

MINUTES

FLORIDA STATE BOXING COMMISSION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Board Conference Room
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Conference Call Number 888.808.6959

July 17, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lacasa called the meeting to order July 17, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Eduardo Lacasa, Chair
Donald E. Bowen, Vice Chair
Barbara Auger
Ramiro Ortiz
Dr. Donald Perry

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

NONE

OTHERS PRESENT:

Thomas Molloy, Executive Director
Christa Patterson, Assistant Executive Director
Charles Tunnicliff, General Counsel
Tim Vaccaro, Division Director
Don Hazelton, Miccosukee Commission
Greg Sirb, Executive Director, State of Pennsylvania

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 10, 2007 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

The commission reviewed the minutes and after discussion the following motion was made.

MOTION: Mr. Ortiz made a motion to approve the April 2007 minutes with corrections.

SECOND: Mr. Bowen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF ASSIGNMENT POLICIES AND POSITION DUTIES

Assignment of Judges, Referees, Physicians and Timekeepers

- Judge Position Duties
- Referee Position Duties
- Timekeeper Position Duties

Assignment of Coordinators, Chief Inspectors, and Inspectors

- District Coordinator Position Duties
- Chief Inspector and Inspector's Position Duties

Mr. Lacasa advised the commission that the issue of assigning officials was brought up at the April meeting. Mr. Lacasa stated that he had been approached numerous times by officials who feel favoritism plays a part in the way the Executive Director handles the assignments, especially when it comes to assignments of high profile events. Mr. Lacasa advised the commission that he would like to try and resolve the complaints and stated that in the best interest of being impartial, the commission asked staff to contact other state commissions to inquire how they handle assignments of officials. Mr. Lacasa stated that the staff contacted other states and in their agenda materials was the information staff collected.

Mr. Lacasa stated that Mr. Sirb and Mr. Hazelton were present at the meeting via phone and both had a number of years of experience with the task of assigning officials to events. Mr. Lacasa invited Mr. Sirb and Mr. Hazelton to participate in the commission's discussion.

Mr. Molloy advised the commission that Nevada, Pennsylvania, New York, California and Texas were contacted and interviewed by staff. Mr. Molloy stated that the way he handles assignments was in line with other states.

Mr. Hazelton stated for the record that he agreed with Mr. Molloy and stated that the task of assignments was not an easy one.

Mr. Molloy stated that at the end of the year he could document to the commission and officials that assignments were distributed equally.

Mr. Ortiz asked if there was a procedure in place to evaluate officials. Mr. Molloy stated that after each event, if an official's performance was below standards, he would be sure to document the performance issue of the official. Mr. Molloy stated that he did not feel it was fair to judge one event as a performance issue of an official. Mr. Molloy advised the commission that he keeps written documentation after each event and reviews his notes of the official's performance at the end of the year when he is considering renewal of the license. Mr. Molloy stated that depending on the severity of the official's performance, he may address the official following the event.

The commission discussed different procedures of evaluating a judge's performance. Mr. Sirb stated that he keeps a tracking system of the judges' scoring and felt this method was a good way to evaluate the judge's performance. Mr. Sirb stated that a person can identify if the judge is the one man out and how often it occurs with his or her scoring. Mr. Sirb stated that when he documents a below standard performance of a judge it may be a training issue. Mr. Sirb stated that the tracking system numbers are black and white and numbers speak for themselves with regard to the judge's performance.

After the discussion, the commission asked Mr. Molloy to start a tracking system of each judges' scoring and to provide the commission with a report at the end of the year. Mr. Lacasa stated that the tracking system could be used when considering the renewal of a judge's license.

Mr. Tunncliff asked Mr. Sirb if he performed referee evaluations in his state. Mr. Sirb stated that he did not keep a tracking system because evaluations of referees were so subjective. He did state that he documents referee errors at each event and depending on the severity of the error he may address the error with the referee at the event. Mr. Tunncliff stated that he was comfortable with that type of evaluation as long as it is documented.

Dr. Donald Perry joined the meeting.

