

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 23, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Liquor Control Board for Harford County was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chair Goddard at the Board's office. In attendance were Chair Goddard, Vice Chair Burdette, Commissioner Majewski, Sines, and Walters were present along with Board Counsel Amy K. Finneran, and General Manager Crabbs.

MINUTES

Minutes for the July 18 and 26 meetings were distributed for review. Motion was made by Vice Chair Burdette and was seconded to approve the minutes; the vote was unanimous.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve payment of the following bills; the vote was unanimous.

State Retirement	Retirement	632.19
U.S. Treasurer	Withholding	3582.06
MD Comptroller	Withholding	967.71
Payroll	Payroll	8064.58
ConnectPay	Accounting	84.99
Malissa Roche	Maintenance	60.00
Modus Solutions	Office Supplies	40.71

PERSONS SCSCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1) First-Time Applicants – Coaches for the Community – Per Diem B&W License

John Stearns and Matt Roseland appeared as first-time applicants on behalf of Coaches for the Community in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for the Friendship Wine & Liquor 12th Annual Craft Beer Festival being held at "The Barn", 3520 Woodsdale Road, Abingdon, on September 16. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

2) First-Time Applicants – Harford County Public Library Foundation – Per Diem BWL License

Courtney Tramontana and Amber Shrodes appeared as first-time applicants on behalf of Harford County Public Library Foundation in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for their 19th Annual Gala being held at the Abingdon Branch, 2510 S. Tollgate Road, on November 4. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

3) First-Time Applicants – Sunshine's Angels – Per Diem B&W License

Vicki Bull and Brooke Collins appeared as first-time applicants on behalf of Sunshine's Angels in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for a bull and oyster roast fundraiser being held at Deer Creek Overlook on September 30. Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

4) First-Time Applicant – The Albert P. Close Foundation – Per Diem BWL License

Tracey Dallahan-McLauchlin appeared as a first-time applicant on behalf of The Albert P. Close Foundation in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for their annual “Close to the Country” fundraiser being held at Stone Ridge Hollow on September 6. Motion was made by Vice Chair Burdette and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

5) First-Time Applicants – Soroptimist International of Havre de Grace – Per Diem BWL License

Deborah Petz and Page Mitchem appeared as first-time applicants on behalf of Soroptimist International of Havre de Grace in connection with a Per Diem Beer, Wine & Liquor License Application for a quarter auction being held at Level Volunteer Fire Co. on September 9. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

6) First-Time Applicant – The Historical Society of Harford County – Per Diem B&W License

George F. Harrison, Jr., appeared as first-time applicant along with previous applicant Mary Schweers on behalf of The Historical Society of Harford County in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for their annual dinner being held at The Historical Society on September 17. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

7) First-Time Applicant – Bel Air High School Multi Class Reunion – Per Diem B&W License

Previous applicant Elise Smith appeared along with first-time applicant Ronald Ballard on behalf of the Bel Air High School Multi Class Reunion in connection with a Per Diem Beer & Wine License Application for a class reunion being held at the Harford County Equestrian Center on September 16. Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

8) CBOS MD 1, L.L.C., T/A Cracker Barrel – New License (POSTPONED)

This hearing will be rescheduled.

9) Harford Hotel Spirits, L.L.C., T/A SpringHill Suites by Marriott – Tentative Approval Extension Request

Applicant Timothy Engle appeared on behalf of Harford Hotel Spirits, L.L.C. to request an extension of the tentative approval that the Board granted on August 24, 2022. Motion was made by Vice Chair Burdette to extend the tentative approval and was seconded; the vote was unanimous.

10) Harford Hotel Spirits, L.L.C., T/A SpringHill Suites by Marriott – Final Approval (Postponed)

Based on the Board’s approval to extend tentative approval (see above) this hearing will be scheduled for a future date.

SHOW CAUSE HEARING

1) Chili’s of Bel Air, Inc. T/A Chili’s Grill & Bar

Scott G. Kram, Assistant Secretary, Kevin P. McCool, Assistant Secretary, Lisa Phillips, Assistant Secretary, Chili’s of Bel Air, Inc. t/a Chili’s Grill & Bar, 502 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, appeared along with their counsel Leanne M. Schrecengost, in connection with violation of the following:

Charge 1 - Sale and/or provision of alcoholic beverages to an individual under the legal drinking age of twenty-one (21) years in violation of Md. Code Ann., Alcoholic Beverages Article, Section 6-304 (“Code”) and Board Rule (BR) 4:01.

The License Holders conceded the violation set forth in the Notice of Violation and proceeded on an Agreed Statement of Facts, read into the record by GM Crabbs, to which there were no requested additions, deletions, or modifications by the Licensees.

