



ATHLETIC COMMISSION
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243
615-741-1831

Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2020
Davy Crockett Tower
WebEx

The Tennessee Athletic Commission met on June 16, 2020 via a WebEx Teleconference. The following business was transacted:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Reddish, Dan McGrew, Patrick Wrenn, and Christy Halbert

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Kopchak, Toby Compton, Pamela Spicer, Katie Long, and Angela Nelson

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Director Kopchak called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and took roll, establishing that a quorum was present.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Director Kopchak read the notice of meeting into the record as follows: "Notice of the June 16, 2020 meeting of the Athletic Commission was posted to the website on May 29, 2020."

STATEMENT OF NECESSITY

Director Kopchak read the statement of necessity into the record. Ms. Halbert motioned to adopt the statement of necessity, which was seconded by Mr. Reddish. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

AGENDA

Ms. Halbert motioned to adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Wrenn. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ADDRESS

Toby Compton, Assistant Commissioner, addressed the Commission. He briefly discussed the Department's success in continuing to operate with minimal interruption during the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing plans for reopening in the next few weeks. He also expressed his gratitude to the staff for their work on the upcoming MMA event on June 20th in Sullivan County.

MARCH MINUTES

Mr. Reddish motioned to adopt the March minutes as written, which was seconded by Mr. McGrew. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Budget Report

Director Kopchak reviewed the last three months of record for the budget, which were January through March. Director Kopchak highlighted the quarterly reallocation and administrative costback due to the personnel assistance required for the IBF event back in February. Director Kopchak concluded that the budget is healthy and trending as expected, despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021 Board Meeting Dates

Director Kopchak presented the Commission with the scheduled meeting dates for 2021 as March 8th, June 14th, September 20th, and December 13th. Mr. McGrew motioned to approve these meeting dates, which was seconded by Mr. Wrenn. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Election of Officers

Director Kopchak informed the Commission that they would need to elect their officers per TCA 68-115-106 which states "The members of the commission shall elect one (1) member as chair of the commission, who shall serve for a term of one (1) year, whereupon another member shall be elected as provided in this chapter." Director Kopchak stated the Commission is only required to elect a Chair, but they have elected a Vice Chair in the past and could do so if they desired. Mr. McGrew motioned to elect Ms. Halbert as Chair and Mr. Wrenn as Vice Chair. There being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

LEGAL

Legal Report

The legal report was presented by Pamela Spicer.

- 1. Case No.: 2019100821**
First Licensed: 04/26/2018
Expiration: 04/25/2020
Type: Ring Official
History: None.

The Complainant alleges that a match that took place on September 28, 2019 was incorrectly scored by the judges. The Respondent states that the crowd had no influence on his decision and each round was scored based on what he witnessed.

Recommendation: Closure

Commission Decision: Approved

2. Case No.: 2020016861
First Licensed: 03/13/2018
Expiration: 03/13/2020
Type: Ring Official
History: None.

The Complainant alleges that the time was not kept properly by the timekeeper during a match he was involved in on February 15, 2020. The combatant states that there was a difference in what FOX announced as the time of the fight vs what the clock showed. Further, the combatant states that there was a delay in the timekeeper ringing the bell. However, the commission was using the unified rules during this event which does not allow for a combatant to be saved by the bell.

Recommendation: Closure

Commission Decision: Approved

Rulemaking Discussion

Director Kopchak provided a brief history of the Commission's efforts to ensure that their rules are in line with the Unified Rules utilized by the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports (ABC). He explained that the Commission adopted many of these Unified Rules in a previous rules package, and this current package contains the remaining items needed to be in compliance.

Ms. Spicer explained to the Commission that they are in the beginning of the rule making process and explained the steps that need to occur before a rule making hearing can take place. She stated that the goal is to try and hold the hearing in September, but if any delays occur, then it would have to be in December. Ms. Spicer presented the working redline draft revisions for discussion. Mr. McGrew pointed out that there appeared to be inconsistencies in the use of "his" or "her" in the language of the rules. Mr. McGrew recommended that the language be revised to a gender-neutral term because there are male and female athletes participating in boxing and MMA. Ms. Spicer agreed with this recommendation, and since it is not considered a substantive change, it could be amended without adding any delay to the rulemaking hearing scheduling process. Mr. McGrew motioned to adopt the rules with the gender-neutral language being added. This was seconded by Ms. Halbert. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, a motion was made by Mr. Reddish to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Wrenn. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.