



## **Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery**

### **Draft January Minutes**

Record of the Meeting of the Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery held on January 10, 2024 via web.

**Members Present:** Martin Manahan, Chair, Thom Lauzon, Ed Flanagan, Megan Cicio

**Others Present:** Wendy Knight, Commissioner; Andrew Collier, Deputy Commissioner; Wesley Lawrence, Jacob Humbert, Skyler Genest, Katie Fleury, Melissa Heath, Martin Prevost, Raifer Allen, Kevin Grealis, Bojan Brkovic, Rich Morey, Tonia Pryce, Aarin Sandridge, Josh, Jake Norway, Brenda Strickland, Andrew Topps, Michael Welch, David Hamlin

**Meeting Start:** 9:00 am.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:** None

### **Board Actions on Consent Agenda Items:**

- Approve minutes from December 13, 2023 Board Meeting – Motion Megan Second Ed Moved and approved. unanimous
- Approve licenses issued December 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 – Motion Megan Second Ed Moved and approved. unanimous

**Public Comment:** None

**Licensing:** None

**Enforcement:** None

- Docket #: 2024-001: Chez Pidgeon, Inc. – D/B/A Chez Pidgeon – General Regulation #9 (tax compliance)
  - Notice of hearing was delivered by Investigator Kevin Grealis, no representatives from Chez Pidgeon are apparent for the hearing.
  - Investigator Kevin Grealis is sworn in.
  - The board accepts evidence of notice of hearing letter presented by Inv. Grealis
  - Thomas Sheridan from VT Tax Department called and is sworn in.
  - Motion to immediately suspend Chez Pidgeon until they are tax compliant. Motion, Thom Lauzon second Ed Flanagan Unanimous



**Commissioner Comments:**

- Liquor sales for December was down 1%
- Lottery sales for December last week were up 7%
- Montpelier store is closed. There is no plan to reopen a store in Johnson; however, there are contract negotiations for a location in nearby Jericho.
- The annual report has been completed and will be distributed by January 15, 2024
- Extended license renewals for 761 licenses by 2 months for licensees effected by flood.
- Thetford is the new location for Norwich.
- New 802Spirits store locations in Poultney and Wallingford
- Wallingford new footprint for the 802 Spirits network
- Two new investigators are starting at the end of the month.
- Online sports wagering goes live 1/11/24 at midnight.
- Investigator Kim McLeod is retiring at the end of the month.
- Infancy stage with BGS for new warehouse space.

**Other Business:** None

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:37am

**Next Meeting:** February 14, 2024