IOWA RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION
MINUTES
AUGUST 28, 2025

The Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission (IRGC) met on Thursday, August 28, 2025 at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort in Riverside, Iowa. Commission members present were Chair Mark Campbell, Vice Chair Amy Burkhart, and members Daryl Olsen and Alan Ostergren.

APPROVE AGENDA: Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM, and requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES: Chair Campbell requested a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2025 Commission meeting. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the minutes as printed. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

WELCOME: Damon John, General Manager, welcomed everyone back to Riverside, Iowa. He announced that they just celebrated their 19th anniversary with an outdoor concert and firework display that over 3,700 country music fans attended. He said their dedicated team of 700 employees looks forwards to the Commission's visit each year as it is their chance to showcase their property, guest service, entertainment and the wonderful amenities they offer at Riverside. Mr. John said their commitment to excellence goes beyond the walls of the resort and into their communities. For the eighth consecutive year Riverside won the Give Back Iowa volunteer challenge. He then recognized some employees in attendance that are members of their 500 club, which is employees who volunteer more than 500 hours in a calendar year.

Mr. John then highlighted a very important investment they have made recently into a pro hockey league called 3Ice. 3Ice takes on a three on three format, similar to overtime, but for the entire game. He said due to this investment 3Ice has agreed to move their headquarters to Coralville which will give Coralville and the Eastern Iowa area massive exposure to over 70 million households on FanDuel and the NHL Network. He said this investment is something they are extremely proud of and will boost tourism in the state of Iowa. Mr. John then turned it over to Jim Hauth, President of the Washington County Riverboat Foundation (WCRF).

Mr. Hauth welcomed everyone on behalf of WCRF and Riverside Casino. He said Riverside is more than just a gaming destination as it also has top quality lodging and dining experiences as well as one of the best golf courses in the state. He said Riverside Casino and Golf Resort together with WCRF has contributed over 70 million dollars to charitable organizations. He said most of the funds have supported EMS services, schools, veteran organizations and community projects across Southeast Iowa. Mr. Hauth said as the gaming industry in Iowa continues to progress they remain committed to supporting these charities at the highest level possible. They look forward to improving gaming across the state of Iowa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Tina Eick, Administrator of IRGC, advised there is no Commission meeting in September. The Commission will next meet on October 2, 2025 at Rhythm City in Davenport, IA. Submissions for that meeting are due in the Commission's Des Moines office by September 18, 2025. The Commission will then meet at Isle Casino Hotel in Waterloo on November 20, 2025.

Ms. Eick then recognized and thanked Commission Gaming Representatives, Scott Ditch and Tori Aplara for their hard work on behalf of the Commission. Mr. Ditch has been with the Commission for 27 years and Ms. Aplara has been with the Commission four and half years. Ms. Eick said these employees are the Commission's eyes and ears at the facility. She said they help the industry stay on track and make sure they follow all of the Commission's rules and laws.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES: Ms. Eick started the discussion about the application process and specifically the application fee and whether changes should be made to Commission administrative rules in that area. The current rule was placed in effect around 2000 and requires a $25,000 non-refundable application fee. When that rule went into place the Commission was receiving a number of applications for a variety of different areas across the state and those fees could typically cover the Commissions costs. Ms. Eick said for the most recent Linn County application those costs were over $200,000 not including attorney fees. The biggest cost was the two market studies that totaled $195,000. She said she would welcome any feedback from the Commission as to options or alternatives.

Commissioner Ostergren said that from his experience in working with the Utilities Commission, a new licensing applicant bears all of the costs that the Utilities Commission would take on during the application process. He said because of this experience he was a little surprised at the fee structure when he first started with the Racing and Gaming Commission. But, during that time it was the beginning of the Linn County application and he didn't think it would be appropriate to initiate a rule change to an impending application. Commissioner Ostergren said looking forward he thinks it would be more appropriate that while going through the process to evaluate an application, the applicant takes on all of the costs for the regulatory work and not the industry as a whole. He believes these should be actual costs and not something that would produce revenue for the Commission. He thinks it's appropriate to look at a rule change, that dollar for dollar, puts those costs on the applicant and strongly encouraged the Commission to move in that direction.

