IOWA RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION
MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2026

The Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission (IRGC) met on Thursday, June 11, 2026 at Diamond Jo Casino in Northwood, Iowa. Commission members present were Amy Burkhart, Chair; Alan Ostergren, Vice Chair; and members Linda Upmeyer, Kirk Nielsen, and Michael Boal.

Chair Burkhart called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and welcomed everyone. Chair Burkhart noted she and Commissioner Nielsen toured Wild Rose Emmetsburg on June 10th and were pleased to see the progress.

APPROVE AGENDA: Chair Burkhart requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES: Chair Burkhart requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2026 Commission meeting. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

WELCOME: Scott Smith, Vice President and General Manager of Diamond Jo Casino, welcomed everyone on behalf of Diamond Jo Casino's 365 staff members. He was honored to host the meeting and appreciates everyone's commitment to maintaining the high standards of the gaming industry in Iowa, allowing the industry to thrive and continue to innovate.

The last time the Commission was at Northwood in March of 2023, renovations had not yet begun. Since then, the buffet closed and became 35 Brew Street Bar and Grill, and the Country Inn and Suites was purchased and remodeled as the Diamond Jo Hotel. Mr. Smith is very proud of those projects and the teams that staff them. The Big Wheel Bar was also updated to the Mixx Bar and Lounge, creating a welcoming social environment and viewing area for guests. There have also been upgrades to the exterior of the property and the landscaping, and more upgrades are planned for the near future.

Mr. Smith said over 20 years ago, Worth County residents were inspired to make an impact in Worth County and northern Iowa, and over that time, Diamond Jo Casino has been able to distribute $100 million to the Worth County Development Authority (WCDA). He offered his heartfelt thanks and congratulations on their hard work before turning it over to Shanan Redinger, Board President of the WCDA.

Ms. Redinger introduced the WCDA board members present for the meeting. The WCDA board awards general and special grants across several categories. Ms. Redinger briefly touched on two of those categories: emergency services and education.

The WCDA has issued grants for each fire department in all seven towns in their county—as well as surrounding counties and towns—for new fire trucks, protective gear and equipment, as well as police cars, generators, drug dogs, city sirens, EMT vehicles, and upgraded their county's emergency communications network to rival some of the largest metropolitan areas in the Midwest.

Approximately 45% of the money the WCDA distributes goes toward education, including preschool funding, back to school gift cards for every K-12 student in Worth County, and scholarships for qualifying high school seniors pursuing higher education. Over the last 19 years, the WCDA has awarded $14.3 million in these scholarships and has distributed over $20 million across the five school districts that serve their students.

Ms. Redinger relayed that any of the board members are able to provide more information. She thanked Mr. Smith and the Commission for the opportunity to improve their communities, and commended the improvements made on Diamond Jo Casino.

Chair Burkhart also offered a warm welcome to Commissioner Linda Upmeyer as the fifth member of the Commission. Commissioner Upmeyer is from Clear Lake and is a nurse practitioner by profession. She is a mother of five kids and a grandmother of seven. She served on the community college board before serving in the Iowa legislature for 18 years. Commissioner Upmeyer said she feels very welcomed, and she appreciated the orientation provided by staff.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Tina Eick, Administrator of IRGC, stated the next Commission meeting will be Friday, July 24th at Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino. Submissions for this meeting are due in the Des Moines office by July 10th. She advised the meeting will start at 2:30 PM to allow the Commissioners to attend live racing that evening. The August meeting will be held on August 27th at Riverside Casino & Golf Resort. There is no meeting in September.

Ms. Eick took a moment to recognize two Commission staff attending the meeting, Kathy Debower and Jessica Grotewold. The gaming representatives wear many hats and work closely with facilities to ensure that gaming in Iowa is operating with integrity and in accordance with Iowa laws. Ms. Eick thanked them for their dedication.

APPROVAL OF REGULATORY FEES FOR FY 2027: Ms. Eick stated the proposed regulatory fees for the Commission and the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) are included in the Commissioners' meeting packets and have been distributed to the industry. She stated the Legislature sets the appropriations for the Commission and DCI. The schedules before the Commission establish the allocation for each licensee. She noted staff have not received any questions or concerns from the industry. Ms. Eick requested approval of the regulatory fees as presented, but noted there may be adjustments made by the Department of Management. If any changes are made, that information will be brought to the July meeting for Commission approval.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Boal moved to approve the regulatory fees for the Commission and DCI as presented. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES EXECUTIVE ORDER 10 REVIEW: David Ranscht, general counsel for IRGC, provided an informational review of the Commission's progress in complying with Executive Order 10. He relayed that staff have already begun the review process, and initial drafts for all chapters are mostly completed. The racing chapters have already been completed. The next step in beginning the formal rulemaking process will be to perform a regulatory analysis, which will be submitted in the next few weeks. Once the comment period has passed and any further edits have been made, the rules will be submitted as a Notice of Intended Action for Commission approval, likely in August.

