

MARYLAND LOTTERY AND GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION OCTOBER MINUTES

DATE: October 23, 2025

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: In-Person at Maryland Lottery Headquarters
and virtual

PRESENT: Chair Everett D. Browning, Sr.
Vice Chair E. Randolph Marriner
Commissioner Diane Croghan
Commissioner Harold Hodges
Commissioner Nicholas Mosby
Commissioner James Stakem

John Martin, Director
James Nielsen, Deputy Director, Chief Operating Officer
James Butler, Assistant Deputy Director, Chief of Staff
Craig Lindsey, Managing Director, Administration
Michael Eaton, Managing Director, Gaming
John Mooney, Managing Director, Regulatory Oversight
Paula Yocum, Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer
Solomon Ramsey, Managing Director, Sales and Marketing
Seth Elkin, Managing Director, Communications
Holly Citko, Principal Counsel, Attorney General's Office
Jennifer Tosky, Deputy Principal Counsel, Attorney General's Office
Kathy Lingo, Executive Assistant

OTHERS: Representative from Hollywood Casino Perryville
Representative from Ocean Downs Casino
Representative from Live! Casino
Representative from Rocky Gap Casino Resort
Representative from Horseshoe Casino Baltimore
Representative from MGM National Harbor
Representatives from OSBA and DOSEM

Everett D. Browning, Sr., Chair

E. Randolph Marriner, Vice Chair; Commissioners: Ade Adebisi, Diane Croghan, Harold Hodges, Nicholas Mosby, James Stakem

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Chair Browning announced that there was a quorum established for the meeting. Also present in person were: Commissioners Nicholas Mosby and James Stakem. Vice Chair Randy Marriner and Commissioners Diane Croghan and Harold Hodges were virtual. Commissioner Ade Adebisi was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

After establishing there was a quorum, Chair Browning called the meeting of the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to order at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE REVISED AGENDA

Chair Browning said that the Revised Agenda had been circulated, and asked for a motion to approve the Revised Agenda. Commissioner Mosby motioned, Commissioner Stakem seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Browning asked if there were any corrections or alterations to the Open Session minutes of the September 25, 2025. There being none, Chair Browning asked for a motion to approve the Open Session minutes. Commissioner Stakem motioned, Commissioner Mosby seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Browning then asked if there were any corrections or alterations to the Closed Session minutes of the September 25, 2025. There being none, Chair Browning asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session minutes. Commissioner Stakem motioned, Commissioner Mosby seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF GOVERNOR'S CITATION TO JAMES NIELSEN

Chair Browning announced that today the Commission would be presenting to James Nielsen the Governor's Citation for his 10 years of dedicated service and leadership to the Agency. He then read the Governor's Citation and presented it to Mr. Nielsen. Chair Browning said there were certificates from both the Governor and the Comptroller of Maryland.

Mr. James Nielsen took a moment to thank the Chair for the kind words and said during his time with MLGCA, it has been interesting and there has been much accomplished.

Commissioner Stakem said that in the time that he was on the Commission that he and Mr. Nielsen have worked together, and Mr. Nielsen has been great in responding to questions. Commissioner Stakem said MLGCA staff always responds.

Chair Marriner said he would be remiss if he did not personally thank Mr. Nielsen for the 6 ½ years they worked together during Vice Chair Marriner's time as the Chair of the Commission.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Browning said the Consent Agenda contains:

1. New Instant Ticket Games
 - a. \$2 #790 *Maryland Treasures*
 - b. \$5 #791 *The Big Spin 2nd Edition*
 - c. \$10 #792 *Bingo X10 9th Edition*
 - d. \$10 #793 *Money Match*
2. Consent Agreements – Regulatory Violations
 - a. Ocean Downs Casino – April 2025
3. Consent Agreements –Sports Wagering Violations
 - a. Riverboat on the Potomac – May 2025
4. Consent Agreements – Mobile Sports Wagering Violations
 - a. Crown MD Online Gaming LLC d/b/a DraftKings – March 2025 – Amended
 - b. Live! – FanDuel – March, April, May 2025
5. Consent Agreements – Underage Violations
 - a. Hollywood Casino – Case No. 2025-01-001
 - b. Horseshoe Casino – Case Nos. 2025-05-004 and -005
 - c. MGM National Harbor – Case Nos. 2025-06-003 to -009
6. Gaming License Application Denials/Revocations
7. Requests for Removal from Mandatory Exclusion List
8. Lottery Retailer License Revocation
9. Staff Reports: James Nielsen, James Butler, Craig Lindsey, Michael Eaton, John Mooney, Paula Yocum, Solomon Ramsey, Seth Elkin, and Holly Knepper

Principal Counsel, Holly Knepper, addressed Chair Browning and stated that although Chair Browning has said there were no gaming license application denials/revocations, and requests for removal from the exclusion list, there actually were some of each. Mr. John Mooney noted that there were two coming off the mandatory exclusion list.

