

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OPEN SESSION
ILLINOIS LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION
JANUARY 7, 2015
JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER – ROOM 9-040
11:00 AM
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The regular meeting of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission was held at the James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601 room 9-040 pursuant to notice.

Call the Roll:

Stephen B. Schnorf, Chairman
Cynthia Cronin Cahill, Commissioner
Bill Morris, Commissioner
Donald O'Connell, Commissioner
Maria Saldana, Commissioner (joining after initial call)
Amy C. Kurson, Commissioner (joining after initial call)

Also Present:

Ivan Fernandez, Acting Director
Richard Haymaker, Chief Legal Counsel
Tina Tsatsoulis, Legal Counsel
Dusanka Marijan, Licensing Administrator
Laura Murphy, Parental Responsibility/Tobacco Coordinator
Ted Penesis, Industry Education Manager
Mary McNulty, Commission Secretary

I. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Connell to approve and release the minutes of the December 3, 2014 Business Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cahill and unanimously approved by the Commission.

II. Docket Review

A. Citation Docket

Tina Tsatsoulis stated that there is a child support matter on the docket from last year. Also, one requested a continuance at the December hearing because the owner was out of the country; this matter will be heard today. Ms. Tsatsoulis also explained that there were 81 settlement conference notices issued for January 2015; the gross fines collected from these settlement conferences was \$25,025 with the net fines collected being \$19,025 (credits issued for prior local payment amounted to \$6000).

B. Revenue Docket

Richard Haymaker reviewed tax cases from the past three Chicago hearings. Most of the licensees have paid in full or are currently in payment plans.

III. Divisional Summary

A. Legal

Richard Haymaker stated that the rules that were approved on December 16, 2014 passed through JCAR with no objections. The ILCC plans to take the necessary steps to publish the rules through the Secretary of State.

Tina Tsatsoulis explained that the ILCC notified 79 licensees for NSF and sale of alcohol to minor violations.

Commissioner Cahill voiced her concern regarding the number of underage persons in bars in Champaign in 2014. A motion was made by Commissioner Cahill to send a letter to the Champaign local liquor commissioner and university officials strongly suggesting the presence of more enforcement officers in Champaign. Motion seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously approved by the Commission.

B. Licensing

Licensing Administrator Dusanka Marijan stated that there has been an increase in online license renewals since last month. The ILCC issued 2,590 licenses in December; 489 were online renewals. The licensing staff will have a meeting on how to answer frequently asked questions with online renewals. Currently, we do not have the capability to apply for a new application online. Overall, feedback is positive for the online renewal process.

C. Industry Education

Industry Education Manager Ted Penesis stated that a new rule was drafted to give guidance to the BASSET trainers and trainees on how to comply with mandatory Cook County server training by July 1, 2015. The rule mirrors attempts that are being made through technological enhancements to provide a more user friendly and immediate card issuance and verification system. Commissioner Saldana suggested that references to "students" be replaced with "trainee" and that the temporary server's card expire 60 days after issuance instead of 30 days after issuance. A motion was made by Commissioner O'Connell to adopt the rule with suggested changes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kurson and unanimously approved by the Commission.

D. Prevention

Parental Responsibility and Tobacco Coordinator Laura Murphy stated that the Substance Abuse Prevention Program (SAPP) grant gives the ILCC the ability to fund a statewide media campaign for parental responsibility for underage drinking. The contract also allows for public service announcements.

IV. General Matters

A. Private Label Rule Draft Review Update

Richard Haymaker stated that there were various comments submitted. All parties including ILCC staff agree that the private labeling issue is best handled through the legislative process. A motion was made by Commissioner O'Connell to table the private labeling rule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cahill and unanimously approved by the commission.

B. Cross-Tier Ownership Rule Review

Mr. Haymaker stated that this rule was posted on the ILCC website but was not given specifically to industry members for comment. ABDI and WSDI have reached an agreement on the language of the proposed rule.

ILCC legal staff expressed some concern and had questions about the current draft and wanted to discuss these concerns further with WSDI. It was agreed that a meeting would take place shortly after the Commission meeting to discuss these matters. The Commission agreed to reconsider this topic at the February 18th meeting.

C. Direct Shipping

Mr. Haymaker stated that the ILCC staff examined a November UPS shipping report and estimated that 25-75% of the shipments are shipped by unlicensed sources. Commission staff advised that the ILCC contact FedEx and UPS to determine whether or not they will assist the Commission in its compliance efforts. At the Chairman's request, it was agreed that the best way to determine lost revenue from non-payment of excise and sales tax should be determined with the assistance from a Department of Revenue auditor.

D. BASSET Rule Review

Refer to Industry Education discussion.

V. Adjournment

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kurson. Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.

ATTEST:



Mary McNulty, Commission Secretary