Chair Burkhart congratulated Mr. Ranscht on recently being appointed by Governor Reynolds to become a district court judge in judicial district 5A. Commissioner Ostergren offered congratulations from all of the commissioners, and they wished him well in his new role. Mr. Ranscht thanked them for the well wishes.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF REMODELING PURSUANT TO 491 IAC 5.4(15):

Riverside Casino and Golf Resort: Damon John, General Manager, requested approval of remodeling. The intention is to take approximately 1,000 square feet from their buffet area and convert that space into two offices and eight cubicles.

Chair Burkhart asked if he knew the final square footage of the buffet after the remodel. Mr. John confirmed it would be reduced from 11,000 to 10,000 square feet.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the remodel as submitted by Riverside Casino and Golf Resort. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino, Inc: Brian Ohorilko, President and CEO, requested approval of remodeling in order to move their poker room from the 2nd floor to the 4th floor. It is estimated to cost about $250,000 and would primarily be done in-house, with an estimated completion of late July or early August. This change would add 2,500 square feet back to the gaming floor footprint.

Chair Burkhart asked if there will be a revised security plan for the change. Mr. Ohorilko advised they intend to post security there when there isn't live racing going on, and current poker room staff would continue to do work securing the area. During racing season, they intend to have an officer dedicated to the area.

Commissioner Nielsen asked about access to the 4th floor. Mr. Ohorilko noted there are security officers posted at each entrance that has access to the 4th floors. They are working on long-term solutions that they hope to present at subsequent meetings, but the number of access points has been a challenge in the past. Currently, there are two escalators and one elevator that proceed to the 4th floor. Either option has guests pass by a security checkpoint. Staff will also be briefed on any updates as the remodel progresses.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the remodel request as submitted by Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino, Inc, with the reminder that the change to the gaming floor must be approved at the staff level after the remodel is complete and before the space is opened to the public. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CONTRACT APPROVALS (OSV = OUT OF STATE VENDOR; RP = RELATED PARTY):

Wild Rose Clinton, LLC: Rick Gilson, Vice President of Operations for Wild Rose Entertainment, presented a contract with Beckwith Commercial Roofing Inc. for a roof replacement for Commission approval.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Wild Rose Clinton, LLC. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Casino Queen Marquette, Inc.(dba Bally's Marquette): Robin Corbeil, Vice President and General Manager presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Hartlauer Signs—Signage Package for New Casino (OSV)
- K2J Marketing Partners—Promotional Gifts and Prizes (OSV)
- Presidio Network Solutions—IT and Surveillance Equipment (OSV)

Chair Burkhart asked about the timing of the submission. Ms. Corbeil said the Hartlauer Signs RTA had previously been approved, but they found they needed more signs after opening and wanted to raise the amount. She also relayed that the Presidio Network Solutions purchases were done at the corporate level, and that was unfortunately pulled from the wrong bucket.

Commissioner Nielsen asked about all of the contracts being out-of-state. Ms. Corbeil noted, aside from Hartlauer, with whom they already had a standing contract, K2J Marketing had the best pricing due to a corporate contract, and Presidio is replacing NetSmart, as they were not able to provide what was needed. There was some confusion from corporate about how it would be paid for.

Chair Burkhart took the opportunity to remind and ask that Ms. Corbeil relay to corporate that in Iowa, the expectation is that a substantial amount of business needs to be from Iowa vendors, or at least that bids are procured from Iowa vendors to show the comparative pricing. She also noted it places the Commission in a tough position when contracts are provided after a purchase has been made. Ms. Corbeil said she would relay that information to corporate.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Casino Queen Marquette, Inc. Commissioner Upmeyer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Great River Casino Resort, LLC: Don Ostert, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Atlantic Coca-Cola—Purchase of Coca-Cola for Complex
- Cummins Allison – CPI—Currency Counters & Scanner Equipment, Service Contracts
- Golden Eagle Distributing—Purchase of Beer for Complex
- US Foods—Purchase of Food for Complex

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Boal moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Great River Casino Resort, LLC. Commissioner Ostergren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chair Burkhart also congratulated Mr. Ostert on the official renaming and opening of Great River Casino Resort.