Commissioner Olsen said he agrees. The only concern he sees is with the actual costs and what if there are more than one applicant. He was curious how that would work if there were multiple applicants. Would they just divide the fee among the number of applicants and would that encourage more applicants?

Commissioner Ostergren said that is a good point and he suggested that they look at the language as they move forward. He said if they have multiple license applications his sense is that the costs would be split between the applicants. He said there might be some costs that they could allocate to an individual but things like the market study could be divided by the number of applications they receive. He said his goal in thinking about this is that to the extent possible is to reflect the actual costs to offset the actual expenses but not have it result in any net revenue to the Commission.

Ms. Eick said that when staff looked at this it was with the mindset that it would be itemized costs and any non-expended funds would be remitted back to the applicants.

Commissioner Olsen said as he understands it, it would be a flat rate that is cost based and any funds not spent would be refunded.

Ms. Eick said that is correct. She said currently it is a $25,000 non-refundable fee. This would increase the fee but it would be refundable and would capture actual costs.

Commissioner Ostergren said he believes that is what they should study.

Commissioner Olsen said he would definitely support that.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to direct staff to initiate the process to prepare a draft regulation that they can discuss at a future meeting and then go through the rule making process. He said this would give the stakeholders the opportunity to give comments to the Commission that he thinks would be valuable. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion.

Commissioner Olsen commented that the shortfall that is at play as it is today is not being paid by the Commission but that is coming out of money that would typically be refunded back to the other operators within the state?

Ms. Eick said that is correct. That money is coming out of our budget that the Commission is appropriated by the legislature and under the revolving fund anything that we don't use in that fiscal year is remitted back to the industry.

Motion carried unanimously.

DIAMOND JO, LLC:

Request for Approval of Remodeling Pursuant to 491 IAC 5.4(15): Wendy Runde, General Manager, presented a request for a remodel of the former buffet space. She said this space has been dark since Covid. She said the new area will be a combination of quick serve, grab and go, and a sit down full menu type of meal service. Ms. Runde said this remodel will almost double the seating capacity and with partitions will allow them flexibility during times they are busier or slower. She said there is also space in the back for private groups. Construction is ready to start in a couple weeks and they expect the work to be completed in quarter one.

Commissioner Olsen asked what the hours of operation would be. Ms. Runde said Monday through Friday will be 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM, limited menu by meal times. Saturday and Sunday would be 8:00 AM to 12:00 AM.

Commissioner Campbell said he saw a kiosk in one of the pictures and asked if that was the way people would order. Ms. Runde said it is just an additional way to order. People can use the kiosk, the counter, or a QR code.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the remodeling request as presented by Diamond Jo, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Request for Approval of the Online Marketing Access Agreement with Betfair Interactive US LLC: Mike Paretti, Associate General Counsel at Boyd Gaming, presented the online market access agreement with Betfair Interactive US LLC. He said he submitted the documentation to the Commission and he is familiar with the agreement and was happy to answer any questions.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the online marketing access agreement with Betfair Interactive US LLC as presented by Diamond Jo, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CEDAR RAPIDS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC:

Request for Approval of Material Debt Transaction: Dustin Manternach, Chief Financial Officer, presented the request for approval of the material debt transaction and said he was happy to answer any questions.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the material debt transaction presented by Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Request for Approval of Development Agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC: Mr. Manternach presented the request for approval of the development agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC and said he was happy to answer any questions.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the development agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC as presented by Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Request for Approval of Management Services Agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC: Mr. Manternach presented the request for approval of the management services agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC and said he was happy to answer any questions.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the management services agreement with JNB Gaming, LLC as presented by Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2026 HORSE RACING SEASON – SCHEDULE UPDATE:

