



Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery

Draft October Minutes

Record of the Meeting of the Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery held on October 9, 2024 via web and in person.

Members Present: Martin Manahan, Chair, Megan Cicio, Ed Flanagan, Corey Mathieu

Others Present: Wendy Knight, Commissioner; Andrew Collier, Deputy Commissioner; Wesley Lawrence, Jacob Humbert, Katie Fleury, Melissa Heath, David Hamlin, Tonia Pryce, Melanie Gaiotti, Rich Morey, Xixia Johnson

Meeting Start: 9:00 am.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

None

Board Actions on Consent Agenda Items:

- Approve minutes from September 2024 Board Meeting – Moved and approved. Motion Corey Mathieu and second Megan Cicio, motion passes.
- Approve licenses issued September 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024 – Moved and approved. Motion Ed Flanagan, second Megan Cicio, motion passes.

Public Comment:

- None

Licensing:

- None

Enforcement:

- None

Commissioner Comments:

- RFP Went out to BGS, bids are due October 16th. Would be a lease option with a new build or retrofit of an existing building. 50 developers were sent the RFP

- Powerball sales were down this year compared to last year, a \$1.7 billion jackpot compared to the \$336 million jackpot this year could be the cause.
- Fast play and fast play pro sales are doing well with double digit sales increase reported
- Liquor sales continue to drop to 3.67%
- New lottery holiday games have launched including the “Perfect gift”
- Sports wagering revenue shares increase as NFL season starts
- Lyndonville redemption is opening this month, was able to sell via online sales to the licensees.
- Buxton general store is closing (802 spirits store) at the end of the month. Will be going out to bid
- Stewarts is buying Jolley’s stores. Alburg, Richford and Jericho will go out to bid. At this time there are no Stewarts stores that have an 802 Spirits location.
- St Albans beverage mart will also be out to bid
- The second annual customer satisfaction survey has gone out and over 1,400 responses so far.
- New director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Olivia Kantyka will start 10/15
- Auditors on site
- NABCA meeting in Montana, Skyler, Brandon, Jen, and Marina attended
- Dept. is hosting NCSLA North /South Regional Conference at the Essex resort 10/27-29

Other Business:

- Member Flanagan has questions regarding the budget and the numbers we promise to the state with liquor sales being down.
 - \$6.9 million deficit in liquor control, projection 1% less than last year’s contribution to the general fund.
 - Lottery projection is \$31 million contribution to the education fund

Meeting Adjourned: 9:16

Next Meeting: November 13, 2024