Mr. Ortiz stated that he knew Mr. Molloy conducted a post event overview with the officials; however, he did not know if Mr. Molloy kept documentation of the reviews. Mr. Molloy advised the commission that he now makes written notes when he has to address an official whose performance was below standard at an event. Mr. Ortiz encouraged Mr. Molloy to continue documentation of the referee's performance. Mr. Molloy stated that he would keep the documentation of a referee's performance straight and to the point.

Mr. Lacasa stated that the commission should move forward with the statistic judge scoring tracking system and the documentation of referee performance after each event. The commission agreed. Mr. Lacasa stated that the judges should be reviewed annually by the commission.

The commission reviewed the assignment policies and procedures and positions duties and the commission made a few changes to the drafts. After discussion, the following motion was made.

MOTION: Mr. Ortiz made a motion to approve the policies and procedures and position duties with changes.

SECOND: Mr. Bowen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Lacasa thanked Mr. Sirb and Mr. Hazelton for their participating in the discussion.

NEW AND OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ortiz stated for the record that the current number of boxing commission staff was inadequate considering the number of events being held in Florida. Mr. Ortiz asked Ms. Patterson when the budget cycle begins and ends. Ms. Patterson stated that the budget cycle runs from July 1 to June 30th. Mr. Ortiz asked if the budget request for 2007-2008 had been submitted. Ms. Patterson advised the commission that she did not know the answer to his questions but would follow-up with him after the meeting. Mr. Ortiz stated that the financial reports should be forwarded to the commission members when available. Mr. Ortiz stated he was frustrated that he could not get answers to his budget questions. Mr. Lacasa advised the commission that at the April meeting it was reported that the boxing commission staff was behind with the assignment of revenue. Mr. Lacasa asked Ms. Patterson if the assignment of revenue problem was resolved. Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the assigning of revenue was current and the quarterly report should reflect the true amount of revenue collected by the boxing commission.

Mr. Vaccaro advised the commission that the budget is reconciled on a quarterly basis and that he was in the process of requesting additional positions due to the increase of events. Mr. Ortiz asked Mr. Vaccaro what he could do to support the effort of additional

staffing. Mr. Vaccaro advised Mr. Ortiz that he would follow-up with him after he discussed the issue with the Secretary.

Mr. Bowen asked if statute requires that an annual budget be presented to the commission. Mr. Vaccaro stated that the department provides the commission quarterly financial reports. Mr. Bowen stated that he thought the proposed boxing commission annual budget had to be approved by the commission prior to being submitted to the legislature. Mr. Vaccaro stated that he did not feel that was the case, but advised the commission that the department does seek commission input.

Mr. Lacasa stated the commission should have input to the long range plan and Mr. Tunnickliff stated that he agreed that the commission should have input. Ms. Patterson stated that she would provide the commission with a copy of the 5- year projection plan. Mr. Lacasa stated that the commission may have to increase revenue fees to request the support of additional staff.

Mr. Vaccaro stated that in order for the commission to meet the budget deadline the commission may have to schedule a telephone conference prior to the October 2007 meeting. Mr. Vaccaro stated he would follow-up with Mr. Lacasa to determine if a conference call is necessary.

Mr. Molloy advised the commission that he was still in the process of conducting research on the amateur mixed martial arts. Mr. Vaccaro advised the commission that a legislative change would be necessary to address amateur mixed martial arts. Mr. Molloy advised the commission that he was still in support of a testing procedure for trainers. Mr. Molloy stated that he felt that some trainers did not have enough experience and that it was a safety issue for the fighters. Mr. Ortiz agreed and asked Mr. Molloy if he knew of a test. Mr. Molloy advised the commission that he would forward a copy of the test he had drafted for the commission to review at the next meeting. Mr. Ortiz stated that he would like to see Mr. Molloy move forward with the testing.

Mr. Bowen asked Mr. Molloy if the Association of Boxing Commissions had any input regarding standards for trainers. Mr. Molloy stated that he did not know of any but was going to try and bring the subject up at the Annual ABC Conference.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.