The Iowa HBPA, Inc. and The Iowa HBPA Benevolent Trust: John Moss, Executive Director, said over the past year they have been meeting and have handled a lot of the low hanging fruit that was discussed in the study provided by Doug Reed at the August 2024 meeting. He said the largest issue still is the racing schedule itself and they are trying to evaluate that. He said that the HBPA has continued to try to push what they believe was a big part of Mr. Reed's study and that was to establish consistency. He said in order to do that they wanted to maintain an 80 day race meet. He said however after meeting with Prairie Meadows, the Quarter Horse Association and the Commission it became apparent that no one wanted to establish and maintain that level of consistency so they have now pivoted.

Mr. Moss said Mr. Reed's study specifically said that a mixed meet scenario was the least desirable of all the potential racing seasons that were put together so HBPA came up with a hybrid meet. He said they are looking for a reasonable circuit for racing for both breeds. He said with the hybrid format the thoroughbreds would have access to the backside during the race season, and it would also give them more racing opportunities, reaching the 600 race target that was noted in Mr. Reed's study. He said this option also allows them to run longer with less stress on the backside. Mr. Moss said this option is also a cost saving maneuver for Prairie Meadows as it avoids them racing and having the entire backside open during the month of October. He said for the quarter horses this would give them more access to the stalls and the racetrack than they currently have now. He said quarter horses are also not forced to run four days a week.

Mr. Moss said they presented this same hybrid format to Prairie Meadows and the Quarter Horse Racing Association last week. He said they will continue to work together with them on this proposed calendar. He said there is still work to be done and this is by no means the end product, but they are hopeful this is a good starting point. He said everything is a compromise and they just want to make things best for everyone.

Commissioner Olsen said under this hybrid option the thoroughbreds would have 603 races and the quarter horses would have 208 races. He asked how that compared to what each breed was running this year.

Mr. Moss said that the thoroughbreds will run about 575 races this year, so this will add roughly 25 races to get them to the 600 range. He said 25 is not a lot but according to Mr. Reed's study that seems to be the minimum when comparing it to what other racing industries in the Midwest are doing well with. He said when they looked at the mixed meet and the different mixed meet options their biggest fear was they were going to keep reducing racing opportunities.

Commissioner Olsen asked if he knew how many races the quarter horses will run this year. Mr. Moss said he didn't know. Commissioner Olsen then asked Tom Lepic, President of Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Enterprise, Inc. Mr. Lepic said around 220 races. Commissioner Olsen said so under the proposed hybrid option, the quarter horses would be down from 220 races to 208. Mr.

Moss said to clarify he had them at 8 races a day. If they added a race per day that would get them up to around that 220. Commissioner Olsen said he is just trying to see how it compares to what it is today. Mr. Moss said it is variable and can be easily adjusted.

Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Association (IQHRA): Mr. Lepic started by saying they have no interest in hybrid option that Mr. Moss presented. He said that option is basically a stand-alone meet for the quarter horses and an extended stand-alone meet for the thoroughbreds. He explained that for the thoroughbreds it takes it from 21 weeks to 22 weeks of racing, extending their races by five percent. However, for the quarter horses it takes it from 15 weeks of racing down to eight, a decrease of 47%. He said that duration is extremely important to them. On top of that he explained that this would also create a stand-alone meet for the thoroughbreds until the first week of August. He said if they are going to be successful in a stand-alone meet they are going to have to have 1100-1200 horses on the backside to run nine races a day. He said that means they will be taking up 1100-1200 stalls of only 1400 available which means there will be nowhere for the quarter horses to go when they get there. He said he appreciates the HBPA creating this option, but at this point they have no interest in what they call a hybrid meet.