Chair Browning made note of this. He then asked if any Commissioners cared to remove and discuss any items on the Consent Agenda. There were no requests to remove any items.

Chair Browning then asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Stakem motioned, Commissioner Mosby seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Browning introduced Gerald Stinnett, MBE Compliance Manager for the Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs. Chair Browning said that since he started serving on the Commission, they have wanted to understand the MBE percentages at the casinos and how the Commission can find a path for the workforce and for entrepreneurs to be prepared so that the casinos may improve MBE participation.

OSBA REPORT

Mr. Stinnett explained how on October 1, a new Department of Social and Economic Mobility (DOSEM) was established in accordance with HB 1253, to help shift instability to stability and it is the first of its kind in the nation. Mr. Stinnett gave a brief history of OSBA and its initiatives. He presented a Power Point presentation regarding Video Lottery Terminals (VLT) Facilities MBE Participation Compliance Review for January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Mr. Stinnett reviewed MBE Participation Goals for each of the casinos, providing information on total payments, MBE payments, MBE participation, and MBE goals for each of the casinos covering January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025. He spoke about how his office assists the casinos in outreach efforts including the Ready, Set, GROW event, which connects vendors with buyers from several State agencies and the event locations rotate throughout the State. Mr. Stinnett explained the key factors for MBE participation.

Commissioner Mosby wanted to know if there is a time that OSBA breaks out minority women percentages to see the impact. Mr. Stinnett said that is not something they have done. OSBA does not usually break it down to that level.

Commissioner Mosby said he would like to see that, in order to see if it is disproportionate. He said he was also interested in the actual casinos presenting this information to see those numbers. Commissioner Mosby said historic trends are important in participations, as there can be a recurring issue that needs to be resolved. Seeing six months in a snap shot is one thing, but seeing and understanding that the goal is 19% and they are at 9%, but last year it was at 5% and the year before it was at 3%; that shows it's moving in the right direction. There are new ways of looking at things. He wanted to know if OSBA could go back 3-4 years? Mr. Stinnett said OSBA can, they just did a snapshot of current year for this presentation to show where the casinos are currently. He said with Ocean Downs and Hollywood, the numbers for prior years have been low, but they are going in the right direction and he expects that by the end of the year, it will improve greatly.

Commissioner Mosby said he wanted historical data. He noted that the methodology of unbundling is to separate contracts to smaller jobs. Whether it's carpeting, painting, or another trade, if these jobs are unbundled and broken down into small jobs, it will provide the opportunity to scale up, and help the MBE numbers. Mr. Stinnett said that Hollywood Casino had done that with the contract for electrical work, and because of this, that MBE was included in their participation numbers this year.

Commissioner Mosby said last month there was a carpet contract that was huge, and it changed and skewed the numbers. It could be unbundled to help support different MBEs. Mr. Stinnett said OSBA is reaching out to a variety of different vendors to start utilizing the database to use certified MBEs that could do the work and not just those vendors that they are familiar with. Commissioner Mosby addressed Chair Browning and said that it would be interesting to see operators break down numbers by MBE and WMBE, to give a more granular way of looking at the numbers. Mr. Stinnett said he could do that with the vendors that are currently being used by the operators.

Commissioner Hodges wanted to know the kind of outreach OSBA is doing to help get MBEs to go to the casinos further away where the location may not be worthwhile for MBEs to take part in business opportunities. Mr. Stinnett said that OSBA asks the casinos to identify areas in which they are looking for MBEs. It is important that the casinos have different opportunities that are significant, so it would make sense for MBEs to go there. An example is Hollywood Casino using an MBE for electrical work, which was a significant amount of work, so the scope of work made it attractive for MBEs to go out there.

Chair Browning thanked Mr. Stinnett for his presentation. He said MBE has been a focus of this Commission in part because it also is a focus of the Governor, not just what is the participation number, but what is the overall goal.

