COMMISSION ITEMS –
OLD BUSINESS (F.)

There was no old business.

COMMISSION ITEMS –
NEW BUSINESS (G.)

There was no old business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(H.)

Peach Madl, Interim Director of the Kansas Thorough Bred Association, shared that they and their organization are excited to bring horse racing back to Kansas. Ms. Madl said that a Kansas horse has not won the Kentucky Derby since 1938 and that it is time to bring a Kansas-bred horse to the Kentucky Derby. Ms. Madl thanked the commission, legislature, and the Governor's Office for their support and assistance. Ms. Madl noted that her family owns a farm on the Franklin and Douglas County lines, and they are excited to expand their agricultural business. Ms. Madl commented that she has a prospect filly who will be ready for racing in a couple of years.

- Chairman Moses asked if the filly had been named yet. Ms. Madl explained that the filly had been named after her granddaughter, Lyla Strong, who suffers from ewing sarcoma.

STAFF REPORTS
(I.1. and I.2.)

Garrett Rogers, Paralegal, reported on both the Voluntary Exclusion Program and Sports Wagering Exclusion Program statistics for the months of April 2025, and the Quarterly Illegal Gambling Report.

Executive Director Brownlee reported:

- The legislature bundled the vetoed bills and passed the veto overrides as a bundle instead of one at a time.
- The legislation regarding the Kansas Indoor Clean Air Act did not receive a hearing.
- Proviso language was added to direct the state's share of HHR revenue funds to pay the KRGC regulatory expenses and the remainder is split

between the Kansas Horse Breeding Development Fund and the Horse Fair Racing Benefit Fund.

- The legislature also put provisional language in the budget bill that prohibits the Kansas Lottery from negotiating sports wagering. It prevents the Lottery from using state funding to renegotiate with the facility managers and/or sports wagering licensees during FY '25 and FY '26. Some media coverage has described that as dark days for Kansas, the reality is that the current contracts do not expire until August of 2027 which is after those fiscal years.
- In the budget bill there is a provision for a pay raise for most state employees at 2.5%.
- There was some language about state employees being forced back to work in the office. That is for full-time remote employees. KRGC in the Topeka office is more of a hybrid than full-time remote. KRGC is required to send a list of employees who would be affected to the legislature.
- This year is a carry-over year for legislative issues. Meaning that pending legislation is still active when the legislature reconvenes next January.
- Commissioner Turnquist asked about Director Lopez's presentation given at Seton Hall. Executive Director Brownlee commented that the reviews were very good and positive. It put KRGC in a good light to be represented on basically a national forum. Director Lopez is also the primary contact for horse groups and for parimutuel racing.
- Chairman Moses asked to confirm that the current sports wagering contracts expire in August of 2027. Executive Director Brownlee confirmed that was accurate. Chairman Moses noted that at some point the Lottery will need to renegotiate those contracts, but there will be legislative between now and then. Executive Director Brownlee said that was true and that he believes that this will be worked out at least by next session.
- The next commission meeting is scheduled for May 16th in Topeka.
- Due to scheduling issues, the June meeting will not be in Dodge City. The June meeting will be held in Topeka.

MOTION, EXECUTIVE
SESSION;
CONFIDENTIAL
BACKGROUND
REPORTS
(J.I.)

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved that the Commission go into executive session for the purpose of reviewing confidential background reports presented today by the commission's security division. In addition to the commissioners, the confidential background reports portion included the executive director, general counsel, director of security, licensing, and backgrounds, and IT for consultation as needed. The total time for the executive session was anticipated to be ninety (90) minutes until 12:05 p.m. No action is to be taken in executive session, and the subjects discussed are to be limited as previously described. A full record of this motion is to be maintained as part of the permanent record of the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. At the conclusion of the

executive session, the meeting is to be continued in open session. The motion carried 4-0, and the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 10:35 a.m.

RECONVENE
(J.2.)

The commission meeting returned to open session at 12:05 p.m. with Chairman Moses, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Turnquist, and Commissioner Fleming present.

**MOTIONS ON LICENSE
APPLICATIONS**
(K.)

Commissioner Turnquist (Jones) moved to *deny seven* license applications and *approve the 213* license applications from the April 18, 2025, list of background reports referred to the commission for action. The motion carried 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS
(L.)

There were no other items for discussion or motion.

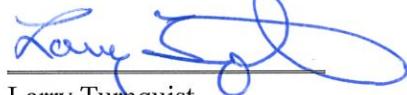
Director of Gambling DJ Lopez responded to Commissioner Turnquist's previous question stating that his time at Seton Hall was very informative and that he was humbled to be selected to sit on that panel. Director Lopez said he hoped that he represented the KRGC well and that it was a good opportunity to inform new attorneys about the regulatory framework and licensing in Kansas.

ADJOURNMENT
(M.)

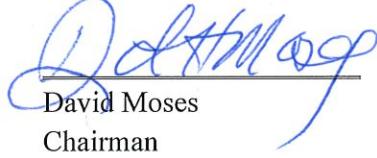
Chairman Moses stated that the May 16, 2025, commission meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. for an in-person meeting at the Eisenhower State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas.

Commissioner Jones (Fleming) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:


Larry Turnquist
Secretary

APPROVED BY:


David Moses
Chairman