Mr. Lepic said that in 2019 they were running stand-alone meets and both breeds were starting to struggle. In 2020 the HBPA and IQHRA along with Prairie Meadows worked together to put together a mixed meet format. He said this format has been a blessing for the quarter horses and all the trainers, owners, and breeders love the mixed meet. Mr. Lepic said rest and recovery time is extremely important and the mixed meet gives the time for that. He said the quarter horse population on the backside continues to grow. They are averaging 95% full stalls and so far in 2025 they are averaging 7.33 starters per race which is up from 6.58 just three years ago.

Mr. Lepic said the IQHRA and Prairie Meadows have worked together as a team and the thoroughbreds are also a part of that team. He said the thoroughbreds are a big part of the industry and they have helped the quarter horses growth by racing in mixed meets with them. He also thanked the Commissioners for being part of the team as well and said they are a huge part of their success.

Mr. Lepic said if they are forced to go back to a stand-alone meet quarter horses will not start running until late August or early September and won't finish until the end of October. He said 70% of their horses that run at Prairie Meadows come to the state from Oklahoma following the Remington Park meet which ends at the end of May. He said if they don't start until late August or early September most of those trainers and owners will elect to stay in Oklahoma. His fear is that it will be tough to get enough quarter horses that time of year to have a quarter horse stand-alone meet at Prairie Meadows.

Mr. Lepic said he once again is asking everyone to consider a 76 day mixed meet where the calendar for both breeds will be reduced by the same four days. He also asked Prairie Meadows to consider building a pony barn to help the thoroughbreds bring in more race horses in 2026. He said the quarter horses will be fine with the total barns they currently have and will work in any way possible to help both breeds move forward in a positive direction as a team with one goal in mind, to improve the wonderful racehorse industry and they are thankful to be racing at Prairie Meadows, one of the most beautiful racetracks in the country.

Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, Inc.: Gary Palmer, General Manager, thanked the Commission for giving them a year to work with their partners to have a consensus of how they can move forward and have a great racing program at Prairie Meadows. He said it's been challenging, fun and interesting working with these two groups. He said they have different opinions but he thinks they can come to a consensus if they work long enough at it. He said the casino business, the market and the environment are all changing and he thinks horseracing needs to change to be the best there is at Prairie Meadows. He then turned it over to Derron Heldt, Vice President of Racing.

Mr. Heldt shared some PowerPoint slides that depicted what has happened in the past at Prairie Meadows and also what is happening in the current year. He said this is the last year of their agreement and at this point they do not have an agreement but he is optimistic that they will meet the October meeting deadline.

Mr. Heldt said that today is the 63rd day of racing for the year and the average field size for thoroughbreds is 6.11 horses per race and the average field size for quarter horses is 7.33 horses per race. He said during the Covid year, 2020, they had to delay their opening day of racing to June and the horses ran a 67 day meet. He said they had seven days of straight thoroughbred racing and 60 days of a mixed meet. That year the average field size for thoroughbreds was 6.79 horses per race and it has continued to decline ever since. He said the National average for thoroughbred field size is 7.64 horses per race.

Mr. Heldt stated all stakeholders have their differences and they need to come together to do what's best. He said it takes all of them working together because they all want racing at Prairie Meadows. He said they take great pride in the product they produce and the work that goes on behind the scenes. He said they just want to build a more competitive product that increases wagering and enhances the long term stability in the state. He said they don't want horseracing to go the way of the greyhound industry.

Mr. Palmer said that they are proposing a 74 day meet which is six days less than what they have been doing. He said although they don't think it's a fix all, it's sensible and something they can try for a change to see if it works. He said if they go broke racing six fewer days, they were probably already broke. He said they need a change and this is a minimal change, but it seems reasonable.

Commissioner Burkhart said that they referenced 2020 as being a stand-out year with field size and track attendance being promising despite Covid protocols and concerns, but that was a 67 day meet and they are proposing a 74 day meet. She asked if 67 days was the sweet spot and they were just negotiating to 74 days, or what they would really like to see?