Chair Browning said the Commission was honored to have Mr. Walter Simmons, the Acting Secretary of DOSEM and the OSBA Special Secretary, Maria Martinez. Chair Browning invited them to come forward to introduce themselves. Lottery is a niche type of role, and it is sometimes hard to get MBEs

to understand the casino focus there. Chair Browning thanked them for being here today to show how the opportunities are open to MBEs. The casinos are excited to see how they can work together with the Commission to inform MBEs about these opportunities.

Acting Secretary Walter Simmons said the discussion today is a priority for the Department and the Administration. He said he has only been in office for four days, and he is focused on the eco-system, and the Governor's mission of work, wealth, and opportunity. Looking across the board, focusing on the business side and the workforce value side. The thing that is talked about most is the interplay of supply and demand, which you will consistently hear from the Department, that supply is the number of certified businesses. Mr. Simmons addressed Commissioner Mosby on how they define and track some of these businesses, which will be a legislative conversation as well. He said we define and track MBEs, and women owned businesses. There are some opportunities for Maryland to define these terms, which would help Department staff track and build the systems to give cleaner data reports to the Commission. The demand side is working with businesses and agencies on actual opportunities, and connecting those two things together is going to be a priority, looking at it from an eco-system to see that MLGCA, the Commission are partners, in creating economic opportunity for all Marylanders.

Special Secretary Maria Martinez, said OSBA has made strides because of the Commission's work being dedicated and intentional to ensure that MBEs have a seat at the table. She said OSBA is looking to educate MBEs to expand their portfolio, and what options casinos have to increase opportunities. Some areas had challenges, and OSBA is ensuring that there are MBEs in all regions in order to collaborate with agencies in what equity means and to make them effective. Ms. Martinez is still working as Special Secretary for OSBA, and is working to restructure the MBE process.

Chair Browning thanked both Mr. Simmons and Ms. Martinez for their service. Chair Browning said it is impossible for the Commission to hold the casinos accountable if the Commission is not working to give them the tools that they need. Having DOSEM and OSBA at the meeting today reiterates the importance of this partnership for the Governor and, therefore, the State.

Vice Chair Marriner said he would be remiss if he did not shout out to Maria to thank her for the countless hours with Gerald while Vice Chair Marriner was sitting in the position as Chair and for finding contractors to come to the casinos. He said they have created a terrific program. Vice Chair Marriner thanked them both for continuing the good work.

Chair Browning thanked the staff from DOSEM and OSBA for attending today's meeting, and said this is just the beginning of this partnership.

OPERATOR REPORTS

Hollywood Casino Perryville

Ms. Amy Brennan, General Manager, reported that September gross gaming revenue was down 4.2% year-over-year, revenue increased in slots, but was countered by decreases in table games, sportsbook and poker. Gaming was down 3%, year-over-year. The casino does have a big wiring project currently. The project started on August 11 and will continue for several more months, closing half or a third of the casino floor down during this process, which is the main reason why participation numbers are down. Hollywood Casino had several promotions in September. The Progressive Payday still has not hit. In the community, the casino donated to the Ray of Hope Mission food drive and the Paws in the Park event. Hollywood Casino also sponsored the Annual Pride Festival in Upper Chesapeake. There was a 15-year anniversary party for team members. Ms. Brennan presented a Hollywood Casino's 15th anniversary polo shirt to Mr. Nielsen as special gift in

recognition of his retirement. She thanked him for being a wonderful partner to the casino. The casino will be holding a Throw a Pie event to raise money for the team member fund. Those that signed up for the event have raised over \$1,000. There are currently 33 open positions, which is 10% of the workforce. There have been huge improvements since the Guard Card was removed. With an MBE participation goal of 17%, the MBE spend for September was 37.5%, due in part to the unbundling of the wiring project. MBE is working on a big piece of the project, which brings the casino's MBE percentage to 14% year to date. The casino held a procurement event last month in which several vendors attended, and Hollywood Casino's local purchasing team coordinates with Mr. Stinnett on events such as this.

Chair Browning thanked Ms. Brennan for the casino's efforts and successful MBE spend.