SCE Partners, LLC (dba Hard Rock Hotel and Casino): Doug Fisher, General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP—Fire Safety Repairs and Inspection
- Prairie Event Supplies Inc—Purchase of Chairs for Concert Venue

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

Harveys Iowa Management Company LLC (dba Harrah's Council Bluffs Casino & Hotel): Janae Sternberg, Vice President of Finance, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Performance Food Group—Food Vendor
- General Parts—Restaurant Equipment Vendor
- TAKKT Food Services (dba Central Restaurant Products) (OSV)

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

Horseshoe Casino Council Bluffs: Ms. Sternberg presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Insight Direct—Networking Equipment Vendor (OSV)
- Olson Bros Construction—Construction Vendor

Ms. Sternberg noted that the contract for Insight Direct was originally made for $100,000 and it was caught on audit that they had surpassed that by approximately $200. She appreciated the counseling she received and is hoping to correct that error with this approval.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Horseshoe Casino Council Bluffs. Commissioner Upmeyer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Wild Rose Jefferson, LLC: Mr. Gilson, Vice President of Operations for Wild Rose Entertainment, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Altorfer Power Systems—Preventative Maintenance for Generator
- Wild Rose Emmetsburg—Shared Invoices and Regional Payroll (RP)

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Wild Rose Jefferson, LLC. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Dubuque Racing Association, Ltd (dba Q Casino): Lance Carnahan, Vice President of Operations, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Assured Partners—Insurance (Revised RTA to Increase Value Due to New Structures & Policies)
- Honkamp, P.C.—External Independent Auditor

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Dubuque Racing Association, Ltd. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Cedar Rapids Development Group, LLC. (dba Cedar Crossing Casino): Kim Pang, Executive VP and General Manager, presented the following contracts for Commission approval.

- Basepoint Building Automations—Turnstile for Cultural Events Center
- Genesis Gaming Solutions, Inc.—Purchase of Table Games (OSV)
- KGM Gaming, LLC—Purchase of Slot Bases (OSV)
- PepsiCo Beverage Sales, LLC—Pepsi Beverage Sales
- S.J. Smith Company Inc.—CO2 Supply & Installation

Mr. Pang noted that the project is coming along on their scheduled timeframe and budget, and that the construction fences were starting to come down. They are hoping to announce some entertainment events soon, and they hope to match events found at the other facilities.

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

Diamond Jo, LLC: John Sanchez, Director of Finance, presented the following contracts for Commission approval:

- Conlon Construction – General Contractor for FanDuel Refresh
- Johnson Controls, Inc – Service Agreement for Facility's HVAC Services
- RTS Solutionz Inc – AV Upgrade for FanDuel (OSV)

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

Grand Falls Casino Resort, LLC: Mr. John, General Manager at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, presented the following contracts for Commission approval on behalf of Grand Falls:

- Capital Sanitary—Facility Cleaning Supplies & Equipment
- Forte—Replacement Sportsbook Video Display
- Imagine This—Continuity & Promotional Goods (OSV)
- Lee Enterprises—Internet & Digital Advertising

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Grand Falls Casino Resort, LLC. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Diamond Jo Worth, LLC: Scott Smith, General Manager, presented a contract for Logisys for property improvement logistics.

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

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

- Cox Communications Inc (dba Hospitality Network LLC)—Public Wi-Fi Equipment & Service
- JCM Global—New Bill Validators for Slot Machines (OSV)

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contracts as submitted by Ameristar Casino Council Bluffs, LLC. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Wild Rose Emmetsburg, LLC: Mr. Gilson Vice President of Operations for Wild Rose Entertainment, presented a contract for Finish Inc. for new hotel furniture.

Chair Burkhart asked if this was part of the first stage of their hotel remodel. Mr. Gilson confirmed that was the case.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to approve the contract as submitted by Wild Rose Emmetsburg, LLC. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

- CDW LLC—Hardware/Software Upgrades & Licenses (OSV)
- Guest Supply a Sysco Company—Hotel Room Supplies & Linens
- Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC—Mattress Purchase (OSV)

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

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

- Blue Compass—Website Design
- Boesens the Florist—Christmas Decoration Installation & Removal
- Electronic Communications of Iowa—Surveillance Products & Services
- Neumann Brothers—General Contractor
- Prenosil Concrete—Concrete Work
- Schumacher Elevator—Elevator Maintenance
- SGH Redglaze Holdings—Installation of Operable Wall System
- Sysco Foods of Iowa—Food Products
- Trane US (Des Moines)—HVAC Equipment & Service
- Trusted Tech Team LLC—Microsoft Reseller & Support (OSV)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Legislative Session Update: Mr. Ranscht provided an update on the legislative session, which ended in May. Mr. Ranscht relayed some of the applicable bills that will go into effect on July 1, 2026.

House File 2490 referred to open meetings and open records, including how meeting agendas are posted and provided that some personnel file information must be public. If an agenda is amended prior to a meeting, it must be noted what specifically is being amended.