Mr. Heldt said initially last fall they started with a 67 day calendar, but sometimes you need to get lean before you can get stronger. He said status quo is not working. Mr. Palmer said they felt that if they were going to cut they should do so gradually. He said they should try less days to see if it works and then go from there. He said going to the extreme he didn't feel would be fair to anyone.

Commissioner Olsen said as a veterinarian and someone who loves horseracing he would do anything to make sure we can maintain a healthy horseracing industry here in the state and at Prairie Meadows. He said he is disappointed that in 11 months, one month away from decision time, it appears they are still at square one. He said he believes they cannot approve status quo and he believes he can get his fellow Commissioners to agree with him on that. He encouraged the groups to go back to work because under the statute if they don't have something by the next meeting in October, the Commission will have the ability to establish the schedule. Commissioner Olsen said they are prepared to do that and he doesn't think anyone will like it. He said if he was setting a schedule it would start around May 1st with thoroughbreds running five days a week for 13 weeks and then running a ten week meet for the quarter horses. He doesn't feel like that is a good meet and he doesn't think it is what is best for anyone but their hands are tied if they can't come together and agree on something. Commissioner Olsen said that if nothing is in place by the October meeting this is what he would encourage the Commission to approve. He said there is no sense dragging this out, it has already been 11 months and nothing has happened so they don't need to drag it out any further.

Commissioner Burkhart said her opinion is to measure twice and cut once. She said she hopes they are still having conversations beyond just the race dates. They also need to enhance the entertainment value of their product and that will help them maintain a viable product that's exciting to the public and is a tourism attraction for the entire state of Iowa. She said they have a public that has less of an attention span and so she questions if they are extending this out too far to really meet the publics general interest. She stated her personal opinion is it needs to remain a mixed meet and it needs to be significantly fewer days.

Commissioner Olsen said that he agrees with Commissioner Burkhart and that 67 days seems like a good number. He said if they are going to do it, they should just do it but then the pressure would be back on Prairie Meadows. He said they will need more barns and another barn for ponies. He said in order to make it they would need to make it vibrant, exciting and the best it's ever been and sign a long term deal that everyone knows they can live with. He encouraged them to get together and figure something out. He said he doesn't think just dropping a few days is the right move.

Commissioner Ostergren said all of the Commissioners come from different backgrounds but they all share the same thoughts. He said he does not want to have to decide what the schedule is because he said inevitably they are going to have to live with what the Commission decides. He said no matter how much the Commissioners study this, they don't know as much about horseracing as the three parties involved in this negotiation. He said please do not put them in that situation.

Commissioner Ostergren commented on the information presented by Mr. Moss. He said if that was truly what was best for all concerned they would have worked this out a long time ago. He said he hopes they can set their egos aside and work very hard to get a solution because he promised the industry they would hate what the Commission would come up with.

Chair Campbell said he appreciated all of the comments and he could not agree with the other three Commissioners more. He said he really hopes the Commission does not have to set the schedule. He said if that is what it comes down to, the vote will determine the schedule for the following year and that will be what it is. There will not be any coming back saying all three stakeholders hate it and presenting something else. It will be set. He urged them to please get together and figure something out.

Commissioner Ostergren said he agreed 100%. He said if they decide at the meeting that this is the schedule, that's it. He said please negotiate as hard as you can.

CONTRACT APPROVALS (OSV – OUT OF STATE VENDOR; RP – RELATED PARTY): Chair Campbell said that we are starting to get an increase in out of state vendors and he asked Jeff Peterzalek, assigned agency counsel from the Attorney General's office, to read the portion of Iowa Code about licensees utilizing Iowa resources. Mr. Peterzalek said the encouragement to use in-state vendors with respect to licensees and their operations is not something the Commission just made up or that they just feel is a good thing. It is something that the legislature mandates. The specific words in the statute 99F.7(5) say the Commission shall require that an applicant utilize Iowa resources, that a substantial amount of vendors and suppliers are from within the state of Iowa. Mr. Peterzalek said this is something the Commission has to do by statute. He said there has been some slippage and the Commission will need to start pursuing that more vigorously. He also noted that Iowa Code 99F.7 contains the license conditions, so this is something the licenses are conditioned on.