Ocean Downs Casino

Bobbi Jones, General Manager, reported that September gross gaming revenue for slots was down 5% year-over-year, table game revenue was up 3%, due to higher hold, and sports wagering was down 27%, and net gaming revenue was down 4%. Labor Day impacted the percentages. Ocean Downs held several promotions and giveaways, and multiple tournaments in September. The casino had a VIP Cocktail Party for the top tier players. The casino did well this September compared to last year, as there was an Oceans Calling event that brought in between 50,000 – 75,000 people into the area. On the Friday of that event, the casino had its Jackpot Jamboree event that had over 300 people participating. In the community, the casino sponsored the Ocean City Chamber Crab Feast with over 100 individuals in attendance. The casino sponsored \$1,000 for the Dove Point Golf Tournament, and \$2,500 for the Swing for the Youth Golf Tournament. The casino partnered with the Southern Sussex Rotary, and sponsored the Ocean Pines Fire Department Inaugural Ball and the Wor-Wic Hero Run. All of these resulted in \$5,600 in donations. Also, the casino's partnership with Worcester Goes Purple raised over \$3,000 from the Player's Club. There were multiple in-kind donations to several charities. MBE spend for September was 19%, and the casino continues to work with Mr. Stinnett to get the MBE participation numbers up. There is a Ready, Set, Grow event coming to the casino soon to inform local vendors about the procurement opportunities in the Eastern Shore area.

Chair Browning said he is excited about the MBE numbers. He noted, as the season changes, it can be hard to get people out there, so getting the vendors certified is important. He thanked Ms. Jones for her report.

Live! Casino

Mr. Ryan Eller, General Manager, reported that September gaming revenue was down 9.7% year-over-year, slots were down 8% year-over-year, table games were down 14.7% year-over-year, poker was up 5.8%, and retail sportsbook had \$500,000 in revenue. Table games were affected by hold. Volumes declined year-over-year relative to the calendar. Live! Casino had a full calendar of promotions and giveaways in September, as well as several tournaments. The casino had several shows at the property in September. Team members were provided with free meals on Labor Day, and the casino also held a school supply drive. In the community, Live! Casino hosted and sponsored several events. Live! Casino had a block party at a local elementary school with free food for guests. MBE spend year-to-date is tracking at 24.8%, which is above the goal. The number of active MBEs has been increasing, and that casino now has 51 MBE vendors being used, which continues to improve. The casino is looking to unbundle larger projects to find segments that can go the MBEs more effectively. Mr. Eller took a moment to recognize Mr. Nielsen for his service. He said that he has known Jim for about 15 years, when they both worked in New York. He said that, for the 15 years that Jim

has been a regulator, he has been an asset to casinos both in Maryland and New York.

Chair Browning thanked Mr. Eller for the casino's MBE participation achievement. Chair Browning said that although Commissioner Adebisi was not here, he is focused on looking for additional services in the various categories by using best practices and Live! Casino has achieved that. The Commission hopes to see the other casinos provide the same opportunities in the different categories.

Rocky Gap Casino

Mr. Brian Kurtz, General Manager, reported that September gaming revenue was up 5.1%, slot revenue was up 5.2%, thanks to a combination of an increase in drop of 3% and a better hold year-over-year. Table game revenue was up 4%, down in drop, but with a better hold year-over-year. Visitation at property was strong with many day trips. Hotel occupancy was at 83%. Ancillary volume was up with golf rounds up 16%. In September, the casino had several promotions, kiosks games, and gift giveaways. No one hit the progressive payday, so the amount will increase next month. There is a new focus at Rocky Gap, which is to look at large businesses in the area with partnership opportunities. In the community, Rocky Gap continued the collection for the Western Maryland Food Bank. The casino also sponsored the Western Maryland Health and Human Services Crab Feast, and the Dragon Boat Races for the local YMCA. The casino's MBE goal stands at 17%, but Rocky Gap MBE participation achievement is at 28%, which is slightly down from the beginning of the year. Mr. Kurtz thanked Ms. Martinez for the recent OSBA event at the casino, which has opened the casino's eyes to the MBEs in the community, and having these interactions with MBEs and understanding what different good and services they provide will help Rocky Gap. Mr. Kurtz said that some larger casino projects can be hard to unbundle. The casino partners with several vendors such as working with farms in Maryland, as well as MBE and women owned businesses, to provide goods and services. It was a beneficial event for the community and provided an opportunity to connect with local stakeholders in the community. In September, there were 262 licensed employees compared to 289 last year. Although the number of staff is down, the security change has helped in getting people, and team members were treated to a food truck in September. The casino has completed all of the compliance training.