Based upon the statement of facts as well as applicable testimony from License Holders, and with further consideration to License Holders' relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following findings:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Vice Chair Burdette and was seconded to find License Holders in violation; the vote was unanimous. At approximately 9:47 a.m., motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded by Commissioner Majewski to convene to executive session to obtain legal advice; the vote was unanimous. On return to the meeting, motion was made by Commissioner Walters to return to open meeting and was seconded by Vice Chair Burdette and the vote was unanimous. As a result of the executive session, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski to assess a fine in the amount of \$2,000.00; the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

PER DIEM BEER & WINE LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1) Sts. Mary Magdalene & Markella Greek Orthodox Church – Bull & Oyster Roast – 09/16

Issued to Peter Karas and Dennis Kougianos on behalf of Sts. Mary Magdalene & Markella Greek Orthodox Church for a bull and oyster roast to be held on 09/16 in the church hall at 3714-16 Dublin Road, Darlington. Motion was made by Commissioner Majewski to approve the application, the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

PER DIEM BEER, WINE & LIQUOR LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1) Kurk Lee Foundation – Caribbean and Soul Music Festival – 09/02 and 09/03

Issued to Kurk Lee and Cherylette Henderson on behalf of Kurk Lee Foundation for a Caribbean and Soul Music Festival on 09/02 and 09/03 at Aberdeen Festival Park. Motion was made by Vice Chair Burdette to approve the application, the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

2) Havre de Grace Arts Collective – “Mosaic Project 250” Reception – 08/25

Issued to Kathryn Noe and William Price on behalf of Havre de Grace Arts Collective for an art reception on 08/25 at the Havre de Grace Opera House. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines to approve the application, the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1) Bonefish Grill of Bel Air, L.L.C., T/A Bonefish Grill – Supplemental Application (Postponed)

This hearing will be rescheduled.

2) Freebooting Friar, Inc. T/A Vagabond Sandwich Company – Outside Event Application

Freebooting Friar, Inc. T/A Vagabond Sandwich Company, 111 Thomas Street, Bel Air, has submitted an Outside Event Application to be used on 10/07 for their “Sandwich Stock 2023” fundraiser to be held on the parking lot adjacent to their building. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters to approve the application; the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

3) Class A and Class A1 Retail Delivery – Attorney General Letter

Discussion was held concerning Class A and Class A1 retail delivery and the Attorney General's letter of advice. At Chair Goddard's request, Vice Chair Burdette asked for a motion on this matter. Motion was made by Chair Goddard in his capacity as a Commissioner that the Board adopt a local rule consistent with the Attorney General advisory opinion of July 20, 2023, that license holders are not permitted to deliver sold alcohol outside of Harford County; the motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous. Ms. Finneran will craft the rule for the revised Rules & Regulations.

4) MALA Conference

Inspector Buchler and Ms. Finneran will be attending the MALA Conference in Ocean City on October 15-17.

5) Coakley's Pub, L.L.C. T/A Coakley's Pub - Update

Chair Goddard gave an update in connection with the Coakley's Pub suspension that was scheduled for September 15. Legal counsel Eric McLauchlin requested that license holder serve the suspension on August 20 and license holder would waive her right to appeal; Chair Goddard revised the suspension date to August 20 which was later determined to be a date that the establishment was closed. A letter was sent rescinding the August 20 suspension date and reverting to the original suspension date of September 15.

6) Surety Bonds

Regarding interpretation of Md. Code Ann., Alcoholic Beverages Article, Section 22-2103 and Board Rule 2:36, motion was made by Commissioner Majewski and seconded by Vice Chair Burdette to only require the posting of bond at initial issue of license or renewal to secure payment of an unpaid financial obligation; the vote was unanimous. An interpretative memo will be prepared by Ms. Finneran.

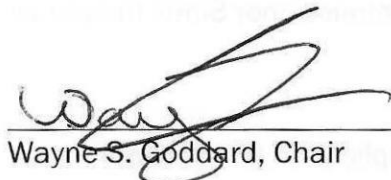
7) Delegation Meeting

Ms. Finneran advised that she has received a request from Senator James to meet with her in connection with the subpoena legislation that was submitted by Joesph F. Snee, Jr., Esquire, last year. Ms. Finneran and GM Crabbs will meet with Senator James on September 20.

STAFF REPORT / PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT

Discussion was held in connection with the Board's response to the letter from the County Director of Administration and the Board's budget.

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



Wayne S. Goddard, Chair



Mary Sporre, Secretary