IOC Black Hawk County, Inc.: Chad Moine, General Manager, presented a contract with Element Construction Services, Inc for general construction for Commission approval.

Commissioner Burkhart asked if there was an extension to the scope of the project or if this increase was just to cover overages. Mr. Moine said the project is a multi-phase project and they just finished phase one and are moving to phase two. This funding is to complete phase two once the timeline is set.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the contract as submitted by IOC Black Hawk County, Inc. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Casino Queen Marquette, LLC: Robin Corbeil, General Manager, said they had one contract with Alpha (Alpha Video and Audio, Inc.) that they would like to remove until the October meeting. She then presented one contract with Netsmart Corp. for upgraded server infrastructure network for the land-based casino (OSV) for Commission approval.

Commissioner Burkhart said the rules specify for specialized sources, such as for entertainment, gaming equipment, things of that nature, there is an understanding that these might not all come from Iowa vendors. She said they understand that there are reasons from time to time and she feels that this kind of technology equipment could fall under the specialized services category.

Ms. Corbeil said there was only one Iowa company they could find that would provide this service and they have not returned any of their calls.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart moved to table item number one and to approve item number two as submitted by Casino Queen Marquette, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC: Paul Czak, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Cintas – Uniforms for Casino Staff
- Ernst & Young – Professional Services Accounting Firm
- Global Infrastructure Special – Diver Dredging Under the Vessel (OSV)
- Premier Glazer's Beer & Beverage LLC – Miller/Coors Beer Distributor
- Scavuzzo's Inc – Beef & Pork Provider (OSV)
- The Printer Inc – Direct Mail Production

Commissioner Olsen said he has a big question and concern. He said they were looking for an out-of-state vendor for three quarters of a million dollars for beef and pork, but he knows that Iowa raises a ton of beef and pork. He said there has to be someone in Iowa that can sell them beef or pork. Mr. Czak there are Iowa vendors but they are significantly higher priced.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. No one seconded the motion so Chair Campbell asked if they would like to take each item separately.

Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract with Cintas as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract with Ernst & Young as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract with Global Infrastructure Special as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. She stated this is a large out of state contractor but she believes this would fall under a specialized source. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contract with Premier Glazer's Beer & Beverage LLC as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contract with Scavuzzo's as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Olsen asked if there was any way they could see the difference in pricing from the selected vendor and the Iowa vendors as he understands the economics but has a hard time approving the large out-of-state contract for a product that is readily available in Iowa. Mr. Czak said he would get that for them. Commissioner Burkhart said this might be a moment for Iowa vendors to look at their pricing. She said it could be an opportunity to see if one of the Iowa vendors is willing to tighten their prices and maybe to split the contract between vendors for certain items. Commissioner Ostergren withdrew his motion and this item was tabled until the October meeting.

Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract with The Printer Inc as presented by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

SCE Partners, LLC: Doug Fisher, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- CSI, L.L.C. – Catalyst Switch & Rack Replacement, Firewall and Network Support
- Everi Payments, Inc. – Cash Advance Processing, Check Guarantee and ATM Services (OSV)

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contracts as presented by SCE Partners, LLC. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Harveys Iowa Management Company LLC: Thomas Roberts, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Premier Glazer's Beer & Beverage – Alcohol Vendor
- Ticketmaster/Live Nation – Ticket Sales (OSV)

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Harveys Iowa Management Company LLC. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Iowa West Racing Association d/b/a Horseshoe Casino Council Bluffs: Mr. Roberts presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Paul Davis Restoration of the Iowa Corridor – Organic Restoration and Repair
- Premier Glazer's Beer & Beverage - Alcohol Vendor
- Ulster Carpet Mills, Inc. – Carpet Repair and Replacement (OSV)
- World Series of Poker (WSOP) – World Series of Poker Payments and Fees (OSV)