Chair Browning said he was glad the weather has been nice in Western Maryland and appreciates the casino hosting OSBA's Ready, Set, Grow event and being proactive.

Horseshoe Casino

Mr. Arturo Ruvalcaba, Vice President of Casino Operations, reported that September gaming revenue was up 4.8%, table game drop grew 11.1%, and slot coin-in was up 8%. September closed another strong month with total market share growing over 1,200 basis points. For the quarter, total market share grew over 600 basis points. Gaming revenue continues to show growth up 5.9% compared to 2024. There were several shows at the casino in September. MBE spend was below 20% based on some larger projects not requiring payment. He said Horseshoe Casino is confident they will be between 20-25% for the year, as they are looking to expand MBE spend in all areas. Horseshoe Casino continues to focus on hiring, by expanding in all areas of the casino, such as hiring more team members to increase more operational hours for guests.

Chair Browning said that by having the new team coming in and investing in the community, it shows with the casino's improved numbers. Mr. Ruvalcaba said Mr. Jacob Witmer was a big part of these improvements.

MGM National Harbor

Mr. Jeffrey Shrader, Vice President and General Counsel, took a moment to recognize Mr. Nielsen for his work, steady guidance and fairness, which has made the toughest regulatory challenges easier. He has approached his work with integrity and genuine care for the industry and for the people in it. Mr. Nielsen's insight and guidance will be missed. Mr. Shrader reported that September gaming revenue was down 6% year-over-year, slot revenue was down 9%, table game revenue was up 1%, poker was down less than 1%. The Sportsbook wrote 47,500 tickets, with a handle of \$4.01 million. Hold was just under \$700,000, which was an increase from 2024. He said the biggest drivers were the uncertainty in the economy due to the federal employment, and competition from the Rose Casino in Virginia. Table drop was down year-over-year, largely offset by a pickup of almost 2 points, which helped keep gross gaming revenue flat. Rated customer visitation was flat, with spend per trip being down. Slot machines were a similar story, rated play being flat compared to the prior year. There was a decent amount of softness in unrated play in slots as a result of the Rose Casino and current economic climate. There were over 13,000 guests participating in several promotions in September at the casino. There was an MGM Rewards Noir Weekend with a big party at Diablo's. MGM National Harbor had a diverse lineup in the theater in September. In the community, the annual charity golf tournament brought together several vendors, sponsors and employees to raise over \$140,000 for the MGM Resort Foundation. September was Responsible Gaming Month, and having events to share information with guest on gambling addiction. The casino hosted Telemundo 44 and NBC4 for Hispanic Heritage Month. MBE spend is at 21%, which is above the target, and the casino continues to work to keep the percentage up as it is an important element of the business. There are 62 MBE companies participating in the spend. MGM National Harbor hosted and attended several supplier diversity events and holds quarterly business review meetings. The casino works to bring a variety of businesses into the internship program to help work with the casino and community in general.

Chair Browning wanted to follow up on two things from Mr. Shrader's report. The federal government shutdown continues, next month things may be down due to a drop in patron's discretionary spending, and he said the casino should reach out to the Commission to determine if the Commission can help in any way. There was a recent headline about a basketball coach and player being arrested for gambling. Chair Browning said he knows the casino works with the Commission to have safe, responsible gaming and protecting the integrity of wagering is paramount. Mr. Shrader said that is an important part of the casino's business.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director's Report — John Martin, Director

Director John Martin reported that in September, the first quarter had a strong close on the Lottery side, up 6.5% on sales and up over 9% in profit. It is a strong indication after the first quarter primarily based on the Powerball run won in early September. MLGCA is currently having a good run in both Mega Millions and Powerball. MLGCA is optimistic that one of these games will help carry the second quarter. On the casino side, it has been a challenging month. In aggregate, down 3.1% in total casino revenue, and down 2.3% on contributions to State. In sports wagering, both mobile and retail are strong around country, and MLGCA has benefitted from that, not only in handle won by players, but double-digit hold after the first quarter with nearly \$30 million in contributions to State. He congratulated all involved.

Director Martin then took a moment to acknowledge the retirement of Mr. Nielsen, but noted that Mr. Nielsen will still be around for another couple of weeks. During Director Martin's 4½ years as

Director, he said Mr. Nielsen has been running the Agency. Mr. Nielsen has been a constant, often the first one to work in the morning, and the last to leave at night. His commitment, guidance, and integrity are well known by all. Director Martin congratulated Mr. Nielsen on an amazing career and wished him well on the next chapter.