Senate File 2039 will allow Senate leadership and House leadership to intervene if there is a district court appeal of agency action.

Senate File 2463 was discussed in April, but has since been signed by the Governor. The bill refers to agency procedural rules.

House File 2615 referred to setting the racing seasons. This would not be applicable until 2028 due to the end date of the three-year contract that was approved in early 2026.

Senate File 2289 included some miscellaneous items, including raising the travel expense cap for Commissioners, expanding unlawful gambling consequences to include lifetime bans on online sports wagering, and aligning the state tax thresholds for parimutuel and slot machines with federal changes. SF 2289 also included the authority for the Commission to send cease and desist letters to unlicensed gambling operators in the state.

Appropriations: Mr. Ranscht provided information on appropriation bills. The DIAL budget bill increased the Commission's budget for next fiscal year. The HHS budget included an appropriation from the Sports Wagering Receipts Fund (SWRF) to the behavioral health program, including gambling treatment programs. Appropriations from the SWRF also provided $1 million to support Double Up Food Bucks and $3 million to the Board of Regents to support pediatric cancer research.

Commissioner Boal asked if there would be rulemaking discussions regarding the cease-and-desist authority. Mr. Ranscht answered that they are not being instructed to do so, but it could be discussed at a later date.

Chair Burkhart asked if those decisions would be made at the staff level, or if it would come through the Commission. Administrator Eick advised that would be an ongoing discussion with the Commission members regarding how they would like to proceed. Commissioner Ostergren indicated that he would like to study the issue more, but expressed that if a cease-and-desist order comes from the Commission, he believes the Commission would have to have it as an agenda item and vote on it at a meeting.

Mr. Ranscht added that staff have begun to discuss how best to implement this change, including speaking with other states regarding how they have implemented similar legislation. Commissioner Ostergren asked if there would be a ramp-up process to assess the best processes. Mr. Ranscht said that was a fair assessment.

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING SEEKING ADOPTION OF RULES RELATING TO SLOT MACHINE JACKPOTS

Mr. Ranscht summarized the following petition for rulemaking.

IRGC received a petition on May 4, 2026 requesting a rule be added to prohibit joint play on slot machines. The petition specifically asked for facilities to only allow one patron or customer to occupy, play, or use a slot machine at a given time, prohibiting switching or taking turns at slot machines. Upon receipt of this petition, IRGC staff issued a scheduling order and opened a comment window through May 28, 2026. During this time, the DCI, the Iowa Gaming Association (IGA), and the original petitioner submitted comments. The Commission was asked to review the petition and comments and now needs to decide whether to grant or deny the petition for rulemaking.

Mr. Ranscht noted there are rules in Chapter 5 obligating licensees to have policies and procedures regarding setoffs under the code, as well as in Chapter 12 regarding accounting and financial internal controls for jackpot processing. There is also a code provision in Chapter 99F that makes avoiding a setoff or avoiding a forfeiture for self-exclusion a felony, which would involve a DCI investigation.

Administrator Eick clarified that the petition and process had been posted to the IRGC website during the comment period, comments were invited from any member of public, and the only comments received were from the DCI, IGA, and original petitioner. Mr. Ranscht confirmed this was the case.

Commissioner Nielsen did not think this had been an issue at facilities or with DCI in the past. It is not uncommon for two or more people to play at the same machines, and surveillance staff already monitor for these things, in addition to the rules and penalties already in place. He felt this proposed rule would place an undue burden on facilities and security staff to monitor how many people are playing together at once.

Commissioner Boal added that this did not seem to rise to the level of requiring a rule change, as this seemed to lack operational concerns from staff and the Commission. Commissioner Ostergren agreed that if the Commission consistently saw more issues regarding multiple people playing slot machines, there would be some grounds for investigation. In the absence of any operational concerns, it doesn't make sense from a cost-benefit perspective.

Chair Burkhart also noted that racing and gaming are very social industries. Implementing a rule that breaks up the social aspect could cause conflicts between patrons and staff. Commissioner Upmeyer agreed with the previous statements and pointed out that even a brief walkthrough of the gaming floor the previous evening demonstrated the social nature of the industry.

The Commissioners are in agreement that the industry is centered on entertainment and socializing, and that adding a rule limiting how many people are at slot machines would not be beneficial.

Hearing no comments or questions, Chair Burkhart requested a motion. Commissioner Ostergren moved to deny the petition for rulemaking and directed staff to prepare a written decision consistent with the Commission's discussion. Commissioner Upmeyer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

<u>ADJOURN</u>: Commissioner Ostergren moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Boal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Chair Burkhart adjourned the meeting at 9:25 AM.

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Emily Nordstrom

EMILY M. NORDSTROM