



SOUTH DAKOTA COMMISSION ON GAMING

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UNAPPROVED MINUTES

**South Dakota Commission on Gaming
Administrative Hearings and Quarterly Business Meeting
Deadwood City Hall, Deadwood, South Dakota**

MINUTES

September 16, 2025

At 9:00 a.m. the meeting was called to order. Chairman Harry Christianson, Vice Chairman Spencer Hawley, Commissioner Mark Millage, and Commissioner Daryl Christensen were present. Commissioner Bob Goetz was unable to attend the meeting. Staff members present for the meeting were Doug Abraham, Commission Attorney; Mark Heltzel, Executive Secretary; and Brandon Snyder, Director of Enforcement.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Christianson at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was present.

On a roll call all Commissioners were present.

Vice Chairman Hawley	Aye
Commissioner Millage	Aye
Commissioner Christensen	Aye
Chairman Christianson	Aye

Conflicts of Interest Disclosure

On a roll call no conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Vice Chairman Hawley	Nay
Commissioner Millage	Nay
Commissioner Christensen	Nay
Chairman Christianson	Nay

Adoption of Quarterly Business Meeting Agenda

The Executive Secretary, Mark Heltzel stated that there was one change to the meeting packet on page 19 paragraph two to change the name from Julie Lisa Wice to Julie Martinson.

Vice Chairman Hawley made a motion to approve the meeting agenda and the change to the meeting packet. Commissioner Millage seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Administrative Hearings

Chairman Christianson served as the hearing officer.

- **In the matter of seized slot machines:**

Case 25-05-036-Lisa Wice

One Konami African Diamond themed slot machine with serial #26007
One Konami Viking Legend themed slot machine with serial #28595
One Konami Rawhide themed slot machine with serial #28390
One Konami Chip City themed slot machine with serial #28418
One Aristocrat Buffalo themed slot machine with serial #MV025235

The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the slot machines described above which were seized by the South Dakota Commission on Gaming, is contraband and may be destroyed pursuant to SDCL 42-7B-39. Lisa Wice was served notice of the hearing by certified mail and was present for the hearing. Staff recommended that pursuant to 42-7B-39.2 which provides that any slot machine seized pursuant to the provisions of 42-7B-39 may be destroyed.

Vice Chairman Hawley made a motion to destroy the slot machines. Commissioner Millage seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hawley	Aye
Commissioner Millage	Aye
Commissioner Christensen	Aye
Chairman Christianson	Aye

Case 25-06-040-James Murphy

One Japanese style Kaba themed slot machine with serial #015593

The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the Japanese style Kaba themed slot machine which was seized by the South Dakota Commission on Gaming, is contraband and may be destroyed pursuant to SDCL 42-7B-39. James Murphy was served notice of the hearing by certified mail but was not present for the hearing. Staff recommended that pursuant to 42-7B-39.2 which provides that any slot machine seized pursuant to the provisions of 42-7B-39 may be destroyed after notice and without hearing of the person from whom the slot machine was seized fails to appear at the time and place scheduled in the hearing notice.

Commissioner Christiansen made a motion to destroy the slot machine. Commissioner Millage seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hawley	Aye
Commissioner Millage	Aye
Commissioner Christensen	Aye
Chairman Christianson	Aye

Case 25-07-054-Julie Martinson

One Japanese style Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada themed slot machine with serial #030768107

The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the Japanese style Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada themed slot machine which was seized by the South Dakota Commission on Gaming, is contraband and may be destroyed pursuant to SDCL 42-7B-39. Julie Martinson was served notice of the hearing by certified mail but was not present for the hearing. Staff recommended that pursuant to 42-7B-39.2 which provides that any slot machine seized pursuant to the provisions of 42-7B-39 may be destroyed after notice and without hearing of the person from whom the slot machine was seized fails to appear at the time and place scheduled in the hearing notice.

Commissioner Millage made a motion to destroy the slot machine. Vice Chairman Hawley seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hawley	Aye
Commissioner Millage	Aye
Commissioner Christensen	Aye
Chairman Christianson	Aye

- **Petition for Declaratory Ruling on ARSD 20:18:12.01:18 and its implementation**

The purpose of this hearing is for the Commission to receive additional evidence regarding a petition for a declaratory ruling regarding ARSD 20:18:12.01:18 and the definition of an electronic device for communication. Jeffrey Vetter addressed the Commission on the language of the rule. This matter will be taken under advisement in Executive Session.

The hearing portion of the meeting was concluded at 9:55 a.m.

General Meeting

Chairman Christianson called the general meeting to order.

June 17, 2025, Quarterly Meeting

Commissioner Christiansen made a motion to adopt the minutes as drafted for the June 17, 2025, quarterly meeting. Vice Chairman Hawley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Doug Abraham, legal counsel gave a review of South Dakota Open Meeting Laws as required by Senate Bill 74, which took effect July 1, 2025, codified at SDCL 1-25-13.

Old Business

The Executive Secretary has been working with GLI on the cashless rules and the goal is to have the rough draft version for the industry to review by the December commission meeting and the final version to be adopted in 2026 at the March or June meeting.

The Executive Secretary stated that the self-exclusion form is completed and now will need to rewrite the rule.

Stipulation of Assurance and Voluntary Compliance

James Curt

A monetary penalty of \$100.00 to be paid not later than August 29, 2025, was imposed for a complaint that was filed on June 30, 2025, alleging that the Defendant engaged in conduct constituting grounds for disciplinary action. The Defendant left the cashier cage door open and unattended for approximately three to four minutes. This is in violation of ARSD 20:18:20.01:03. An informal consultation was held, and licensee agreed to the penalty and paid the fine.

Commissioner Christiansen made a motion to accept the Stipulation and Assurance of Voluntary Compliance. Vice Chairman Hawley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Deadwood Licensing Matters

Key License Approvals

Deputy Executive Secretary Heltzel recommended approval of the following:

- Tanya Nagel
- Carin Royer
- Angel Bond
- Cage Fish
- Emma Leske
- Natasha Chand
- Chirag Jani
- Dhavel Patel
- Jaysukh Dobariya

Vice Chairman Hawley made a motion to approve the Key license approvals as staff recommended. Commissioner Millage seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Key License Renewal

Deputy Executive Secretary Heltzel recommended approval of the following:

- Dylan Cole

Commissioner Millage made a motion to approve the Key license renewal as staff recommended. Vice Chairman Hawley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Business License Approval

- Approval of Anand Hospitality, LLC for three retail licenses.

Vice Chairman Hawley made a motion to approve the Business license approval as staff recommended. Commissioner Christiansen seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting

The next commission meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2025.

Public Comment

There was no participation for the comment period of the meeting.

Executive Session

Vice Chairman Hawley made a motion to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Millage seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

At 10:07 a.m. the Commissioners went into Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 42-7B-8.1.

The Executive Session was concluded at 10:31 a.m. with action taken.

Decisions on Administrative Hearings

Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Chairman Christianson stated that legal counsel will be sending a written decision on this matter to Jeffrey Vetter.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed Commissioner Millage made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Christiansen seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Beringer

Harry Christianson, Chairman

Mark Heltzel, Executive Secretary