Chair Browning thanked Director Martin for his sentiments on Mr. Nielsen, and noted that Mr. Craig Lindsey would be stepping into the Deputy Director position.

COMMISSION ACTION ITEM

Managing Director, Gaming – Michael Eaton

Commission Action Item – Regulation Updates

Mr. Michael Eaton reported that he is presenting several proposed amendments to regulations in the following subtitles: Gaming Provisions, Video Lottery Terminals, Instant Bingo Machines, and Sports Wagering Provisions. These amendments address industry recommendations and a number of changes and clarifications identified by Staff while reviewing the Agency's Gaming and Sports Wagering Provisions. Mr. Eaton outlined the approval process.

Proposed Amendments To COMAR Title 36 Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

Subtitle 03 Gaming Provisions

Chapter 06 Enforcement of Voluntary Exclusion Program

Proposed amendments to Regulation .01 of this chapter would require that a facility operator may only access the Commission's Voluntary Exclusion List from the continental United States, consistent with DoIT policy; clarify the existing requirement that a facility operator must ensure that an individual on the Voluntary Exclusion List surrenders unredeemed items; and clarify the existing requirement that facility operators update their systems within 72 hours of being notified of an individual's placement on or removal from the Voluntary Exclusion List.

Proposed amendments to Regulation .03 of this chapter would eliminate the specific wording required for the underage warning for casino gaming floors, establish specific requirements for the font sizing and location of the gambling assistance message on advertisements, to address consumer protection concerns that the gambling assistance message may be buried in tiny font or displayed too briefly. These standards will align with existing requirements in the sports wagering regulations, ensuring consistency across all forms of regulated gaming advertising.

Chapter 10 Video Lottery Facility Minimum Internal Control Standards

The proposed amendment to Regulation .38 of this chapter is in response to IRS W-2G reporting limits increasing from \$1,200 to \$2,000, effective January 1, 2026. The proposed amendment removes the specific dollar amount set by the IRS that triggers the W2-G filing requirement. If approved, we would not need to amend this regulation each time the IRS changes the dollar amount for reporting. This amendment is consistent with amendments proposed for several other regulations that will be presented today.

Mr. Eaton asked if anyone had questions. Commissioner Hodges asked Mr. Eaton to clarify the change to prohibit anyone outside the continental United States from accessing the gaming sites. Mr. Eaton asked if Commissioner Hodges meant why is access to the voluntary exclusion list being restricted to

the Continental U.S.? Commissioner Hodges responded yes. Mr. Eaton said that change aligns with the Department of Information Technology policy, which limits access to sensitive systems from within the Continental U.S. only. It reduces the risk of unauthorized access or data breaches from offshore connections.

Commissioner Hodges asked about the change in font sizes, and wanted to know if there was going to be a new standard for font sizes. Mr. Eaton said the regulation specifies the font size in different advertising mediums, for television, as well as billboards, and the percentage for the font size for the responsible gambling message.

Commissioner Hodges asked what the IRS rulings were that Maryland is trying to align with? Mr. Eaton said the IRS increased the W2G reporting threshold from \$1,200 to \$2,000. The \$1,200 amount is specified in the regulations. This change would not require additional amendments if the IRS changes the amount in the future.

Chair Browning asked if there were any additional questions. There were none. Mr. Eaton then said MLGCA is seeking a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the regulations in the Gaming Provisions subtitle. Chair Browning asked for a motion. Commissioner Hodges motioned, Commissioner Stakem seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Subtitle 04 Video Lottery Terminals

Chapter 01 Video Lottery Technical Standards

The proposed amendment to Regulation .13 of this chapter is in response to IRS W-2G reporting limits increasing from \$1,200 to \$2,000, effective January 1, 2026. The proposed amendment removes the specific dollar amount set by the IRS that triggers the W2-G filing requirement.

Mr. Eaton asked if anyone had questions. There were no questions. Mr. Eaton said MLGCA is seeking a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the regulations in the Video Lottery Terminals subtitle. Chair Browning asked for a motion. Commissioner Stakem motioned, Commissioner Mosby seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Subtitle 07 Instant Bingo Machines

Chapter 4 Instant Bingo Minimum Internal Control Standards

The proposed amendment to Regulation .14 of this chapter is in response to IRS W-2G reporting limits increasing from \$1,200 to \$2,000, effective January 1, 2026. The proposed amendment removes the specific dollar amount set by the IRS that triggers the W2-G filing requirement.

