



THE OHIO LOTTERY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 14, 2024  
IN PERSON/VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members of the Commission

Matthew Blair, Chairman  
James Brady, Vice Chairman (Absent)  
Caryn Candisky  
Nita Gupta  
Jonathan Hughes  
Angela Mingo  
Mark Rickel  
Martin Sweeney  
Matthew Szollosi

Ohio Lottery Commission Attendance (In-Person & Remote)

Nicole Kostura, Assistant Director, Office of Executive  
Marilyn Berrios, Office of Executive  
Chuck LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel  
Dan Carter, Office of Legal Counsel  
Meg Rasmussen, Office of Legal Counsel  
Joan French, Office of Legal Counsel  
Raymond Durant, Deputy Director, Office of Investigations & Security  
Ed Slyman, Deputy Director, Office of Finance  
Tom Ackerman, Deputy Director, Office of Marketing  
Marty Morrow, Deputy Director, Product Innovation  
Danielle Frizzi-Babb, Deputy Director, Office of Communications  
Rick Perk, Deputy Director, Office of Sales  
Ron Fornaro, Office of Product Innovation  
Pam Strickland, Office of Product Innovation  
Simeonia Mays, Deputy Director, Office of Racino Operations  
Susan Diamond, Office of Responsible Gambling  
Jimmie Hicks, Office of Responsible Gambling  
Greg Beyer, Deputy Director of Internal Audit  
Percy Turner, Deputy Director, Office of General Services  
Nick Ciofani, Deputy Director, Office of Government & Community Relations  
Ian Litherland, Office of Legal Counsel  
Marni Santoro, Office of Legal Counsel  
Mike Gonzalez, Deputy Director, Office of Data Analytics  
Brent Collier, Office of Internal Audit  
Samantha Crites, Office of Internal Audit  
Carla Reeves, Office of Sports Gaming  
Angela McCracken, Office of Sports Gaming  
Margaret Tomaro, Office of Legal Counsel

Sydney Cherni, Student Intern, Office of Legal Counsel  
Ken Dauenhauer, Office of Marketing  
Allison Turner, Office of Marketing  
Theresa Jones, Office of Marketing  
Lauren Medina, Office of Marketing  
Molly Fanta, Office of Marketing  
Sharisse Russell, Office of Racino Operations  
Rebecca McLemore, Office of Marketing  
Scott Basom, Office of Investigations & Security

Additional Attendees

Kathy Lenhardt, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley  
John Oberle, Ice Miller  
Samuel Porter, Ice Miller  
Samantha Alonso, MGM Northfield Park  
Holly Guenther, Boyd Gaming  
Sarah O'Driscoll, Fahlgren  
Jennifer Park, Aftermath  
Kelsey Culbertson, Success Group  
Ed Dick, JACK Entertainment  
Debbie Pirone, Marcus Thomas  
George Balajan, Intralot  
Carla Kuchta, Intralot  
Kevin Davis, Miami Valley Gaming  
Matthew Becker, Penn Entertainment  
Jess Panora, BET MGM  
Colleen Rowan, IGT  
Steven Ranere, IGT  
Joseph Schmansky, Attorney General  
Dustin Ensinger, Gongwer

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Blair called the meeting of the Ohio Lottery Commission to order at 12:00 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sweeney moved to approve the July 10, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mingo and was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of five (5) Scratch-Off Games in Proposed and Final Form

Ron Fornaro, Scratch-Off Product Manager, presented five (5) Scratch-Off Games for approval:

- OLC Operating Procedure 1004:  
1004\_ *Game Rule, Luck of the Irish* (\$1.00)
  
- OLC Operating Procedure 1005:  
1005\_ *Game Rule, 7 Series* (\$2.00)
  
- OLC Operating Procedure 1006:

1006\_ *Game Rule, Invaders from the Planet Moolah* (\$5.00)

- OLC Operating Procedure 1007:  
1007\_ *Game Rule, Cash Plus* (\$10.00)
- OLC Operating Procedure 1008:  
1008\_ *Game Rule, VIP Millions* (\$50.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve the five (5) scratch-off games in Proposed and Final Form with Commissioner Gupta offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of four (4) Scratch-Off Game Rule Recissions in Proposed and Final Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented four (4) Scratch-Off Game Rule Recissions in Proposed and Final Form:

- 3770:1-9-708, Whole Lotta \$500s (\$5.00)
- 3770:1-9-728, \$1,000,000 Cash Blowout (\$10.00)
- 3770:1-9-763, \$365,000 Make My Day (\$1.00)
- 3770:1-9-775, Mega Money Multiplier (\$2.00)