Commissioner Olsen asked if the carpet contract was corporate. Mr. Roberts said Ulster Carpet is the largest manufacturer of casino carpet in the world. He said Ulster is out of Ireland and owns the carpet design for all of the carpet in all of the Horseshoe casinos. He said there are no carpet mills in Iowa. He said they did however bid out the installation. He said Carpet Master came in the highest so what they did was brought in Pinnacle Construction, which is an in-state vendor, to sub-contract for Master Carpet.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Iowa West Racing Association d/b/a Horseshoe Casino Council Bluffs. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC: Kim Pang, Vice President of Peninsula Pacific Entertainment, presented a contract with Buzz Creative Group, LLC for advertising creative services and brand strategy (BP) for Commission approval.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract as submitted by Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, LLC: Mr. John presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Brockway Mechanical & Roofing – Boiler Replacement
- Wynonna, Inc. – Entertainment Event (OSV)

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, LLC. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Diamond Jo, LLC: Ms. Runde presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Conlon Construction – New Restaurant in Former Buffet Space
- Wagner Nursery Inc – Landscaping Refresh

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve the contract as submitted by Diamond Jo, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, Inc.: Mr. Palmer presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- ADP (Automatic Data Processing) – Payroll and Human Resources Software
- Blackbaud – Grants Software Subscription and Training (OSV)
- Excel Mechanical – HVAC Contractor
- Wilson Restaurant Supply – Food Preparation Equipment

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, Inc. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

HEARINGS:

Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC: Ms. Eick presented the Stipulated Agreement with Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC for two counts for violations of Iowa Code § 99F.4(22) and Iowa Code § 99F.7(10)"b". These counts involved self-exclusion violations as well as dispensing cash on the gaming floor.

Mr. Czak said he felt embarrassed and frustrated that they failed at the responsibilities they were given as a casino operator. He said that failure has the potential to negatively affect their guests and that feeling has them striving to move forward and get better so they do not need to come before the Commission again.

Mr. Czak said in count one they had both manual people-based and technology-based safeguards in place and they both failed at the same time. He said a team member did not deliver the form to compliance for upload and their technology system did not work and the vendor cannot figure out why. He said since this incident they have doubled the safeguards they have in place. On the technology side their program now automatically generates a notice that goes to compliance any time a security member is dispatched for a self-exclusion talk. On the manual side, now at the end of the day when the security team is filing their reports they are required to scan and email that form down to compliance.

Mr. Czak said for the second instance it was a long term bartender that acknowledged she had been trained and she knew she wasn't supposed to do it and she immediately called her supervisor to report it. He said they have now contracted with Oracle, who does the programming for their point of sale systems, and they are writing some modifications that will only allow credit and debit cards ten dollars over the receipt amount. Chair Campbell said to make sure that Oracle knows that this is a free option on most point of sale systems.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Burkhart commented that they had a similar issue in August of 2024 and with that she moved to approve the Stipulated Agreement as presented for Count 1 with an administrative penalty of $10,000, and for Count 2 with an administrative penalty of $10,000. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

<u>Iowa West Racing Association</u>: Ms. Eick presented the Stipulated Agreement with Iowa West Racing Association for a violation of Iowa Code § 99F.9(5). This violation involved allowing a minor on the gaming floor multiple times unchallenged by multiple staff members.