Chapter 6 Technical Standards

The proposed amendment to Regulation .08 of this chapter is in response to IRS W-2G reporting limits increasing from \$1,200 to \$2,000, effective January 1, 2026. The proposed amendment removes the specific dollar amount set by the IRS that triggers the W2-G filing requirement.

Mr. Eaton asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. Mr. Eaton said MLGCA is seeking a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the regulations in the Instant Bingo Machines subtitle. Chair Browning asked for a motion. Commissioner Stakem motioned, Commissioner Hodges seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Subtitle 10 Sports Wagering

Chapter 10 Enforcement of Voluntary Exclusion Program

Proposed amendments to Regulation .01 of this chapter would require that a sports wagering licensee may only access the Commission's Voluntary Exclusion List from the continental United States, consistent with DoIT policy; clarify the existing requirements that a sports wagering licensee must ensure that a bettor on the Voluntary Exclusion List surrenders their sports wagering winnings; and clarify the existing requirement that sports wagering licensees update their systems within 72 hours of being notified of an individual's placement on or removal from the Voluntary Exclusion List.

Chapter 13 Sports Wagering Licensee Minimum Internal Control Standards

Proposed amendments to Regulation .29 of this chapter would clarify requirements for licensees that use player reward programs; and requirements for Class B licensees that use the player reward program of a Class A Sports Wagering Facility Licensee, consistent with legislation that took effect July 1, 2025, pertaining to Class A Sports Wagering Facility Licensees that provide sports wagering services on behalf of a Class B Sports Wagering Facility Licensee.

Commissioner Hodges interrupted to ask a question. Chair Browning stated that the Commission would wait until Mr. Eaton was done presenting the item, and then it would be opened up for questions.

Mr. Eaton said the proposed amendments to Regulation .41 of this chapter would clarify signage requirements for sports wagering licensees to ensure they do not advertise in a manner that misleads the public.

Mr. Eaton then asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Hodges wanted to know if the voluntary exclusion list was shared with the federal government or is it exclusive for Maryland's use. Mr. Eaton said it was for the State of Maryland.

Commissioner Mosby asked about the intent of accessing data within the Continental United States, if an individual has access to a VPN, was there a way for an operator to block, stop or identify that. Mr. Eaton said it is specific to operators who have access to the list. Some operators have operations internationally, so this requires the operator to access the list only from within the United States.

Commissioner Mosby said he was thinking of mobile sports wagering. Chair Browning asked for clarification, if someone is on the voluntary exclusion list and they go play outside of the United States, if that property would not be aware. Mr. Eaton said it is specific to the United States; it limits ability to access the list from outside of the United States.

Chair Browning requested a more in-depth understanding of the Class A and Class B law that went into effect. Mr. Eaton said part of the law states that the Class B licensee can use a Class A licensee's information in the rewards program. Clarification in the law stated that July 1, 2025, it is permitted, but MLGCA also put in place some compliance requirements to make sure those arrangements are clear to the operators, and to ensure transparency in consumer protection in those regulatory changes.

Chair Browning asked if a Class B has a relationship with bigger Class A, and can use player club cards in both locations? Mr. Eaton said if they have a relationship with the Class A facility licensee, the Class B services are being provided by the Class A, and a Class B could use the rewards program. Whether or how they are able to use the reward program is defined in the regulation.

Commissioner Stakem said that Mr. Eaton had done a great job presenting the regulations, and that he is always well informed.

Mr. Eaton said MLGCA is seeking a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the regulations in the Sports Wagering Provisions subtitle. Chair Browning asked for a motion. Commissioner Hodges motioned, Commissioner Mosby seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Eaton then asked for a motion to delegate to Staff the authority to make any non-substantive changes to the approved regulation amendments that may be necessary to prepare them for publication in the *Maryland Register*. Chair Browning asked for a motion. Commissioner Mosby motioned, Commissioner Stakem seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Chair Browning announced the next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in person at Lottery Headquarters, one week earlier due to the holiday.

Chair Browning thanked everyone who provided reports at today's meeting. He then again acknowledged Mr. Nielsen for his service to MLGCA.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Browning adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John Martin
Director