Chairman Blair moved to approve four (4) Scratch-Off Game Rule Recissions in Proposed and Final Form, with Commissioner Szollosi offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Approval of two (2) Administrative Rules in Final Form

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented two (2) Administrative Rules in Final Form:

- 3770:3-01, Grounds for suspension or revocation of a license
- 3770:4-03, Sale of lottery games

Chairman Blair moved to approve the two (2) Administrative Rules in Final Form with Commissioner Candisky offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Resolution to Approve two (2) EZPLAY® Touch & Win Games

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented two (2) EZPLAY® Touch & Win Games:

- Royal Picks (August Touch & Win Game)
- Derby Dollars (October Touch & Win Game)

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with two (2) EZPLAY® Touch & Win Games with Commissioner Gupta offering a second to the Motion. The Motion was affirmatively voted upon by the Commissioners present.

Resolution to Approve thirty-one (31) new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Game Themes

Charles LoPresti, Chief Legal Counsel, presented a Resolution to approve thirty-one (31) VLT game themes.

Chairman Blair moved to approve the Resolution with thirty-one (31) VLT game themes with Commissioner Sweeney offering a second to the Motion and the Motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

### Office of Finance Report

Chief Fiscal Officer Slyman provided the financial update for the month of July. The total traditional lottery games sales for the month of July were \$351.1 million, which is \$57.8 million or 14.1% lower than same period last year. Draw-based game sales were \$156.4 million, which was \$57.9 million or 27% lower than last year. Pick 3, 4 and 5 sales were down \$2.5 million or 3.9%.

CFO Slyman stated that Multistate game sales were \$21.9 million, down \$52.9 million or 70.7% lower when compared to the same time period last year. CFO Slyman stated that this variance is mainly attributed to both Mega Millions & Powerball jackpots that reached significant levels in July 2023. Last year, the Mega Millions jackpot reached \$940 million & generated sales of \$30.7 million, while sales in July of 2024 were \$9.9 million for a jackpot that reached \$331 million. Furthermore, Powerball sales were \$40.4 million for a jackpot that reached \$1.1 billion. Powerball sales in July 2024 generated sales of \$8.3 million and the jackpot reached \$154 million.

Mr. Slyman reported that Keno sales were at \$49.1 million, down \$3.7 million or 7.0%. Scratch-off game sales in July were \$194.6 million, up \$0.1 million or 0.1% higher than last year. Lastly, Mr. Slyman stated that the VLT revenue for the month of July was \$115.4 million. Net win from this equaled \$38.7 million, which was roughly \$2.1 million less than last year or down 1.8%. In July of 2023 we had five (5) full weekends and July of 2024 we had four (4) full weekends. Total prize expense equaled 65.6% of sales which is normal. Operating expenses were somewhat higher than forecasted and this is mainly due to the timing of invoices

### Director's Update

Chief Legal Counsel, Charles LoPresti, provided a brief update on behalf of Director Gillcrist. Mr. Lopresti recognized and congratulated Chairman Blair, Commissioner Sweeney and Commissioner Szollosi who have all been reappointed by the Governor to the State Lottery Commission for a term beginning August 2, 2024,

Mr. LoPresti reported that the Lottery's transfer for the month of July to the Lottery Profits Education Fund (LPEF) was \$117.5 million which was \$11.3 million less than last year. As CFO Slyman noted in his report and the Chairman highlighted, the variance is in larger part due to the extra weekend and high-multi state jackpots last year. Mr. LoPresti is confident that we will meet that number.

Chief Legal Counsel, Charles LoPresti stated that with education being so critical to our mission and August kicking off the school year for most of the school districts around Ohio, we thought it would be nice to highlight our Partners in Education Program (PIE). Mr. LoPresti invited our Partners in Education Coordinator, Molly Fanta, to give a brief overview of the program. In addition, our generous employees helped us participate in a school supply drive hosted by FOX 8 called "Stuff the Bus". Mr. LoPresti invited our Deputy Director of Communications, Danielle Frizzi-Babb to share a clip [2024 Stuff the Bus](#) from that event. Deputy Director, Danielle Frizzi-Babb also mentioned that employees also brought in donations for Providence House and thanked all the staff members.

Lastly, Mr. LoPresti reported that Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted recognized us for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 12<sup>th</sup>. That date, August 12<sup>th</sup>, was our official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as it was the day our first ticket was sold back in 1974.

### ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Ohio Lottery Commission, Chairman Blair informed Commissioners that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. via teleconferencing and in person. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MG', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michelle Gillcrist  
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M Blair', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Matthew Blair  
Commission Chair