## LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FOR HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

16 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

#### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 25, 2025

#### **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 Vice Chair Majewski, Commissioners Sines, Walters, and Miller, GM Crabbs, and Board Counsel Finneran.

#### **MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the April 2 minutes; the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the April 9 minutes; the vote was unanimous.

#### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

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

Withholding	3377.48
Withholding	810.45
Accounting	113.00
Payroll	7027.14
Retirement	614.95
Office	358.39
Gas	250.64
Utilities	162.34
Telephone	299.05
Telephone	150.41
Insurance	2390.61
Office	79.93
Maintenance	80.00
Advertising	787.70
Computer	321.75
Office	13.67
Refund processing fee	580.00
	Withholding Accounting Payroll Retirement Office Gas Utilities Telephone Telephone Insurance Office Maintenance Advertising Computer Office

# PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

# 1) RARE Beverages of MD, Inc. T/A LongHorn Steakhouse - Supplemental Application

Martha Jaimes, Assistant Secretary, RARE Beverages of MD, Inc. T/A LongHorn Steakhouse, 2697 Compromise Street, Bel Air, appeared along with their attorney, Leanne Schrecengost, in connection with a Supplemental Application filed for this Class BNR-BWL-On Sale Only License. The purpose of the application is to remove Kristina Campbell from the license and add Martha Jaimes. Also on the license are Lindsay Koren, President, and Colleen Lyons, Assistant Secretary. As this is a publicly traded company, it is not necessary for the license holders to hold interest in the corporation. Ms. Jaimies has passed the licensee test and will serve as the Responsible Operator. Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous. A license dated June 27, 2025, was prepared and signed by Chair Goddard.

2) <u>Matthews L3 Pizzeria, L.L.C., T/A Mathew's L3 Pizzeria – New License (Postponed)</u> This hearing has been rescheduled to July 9.

#### **SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS**

# 1) Bel Air Investments, L.L.C. T/A Barrett's on the Pike

Paul Silberman, Member, Bel Air Investments, L.L.C. T/A Barrett's on the Pike, 588 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, appeared in proper person in connection with violation of the following:

CHARGE 1: Board Rule 4:01, MINORS, (a)(b) and (c) which states:

- (a) A license holder or an employee of a license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.
- (b) A license holder, a proprietor, or an operator of an establishment that provides alcoholic beverages may not allow on-premises consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by an individual under the age of 21 years, regardless of who purchased or obtained the alcoholic beverages.
- (c) A license holder or an employee of a license holder shall be fully responsible for determining that the individual to whom alcoholic beverages is sold is over the age of 21 years; and every license holder or employee of a license holder shall have the right to refuse the sale of alcoholic beverages to any individual who does not provide sufficient proof of legal age to the satisfaction of the license holder or employee of a license holder.

and

Alcoholic Beverages & Cannabis Article  $\S$  6-304, Selling or providing alcoholic beverages to individual under the age of 21 years.

A license holder or an employee of the license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.

The alleged violation occurred on February 20, 2025.

John J. Barrett, Member, and John E. Barrett, Jr., Member, license holders were not present at 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 Daniel Buchler), as well as applicable License Holder's testimony and with further consideration to License Holder's relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following finding:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded to find License Holder in violation; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$1,000.00; the vote was unanimous.

2) Herb's Wine & Spirits, L.L.C. T/A Herb's Wine & Spirits

Daniel Lose, Member, Herb's Wine & Spirits, L.L.C. T/A Herb's Wine & Spirits, 2226 Hanson Road, Edgewood, appeared in proper person in connection with violation of the following:

CHARGE 1: Board Rule 4:01, MINORS, (a)(b) and (c) which states:

- (a) A license holder or an employee of a license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.
- (b) A license holder, a proprietor, or an operator of an establishment that provides alcoholic beverages may not allow on-premises consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by an individual under the age of 21 years, regardless of who purchased or obtained the alcoholic beverages.
- (c) A license holder or an employee of a license holder shall be fully responsible for determining that the individual to whom alcoholic beverages is sold is over the age of 21 years; and every license holder or employee of a license holder shall have the right to refuse the sale of alcoholic beverages

to any individual who does not provide sufficient proof of legal age to the satisfaction of the license holder or employee of a license holder.

and

Alcoholic Beverages & Cannabis Article § 6-304, Selling or providing alcoholic beverages to individual under the age of 21 years.

A license holder or an employee of the license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.

The alleged violation occurred on February 20, 2025.

Sales clerk Blake Figgins also appeared at 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 Daniel Buchler), as well as applicable License Holder's testimony and with further consideration to License Holder's relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following finding:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to find License Holder in violation; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$750.00; the vote was unanimous.

