

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FOR HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND
16 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 6, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Liquor Control Board for Harford County was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Goddard at the Board's office. In attendance were Commissioners Majewski, Sines, and Walters, Board Counsel Amy K. Finneran, and General Manager Crabbs. Vice Chair Burdette was previously excused.

MINUTES September 27, October 4, October 11, October 25, November 8

Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the minutes for the September 27 meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the minutes for the October 4 meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the minutes for the October 11 meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the minutes for the October 25 meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the minutes for the November 8 meeting; the vote was unanimous.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to pay the bills; the vote was unanimous.

U.S. Treasurer	Withholding	3083.40
MD Comptroller	Withholding	838.27
ConnectPay	Accounting	88.00
Payroll	Payroll	6878.88
State Retirement	Retirement	568.81
T-Mobile	Telephone	154.84
Kelly & Associates	Insurance	1999.74
Comcast	Telephone	245.14
BGE	Utilities	305.39
LEAF	Copier Lease	615.00
Crystal Spring	Office	52.96
Amy Finneran	Legal	1500.00
Kopin, LLC	Rent	2749.00
Kopin, LLC	Rent	120.00
Malissa Roche	Maintenance	80.00
Interconnect Services	Telephone	154.50
M.A.L.A.	Dues	150.00
Maryland State Retirement	Board Contribution	22297.00

Metro Data	Computer	664.00
The Shred Mill	Maintenance	47.50

PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1) Two First-Time Applicants – Laila’s Gift – Per Diem BWL Application

First-time applicants Shari Bailey and Michael Nash, Sr., appeared on behalf of Laila’s Gift in connection with a per diem BWL application for a fundraising event “The Giver’s Grammys” to be held at The State Theater in Havre de Grace on 12/30/2023. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

2) Harford Health & Fitness Club, Inc., T/A The Arena Club – New License (POSTPONED)

This hearing will be rescheduled.

3) 2023 Forty Liquors, Inc., T/A Forty Liquor – Transfer License

Satinder Singh, President/Secretary/Treasurer, 2023 Forty Liquors, Inc., T/A Forty Liquor, 1203 S. Philadelphia Boulevard, Aberdeen, appeared along with their attorney Shawn R. Harby, in connection with a Transfer License for a Class A1-BWL-Off Sale Only License transferring from Opinder Gill, Forty Liquor, Inc. Mr. Singh holds 100% interest in the corporation. He has taken and passed the licensee test and will serve as the Responsible Operator. The application was amended to change the hours of operation to 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. 7 days a week. License holder understands that the alcoholic beverage license cannot be collateralized. Settlement will be held at the end of the week or beginning of next week. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to waive the five-day waiting period to pick up the license; the vote was unanimous.

4) The Trio, L.L.C., T/A Route 22 Hatchet House – New License

Michael Jerscheid, Managing Member, Melissa Robusto-Reisinger, Managing Member, The Trio, L.L.C. T/A Route 22 Hatchet House, 3720 Churchville Road (Units 106 & 107), Aberdeen appeared in proper person in connection with a New License Application for a Class B Café-BW-On/Off Sale License. Each applicant holds 50% interest in the L.L.C. Both applicants have passed the licensee test and Mr. Jerscheid will serve as the Responsible Operator. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

SHOW CAUSE HEARING

1) Chile Fiesta, Inc. T/A La Tolteca

Martin Carillo, President/Treasurer, Alfonso Martinez, Secretary, Chile Fiesta, Inc. T/A La Tolteca, 2350 Churchville Road, Bel Air appeared in person in connection with violation of the following:

- 1) Failure to keep complete and accurate records of all purchases of alcoholic beverages for a period of two years from the date of each purchase, in violation of Md. Code Ann., Alcoholic Beverages Article, Section 22-1904 (“Code”) and Board Rule (“BR”) 3:06.
- 2) Failure to comply with Alcohol Awareness certification requirement, in violation of Md. Code Ann., Alcoholic Beverages Article, Sections 4-505(f) and 22-1903 (“Code”) and Board Rule (“BR”) 3:14 (a)(c).

License Holder Ernest Camarena did not appear for the hearing. Subsequent to the hearing, the Board considered all the evidence presented. Based upon the statement of facts (i.e., the written report of Chief Inspector Buchler), as well as applicable License Holders’ testimony and with further consideration to License Holder’s relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following findings:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski to find License Holders in violation; the motion failed to receive a "second" vote therefore the motion failed, and no penalty was assessed by the Board.

On Charge 2, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to find License Holders in violation, the vote was unanimous.

Additionally, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski to find License Holders in violation of Board Rule 2:32 (b) "Hearing Related to Violations:"

(b) All named license holders must appear at time of hearing for any violation or discussion as directed by the Board, unless previously excused by the Board. (Mr. Ernest Camarena, Vice-President, and one of the named License Holder's failed to appear at the meeting.)

The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

On Charge #2, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to impose a fine of \$100.00; the vote was unanimous.

On Charge #3, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to impose a fine of \$250.00; the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1) Water's Edge Events Center, L.L.C. T/A Water's Edge Events Center – Request to Close

Eric E. McLaughlin, attorney for Water's Edge Events Center, L.L.C. has submitted an email that for the month of December, Water's Edge has an unprecedented number of holiday events, many of which will rely upon the space in which the Bata Club usually operates. For that reason, it has advised its members that its usual weekly lunch service will be unavailable for a period of time. Mr. McLaughlin assures the Board that license holder is not closing for any portion of the month.

2) Part-Time Inspector Position

GM Crabbs reported that there are two interviews scheduled on Friday for the part-time inspector position.

3) November's Performance Budget

The performance budget was distributed; 55% of the budget has been spent. Commissioner Walters requested that Mrs. Baxter inquire about depositing the interest on the reserve account into the operating account or the Board account.

4) Meeting with County Executive, et al

Chair Goodard reported that he and GM Crabbs met with County Executive Cassilly, Joseph Cluster, Robert McCord, Delegate Teresa Reilly, and Senator Jason Gallion in connection with assisting the HCLCB with budget concerns. GM Crabbs intends to pursue the auto lease option, maintenance, and fuel card with the County.

5) Rules and Regulations Revisions

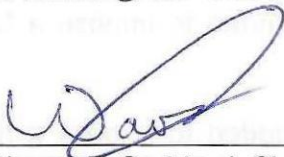
Mrs. Finneran will email everyone the suggested revisions to the Rules and Regulations for their review; discussion will be held at a work session in January 2024. Ms. Finneran suggested that any legislative changes be announced via a one or two page summary rather than a reprint of the Rules and Regulations book.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

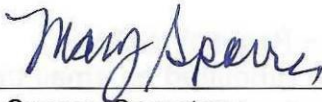
Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded by Commissioner Majewski to move into executive session under the provisions of the Maryland Open Meetings Act General Provisions Article § 3-

305 (b) (1): to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. The vote was unanimous to close the session concerning a particular employee's reporting hours and the HCLCB's contributions to the MD State Retirement System. The reason for closing the session was to protect the privacy of an individual with respect to a matter that is not related to public business. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded by Commissioner Sines that reporting hours for the pension liability for one particular employee would be increased; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded by Commissioner Sines to return to open session; the vote was unanimous.

There being no further business, motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to adjourn the meeting; the vote was unanimous.



Wayne S. Goddard, Chair



Mary Sporre, Secretary