Mr. Roberts said he is deeply embarrassed by this situation. He said when the minor first entered they had a trainer and a new employee dealing with an ID at the podium so the minor was able to gain access unchallenged. He said once the minor lost his keys, the staff went into customer service mode instead of security mode and they started helping him find his keys. They were not only allowing him back on the gaming floor, they were escorting him around. Mr. Roberts said it was not determined that he was underage until the police started to gather information from him about his lost keys. He said the team lost focus and the new security manager makes it a point to remind security staff that it doesn't matter how many times a patron comes and goes, they need to be ID'd every single time.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren thanked Mr. Roberts for the explanation. He said some of these underage violations are cookie cutter situations but this was not one of them. He said due to the amount of times the patron accessed the gaming floor, he moved to approve the Stipulated Agreement as presented with an administrative penalty of $20,000. Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

<u>FBG Iowa LLC</u>: Ms. Eick presented the Stipulated Agreement with FBG Iowa LLC for violations of Iowa Code § 99F.9(4)"a", 491 IAC 13.5(2)"a" and 491 IAC 13.2(3). These violations involved an ineligible underage person creating an online sports wagering account.

Michael Levine, Senior Regulatory Counsel, sincerely apologized for the matter presented. He said they take these matters very seriously and have taken appropriate measures to make sure these don't happen again and said he would be happy to provide any information on the matter or incident itself.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Campbell requested a motion. Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the Stipulated Agreement as presented with an administrative penalty of $20,000. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>: None

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS</u>: David Ranscht, General Counsel, said that although the 2025 legislative session just ended not too long ago we are already in prep mode for what might be proposed in 2026. He said so far staff has suggested three areas where legislation might add clarity to the Code. He said the first one is cease and desist authorization primarily used for an increasing number of complaints that staff are receiving from members of the public who find an online casino. This would allow staff to notify these illegal operators that what they are doing is contrary to Chapter 99F and then we would work with DCI and the AG's office to take whatever action would be necessary. This is being modeled after what other states are doing, such as Michigan and Ohio.

Mr. Ranscht said the second area is in regards to Commissioner travel expenses. He said this has not changed and has been at the same level as when it was set in the 1980s.

Mr. Ranscht said the third area is the consequences of conviction for unlawful betting or for cheating. He said currently that does not exclude a person from sports wagering or mobile sports wagering, it only causes them to be banned from retail facilities. This would help close that loophole.

Commissioner Olsen said it always feels a little slimy when you raise money for yourself, such as additional money for Commissioner travel, but he believes we are up against our limit now and that makes it so the Commissioners are not able to attend any additional events or educational classes.

Ms. Eick said that everything post Covid has increased in cost, and last year we came in just under our $30,000 limit, which seems like a lot but that is split between five Commissioners. She said that part of the Commissioners typically attend G2E in Las Vegas while the others attend a racing conference. In 2025 one Commissioner was unable to attend the conference and even with only four Commissioners attending out of state conferences we were still right under our budget. She also mentioned that besides out of state conferences, mileage is by far the biggest expense.

Commissioner Ostergren asked if him living in Altoona helped stay just under budget. Ms. Eick said that is correct. Commissioner Olsen said he thinks its good to travel to the other facilities and we don't just want all of the meetings to be in Des Moines to save costs.

Commissioner Burkhart commented that she believes it's good for the Commission to have representatives from different areas of the state. She said everyone knows that prices have gone up since 1986 and so that is a very old number. She said the Commissioners enjoy going to the facilities for special events such as ribbon cuttings. She said it is time they readjust the number.

Commission Burkhart said she also fully supports the other two issues as well. She would like staff to continue to investigate and take measures to get those ready and prepared for the legislative season. Ms. Burkhart thinks the cease and desist one is very important. She said it is not right that people are stealing the facility logos and passing it off as if they are behind this. She said right now our hands are tied with being able to take any action against those shady operators and this puts us on a path forward where we can hopefully start to shut that down.

Chair Campbell took a moment to thank Doug Fisher and everyone at Hard Rock for inviting him out to the grand reopening and redevelopment of their old banquet area. He said they did an outstanding job with the area and he loves the continued reinvestment in the facilities which shows the commitment from everyone in the room to gaming in Iowa.

ADJOURN: Hearing no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Campbell requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Olsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:39 PM. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Chantelle Armintrout

CHANTELLE S. ARMINTROUT