## 3) Sempre Avanti, Inc. T/A Liberatore's Ristorante & Catering

Domenico Ferrara, President, Cathy Galasso, Secretary, Donna Liberatore, Treasurer, Sempre Avanti, Inc. T/A Liberatore's Ristorante & Catering, 562 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, appeared in proper person in connection with violation of the following:

CHARGE 1: Board Rule 4:01, MINORS, (a)(b) and (c) which states:

- (a) A license holder or an employee of a license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.
- (b) A license holder, a proprietor, or an operator of an establishment that provides alcoholic beverages may not allow on-premises consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by an individual under the age of 21 years, regardless of who purchased or obtained the alcoholic beverages.
- (c) A license holder or an employee of a license holder shall be fully responsible for determining that the individual to whom alcoholic beverages is sold is over the age of 21 years; and every license holder or employee of a license holder shall have the right to refuse the sale of alcoholic beverages to any individual who does not provide sufficient proof of legal age to the satisfaction of the license holder or employee of a license holder.

and

Alcoholic Beverages & Cannabis Article § 6-304, Selling or providing alcoholic beverages to individual under the age of 21 years.

A license holder or an employee of the license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.

The alleged violation occurred on February 20, 2025.

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 Daniel Buchler), as well as applicable License Holder's testimony and with further consideration to License Holder's relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following finding:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded to find License Holder in violation; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$1,000.00; the vote was unanimous.

# 4) SRRJR, L.L.C. T/A Earth Wood & Fire

Raju Subedi, Member, Satish Chapagain, Member, Jitendra Gurung, Member, SRRJR, L.L.C. T/A Earth Wood & Fire, 214 Mountain Road, Fallston, appeared in proper person in connection with violation of the following:

CHARGE 1: Board Rule 4:01, MINORS, (a)(b) and (c) which states:

- (a) A license holder or an employee of a license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.
- (b) A license holder, a proprietor, or an operator of an establishment that provides alcoholic beverages may not allow on-premises consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by an individual under the age of 21 years, regardless of who purchased or obtained the alcoholic beverages.
- (c) A license holder or an employee of a license holder shall be fully responsible for determining that the individual to whom alcoholic beverages is sold is over the age of 21 years; and every license holder or employee of a license holder shall have the right to refuse the sale of alcoholic beverages to any individual who does not provide sufficient proof of legal age to the satisfaction of the license holder or employee of a license holder.

and

Alcoholic Beverages & Cannabis Article § 6-304, Selling or providing alcoholic beverages to individual under the age of 21 years.

A license holder or an employee of the license holder may not sell or provide alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of 21 years.

The alleged violation occurred on February 20, 2025.

General manager Amanda Rayman Grice was also present at 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 Daniel Buchler), as well as applicable License Holder's testimony and with further consideration to License Holder's relevant past record (if any), the Board made the following finding:

On Charge 1, motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to find License Holder in violation; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$1,000.00; the vote was unanimous.

# PER DIEM LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1) <u>Ladew Topiary Gardens – Twilight Tuesdays – July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12, 19, 26 – BWL</u>
Barbara Barnhoff and Emily Emerick have submitted a beer, wine and liquor license application to be used on "Twilight Tuesdays" held on July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12, 19, and 26 at Ladew Gardens. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

1) WGAS, L.L.C. T/A Double Groove Brewing Company - Outside Event Application

WGAS, L.L.C. T/A Double Groove Brewing Company, 1659 D Robin Circle Drive, Forest Hill, has submitted an outside event application to be used 08/03 for their annual "Jeep Jamboree". Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded by Commissioner Walters to move into executive session under the General Provisions Art. § 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. Discussion included employee reduction in hours. Confirmation will be obtained from the health insurance broker that employees working 17 ½ hours per week are eligible for coverage effective July 1, 2025. Motion was made by Commissioner Miller to move out of executive session and back to public session and was seconded; the vote was unanimous.

#### STAFF REPORT / PUBLIC COMMENT

GM Crabbs reported that a decision has been made concerning a part-time inspector and requested an offer letter be drafted.

Chair Goddard reported that during the executive session and to curtail the systemic operating deficit, two employees have agreed to a reduction in hours. Commissioner Walters will revise the budget for 2025 – 2026 to reflect the reduction and present the budget at the next meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Chair Goddard requested that the meeting go back on the record in connection with the service of alcohol at an unlicensed establishment, North Bay Marina/Shipwrecked Dock Bar in Joppatowne. Chris Battaglia has come into the office multiple times to discuss options as far as events he had scheduled at the marina and possible licensing in the future. Various options were presented to him, i.e., the use of a statewide catering license or one of our licensed restaurants that has off-premises catering privilege as long as he had a contract for both food and alcohol for the event. He was cautioned that he should not be using the same licensee for every event because in the past the Board has said that this would indicate that the licensee is operating a second location under one license which is not permissible.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines to convene to executive session under the General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b)(2) to protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business and was seconded; the vote was unanimous. Public discussion of confidential information can compromise an investigation and/or individual and/or business. A plan of action was developed for the inspector, and he will report back. Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded to end the executive session and return to public session; the vote was unanimous.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Wayne S. Goddard, Chair

Mary Sporfe, Secretary