OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
10:00 A.M. – April 15, 2026
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIRECTOR THOMAS J. STICKRATH CONFERENCE CENTER
1970 WEST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43223

The regular meeting of the Ohio Casino Control Commission (Commission) was called to order at 9:59 a.m. by Chair Thomas J. Stickrath. Vice Chair Penelope Cunningham and Commissioners Sheetal Bajoria, Scott Borgemenke, Triffon Callos, Keith Cheney, and Christopher Smitherman were also in attendance. Next, the minutes of the March 18, 2026, meeting were approved following a motion by Commissioner Smitherman and seconded by Vice Chair Cunningham.

Executive Director Matthew Schuler began his report asking Fiscal Officer Mike O'Leary to provide an overview of the budget reports. Mr. O'Leary gave a summary of fiscal year 2026's third quarter results. Next, Mr. Schuler reported that recent operational changes have enabled Enforcement Division Agents to prioritize detective work. Consequently, the Enforcement Division has increased its intake of illegal casino investigations, with 70 cases currently active. To date, the Enforcement Division has carried out 177 search warrants, seized 7,800 illegal machines, and taken $8.17 million into evidence. Mr. Schuler then introduced the newest addition to the Commission, Samantha Byrnes, who will serve as Director of Legislative & Public Affairs in the central office.

Monica Wilcoxen, Director of Investigations, presented to the Commission for consideration three initial and four renewal casino gaming key employee license applications for consideration. The Division of Investigations completed background investigations of the applicants and recommended approval of Commission Resolution 2026-16, granting three-year key employee licenses to: Paolo Albertini, De Agostini S.p.A.; Loren Guidry, Hard Rock Casino Cincinnati; Evan Jones, JACK Cleveland Casino; Lisa Burton, Hollywood Casino Toledo; Brendan Gowen, Voluntary Filer; Lynne Mackin, Hollywood Casino Columbus; and Christopher Soriano, PENN Entertainment, Inc. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Cheney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Borgemenke and approved.

Next, Ms. Wilcoxen presented for consideration the Type-A and Type-B sports gaming proprietor license applications for Northfield Park Associates LLC (Northfield). The Investigations Division completed an investigation of Northfield, which did not uncover any material derogatory information. The Division also conducted a licensure eligibility review and an economic activity determination and found Northfield met all eligibility and economic activity requirements. Therefore, the Division recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2026-17, granting five-year Type-A and Type-B sports gaming proprietor licenses. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Vice Chair Cunningham. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smitherman and approved.

Then, Ms. Wilcoxen presented for consideration three sports gaming supplier license applications for Playtech Software Limited, PT Services (Delaware) LLC, and SBTech Malta Limited. The Investigations

Division completed investigations of each company, which did not uncover any material derogatory information that would render the entities statutorily ineligible for a license. Therefore, the Division recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2026-18, granting three-year sports gaming supplier licenses. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Callos. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Borgemenke and approved.

Ms. Wilcoxen then presented for consideration two initial and twenty-six renewal key sports gaming employee license applications. The Investigations Division completed background investigations of the applicants, which did not uncover any material derogatory information, and recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2026-19, granting initial or renewal non-reciprocal and initial or renewal reciprocal key sports gaming employee licenses, as applicable, to the applicants listed in the Resolution. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Vice Chair Cunningham. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cheney and approved.

Finally, Ms. Wilcoxen presented for consideration an initial Type-B skill-based amusement machine operator license application. The Investigations Division completed a background investigation of the applicant, which did not uncover any material derogatory information, and recommended approval of proposed Resolution 2026-20, granting the initial skill-based amusement machine license. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Cheney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bajoria and approved.

Keith O'Korn, Assistant General Counsel, presented to the Commission for consideration a joint casino gaming and sports gaming final order:

A final order regarding the denial of joint casino employee gaming and standard sports gaming employee license applications (case nos. 2025-CLIC-081 & 085, 2025-SGL-061 & -064, 2026-CLIC-011, -013, -014 & -016, and 2026-SGL-010, -012, -013 & -015). Chair Stickrath moved to deny the casino gaming employee and standard sports gaming license applications for the cases listed in the final order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smitherman and approved.

Next, Mr. O'Korn presented for consideration a skill-based amusement machine final order:

A final order regarding Ohio Valley Amusement, Inc. (case no. 2025-SLIC-026). Chair Stickrath moved to deny the skill-based amusement machine Type-C operator license application for Ohio Valley Amusement, Inc. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cheney and approved.

In other business, Mr. Schuler announced his retirement as the Commission's Executive Director. His last day as Executive Director will be May 31st. Chair Stickrath and the rest of the Commissioners extended their best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

Thereafter, Mr. Schuler indicated that the appointment of a public employee needed to be discussed with the Commissioners that was confidential in nature.

Accordingly, Chair Stickrath made the following motion: “I move to go into executive session pursuant to R.C. 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment of a public employee.” The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smitherman and adopted by a roll call vote of 7-0.

The Commission moved into Executive Session at 10:26 a.m.

The regular meeting of the Commission resumed at 11:19 a.m. There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed,

Lara Thomas
Commission Secretary
Approved: May 20, 2026