

#### WASHINGTON'S LOTTERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

# April 17, 2025

#### Lottery HQ - Olympia, WA/Microsoft Teams

### **Commission Member Attendees:**

Judith Giniger, Commissioner, Chair Schuyler Hoss, Commissioner Rudy Mendoza, Commissioner

# **Lottery Staff Attendees:**

Joshua Johnston, Director Cassi Villegas, Deputy Director Kristi Weeks, Director of Legal Services Todd Steben, Director of Finance Randy Warick, Director of Sales & Marketing Derek Poppe, Director of Security & Licensing Crystal Fischer, Director of Info. Services Gaylene Gray, Instant Product Manager Anguone Conyer, Support Services Manager Leah White-Noreen, Director of HR & SS Shar Hawley, Director of Org. Perf. & Planning Jessica Roswell, Marketing Operations Manager Jim Bevan, SharePoint & Office Admin. Coord. Wyatt LaBaw, Investigator Kim Ficek, Customer Service Specialist Alex Satterlund, Internal Auditor Hilary Elkins, Budget Manager Jenna Johnson, Procurement Manager David Dean, Regional Sales Manager Stephanie Dieball, Accounts Receivable Cheryl Earsley, Scratch/Promotion Coordinator

Sue Fitzgerald, Fiscal Analyst Nikki Holien, Management Analyst Cody LaCourse, Procurement/Supply Specialist Sean Lee, HR Consultant Sophia Lay, Secretary Lead Joe Eng, DSR Becky Feigner, Customer Service Specialist Scott Gatterman, Assist. Regional Sales Mngr. Jennie Brashear, Accounts Payable Supervisor Kim Ficek, Customer Service Specialist Young Cho, Customer Service Specialist Lance Anderson, Assistant Director of Sales Gabrielle Allard, Customer Service Specialist Qwaidon Frederick, Customer Service Specialist Dan Gisel, Regional Sales Manager Meredith Wooton, Regional Sales Manager Gift Ngajio, Accounts Payable Analyst Debra Buckner, Secretary Lead Sharlene Boesenberg, Lead Secretary Rita Hawkins, Executive Assistant

## **Other Attendees**

Eric Allen, Assistant Attorney General Dan Miller, Curator Emily Libby, VML Kristie Christensen, VML Rebecca George, WIGA Becky Bogard, IGT

# **Call to Order:**

9:00 a.m. - Chair Giniger called the April 17, 2025, Lottery Commission meeting to order.

Chair Giniger asked for a commissioner roll call. Commissioner Schuyler Hoss and Rudy Mendoza confirmed their virtual attendance. Commissioner Sullivan is not in attendance.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Chair Giniger entertained a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 20, 2025 Commission Meeting as presented.

Commissioner Hoss **so moved**, and Commissioner Mendoza **seconded**. Commissioner Giniger called for a vote to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2025, Commission Meeting. **Ayes** were unanimous. **Motion carried**.

## **Director's Update:**

Director Johnson shared updates and news about the launch of the new Mega Millions game format, the new enterprise performance management system, EPM, set to go live soon, introductory meetings with Legislative members, and the expected budget challenges and reduction for the upcoming biennium.

# **Deputy Director's Update:**

Deputy Director Cassi Villegas provided updates on three projects suspended operations, One Washington, and virtual cards for prize payments.

At the February meeting, there was a request from Commissioner Hoss for sales figures for the potential loss of sales due to a government shutdown and the step-down process (limiting advanced sales). The loss during step down or loss from those advanced sales during the eight-week period of May 5<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> will average \$1.1 million. Every day we are shut down, we would see an average loss of \$2.5 million, which is an average day of sales and includes advanced draw sales. To be shut down for one week, we would see a loss of about \$17.5 million and \$75 million in a month. Deputy Villegas added this could also have a larger impact and increased total loss substantially if there is a large jackpot run.

# **Legislative & Legal Services Update:**

Kristi Weeks started with the usual statistics of formal and informal requests for information, lawsuits and administrative hearings. Ms. Weeks continued with a legislative session update, procurement project, and explained she was selected as an evaluator for another states responsible gambling verification application for the sustaining level.

# **Financial Report: FY25 Quarter 3 Update:**

Todd Steben, Director of Finance presented next and talked about the financial performance fiscal year to date, through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Steben said we are tracking well with our appropriations and have forecasted landing perfectly within budget at the end of the year.

Commissioner Hoss asked whether, due to the current climate, there will be an impact on our ability to fund Washington Opportunity Pathways Account, WOPA, and our beneficiaries? Director Johnston jumped in and said our contribution to our beneficiaries is a product of the Economic Revenue Forecast Council, so that number does bounce around based on what is forecasted.

# **Sales and Marketing Update**

Randy Warick, Director of Sales and Marketing began by reminding the commission that an updated sales number slide has been added to the deck, for the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Warick talked about sales being down due to no large jackpots but stressed that the team is looking for new opportunities that might help increase sales, including new games and events. Mr. Warick touched on the current promotions, AEG second chance, Mariner's scratch, Mega Millions game change, Department of Imagination, DOI, with a teaser for the upcoming Department of Imagination brand new campaign and Jurassic Park scratch ticket promotion. This promotion includes a prize for winners to travel to Hawaii as well as a chance to win a million dollars while there.

#### **Scratch Artwork**

Gaylene Gray, Instant Product Manager, presented the new scratch ticket artwork for the commissioners' review and briefly talked about each one. The commission had no questions.

# **Commission Business/Agenda Items:**

Chair Giniger asked the commissioners present if they had anything they would like to add to the next meeting in June. Hearing none, Chair Giniger asked if any come up, to please reach out to Director Johnston or Deputy Villegas.

## **Public Comment:**

Chair Giniger asked if anyone online or in the studio is interested in speaking today. Hearing no comments, Chair Giniger closed the public comment period.

# Adjournment: Commissioner Giniger adjourned the meeting at 10:45am The, April 17, 2025, Lottery Commission Meeting Minutes were approved this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025. Respectfully submitted,

Judy Giniger, Commission Chair Rita Hawkins, Executive Assistant		
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