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## CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION

**MEETING DATE / LOCATION:**

18 December 2020, Special Meeting  
WebEx Conference Hosted:  
CNGC Conference Room

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

John Sparks, Chairman  
Stephen Barrick, Vice Chairman  
Kendra McGeady, Commissioner  
Richard Hull, Commissioner

**COMMISSION STAFF:**

Tiffany Cochran, Compliance Manager  
Kelly Myers, Licensing Manager  
Kristi Cole, Licensing  
Janice Walters Purcell, Executive Director  
Sydney Kimble, Audit  
Ernestine Pumpkin

**CHEROKEE NATION ENTERTAINMENT:**

Gary Weddell, Gaming Operations  
Bear Christensen, Compliance  
Melody Cable, CNB Audit  
Mitch Moren, CNB Audit  
Kyle Culver, Marketing  
Tim Mannon, Corporate Gaming

**VISITORS:**

John Young, Office of the Attorney General  
Eddie Robles, Information Technology  
Council Member Keith Austin

**CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**18 December 2020**

**WebEx Conference Hosted:**

**CNGC Conference Room**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order at approximately 9:38 a.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Chairman Sparks  
Vice Chairman Barrick  
Commissioner McGeady  
Commissioner Hull

Not Present:  
Commissioner O'Leary

A quorum was established.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner McGeady motioned to adopt the Special Meeting Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Hull.

Chairman Sparks thanked Commissioner McGeady for announcing her name for purposes of the minutes.

Motion passed.

Point of Order; Chairman Sparks posed a question to the Executive Director, Will any item be presented under Agenda VII, Game & System Affirmation of Approval? Executive Director conferred with Compliance Manager, Tiffany Cochran, and stated no.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Sparks stated next item is approval of the Minutes as distributed.

Commissioner Hull motioned to approve the December 4, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner McGeady

No Questions or Debate, Point of Order as stated by Chairman Sparks, approval of the December 4, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed.

#### **V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Cherokee Nation Council Member Keith Austin was introduced by Chairman Sparks.

#### **VI. CNE FACILITIES LICENSES**

Chairman Sparks announced the next item on the Agenda was VI. CNE Facilities License and as a Point of Order, requested the explanation for the Facilities Licenses from the Executive Director. Executive Director Purcell stated CNGC is seeking approval for the licenses of all casino properties for the Cherokee Nation. These include Ft. Gibson, Catoosa Outside Smoke Shop, Grove, Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa Oklahoma, Cherokee Casino Ramona, Cherokee Casino Roland, Cherokee Casino Roland Travel Plaza, Cherokee Casino Sallisaw, Cherokee Casino South Coffeyville, Cherokee Casino Tahlequah, and Cherokee Casino West Siloam Springs. CNGC has inspected all of the Casino properties. The inspection Documents have been prepared in paper and digital format, if there are any questions. These include requirements by NIGC.

Vice Chairman Barrick Motioned to approve and adopt the facilities licenses as requested by the Executive Director and was seconded by Commissioner Hull.

Chairman Sparks asked the Executive Director to briefly explain what this is in particular regarding the NIGC.

Executive Director Purcell explained that every property has to be licensed by the end of the year. The facilities licenses for the Casino properties expire on December 31, 2020. These licenses are necessary to keep the casinos open. NIGC has certain requirements for inspections that are listed on this table of contents. For CNGC, Ernestine Pumpkin, known as Ernie, has gone through and inspected all of the Casino properties, as has Environmental Health of Cherokee Nation in accordance with an MOU with CNGC. CNGC and EH check to make sure everything is in compliance. Jeremy Friezes checks the bars. CNGC and the other safety entities make sure the facilities are safe from fire and do not pose a public hazard. Those are requirements according to our Tribal Ordinance and also according to NIGC. After the facilities licenses are approved, CNGC will send an attestation letter to the Chairman of the NIGC attesting that the casino facilities are in compliance with the statutes. This Attestation letter has to be submitted before the end of the year (2020).

Executive Director Purcell also requested personnel from CNGC take the facilities licenses to the Commissioners located in the northeastern side of the state, which include Vice-Chairman Barrick, Kendra McGeady, and Linda O'Leary so CNGC can obtain their signatures. CNGC

will then be sending personnel to Norman, Oklahoma, to obtain the signatures from Chairman Sparks and Commissioner Hull if this is okay with the Commission.

Executive Director Purcell noted the Travel Plaza and the Outside Smoke Shop at Catoosa are not currently open but have been inspected. CN Environmental Health, Lisa West's crew and CNGC's crew performed the inspections on the Travel Plaza and the Outside Smoke Shop at Catoosa. These facilities are ready to be licensed as soon as they reopen.

Motion passed.

**VII. GAME & SYSTEM AFFIRMATION OF APPROVAL**

No items to take up under this section.

**VIII. LICENSE ACTIONS & HEARINGS (EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED 67 CNCA §105)**

Chairman Sparks stated Executive Session requested for the License Actions and Hearings but as practical matter, Chairman would entertain a Motion to Table item VIII until immediately after Commission dispenses with the approval of the Commission meeting dates for the year 2021.

Motion to table item VIII until immediately after we dispense with the approval of the meeting dates for 2021 was made by Commissioner Hull and seconded by Commissioner McGeady.

Motion Passes.

**IX. APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES FOR YEAR 2021**

Chairman Sparks states that the meeting dates were discussed at the December 4, 2020 Commission meeting. Motion to Adopt the 2021 meeting schedule as listed, was made by Commissioner McGeady and seconded by Commissioner Hull.

The Dates as set forth are adopted as 2021 Commission meeting dates.

December	18 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah
January	15 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
February	12 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah
March	12 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
April	9 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah
May	7 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
June	4 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah

June	25 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
July	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Tahlequah
August	20 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
September	17 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah
October	15 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock
November	12 <sup>th</sup>	Tahlequah
December	10 <sup>th</sup>	Hard Rock

Motion passed.

The Dates as set forth are adopted as 2021 Commission meeting dates.

Chairman Sparks informed the Commission that the next item heard would be the previously Tabled Agenda item VIII. License Actions and Hearings, wherein Executive Session has been requested. Chairman Sparks asked if this item is the last action item. Executive Director responded in the affirmative.

Motion by Commissioner Barrick to enter into Executive Session and seconded by Commissioner Hull at 9:58 a.m.

Motion to exit Executive Session by Commissioner McGeady and seconded by Commissioner Hull.

Motion passed. Exited Executive Session at 10:15 a.m., returned to regular session at 10:20 a.m. Chairman Sparks requested notice be given to individuals who left regular session for Executive Session.

Executive Director Purcell asked for a motion for the revocation of the conditional license and revocation on the renewal for the individual discussed in the Executive Session. Chairman Sparks stated as a Point of Order that in order to protect the privacy of an individual but clearly identify the individual, Ms. Myers, Licensing Manager, will add individual tabs which will be referenced and voted on by the Commission but today, there is only one individual which will be referenced as Tab One.

Commissioner Hull motioned to Adopt staff recommendation of licensure revocation and seconded by Commissioner McGeady.

Chairman Sparks asked if any questions or debate, no questions or debate.

Motion passed. Staff recommendation is adopted and individual will be notified of decision and ability to appeal decision to Cherokee Nation District Court.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sparks thanked the Commissioners and the Staff and asked if the WebEx meetings could open at 9:15 a.m. for the 9:30 a.m. meeting. I.T. responded yes.

Commissioner McGeady made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Hull.

Motion passed. Meeting is adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:



CHAIRMAN SPARKS

December 18, 2020

DATE