

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OPEN SESSION
ILLINOIS LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION**

**50 W. Washington St. Suite 209
Chicago, Illinois 60602**

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**October 16th, 2024
1:00 PM**

Call the Roll:

Chair Berg called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

I. Present

Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner</i>
Thomas Gibbons	<i>Commissioner</i>
Julieta LaMalfa	<i>Commissioner Absent</i>
Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner Remote</i>
Pat Pulido Sanchez	<i>Commissioner Joined at 1:20pm</i>
Brian Sullivan	<i>Commissioner</i>
Cynthia Berg	<i>Chair</i>

ILCC Staff Present:

Lisa Gardner	<i>Executive Director</i>
Dana O'Leary	<i>Assistant Director</i>
Dusanka Marijan	<i>Licensing Administrator</i>
Patrick Schoeben	<i>HR Director</i>
Noel Quanbeck	<i>General Counsel</i>
Richard Haymaker	<i>Legal Attorney</i>
Faheem Murad	<i>I.T.</i>
Nicole Sanders	<i>Industry Education</i>
Curtis Franklin	<i>Legislative Liaison</i>
Michael Gentry	<i>Chief Fiscal Officer</i>

Motion for Remote Participation of Commissioner Powell

A motion was made by Commissioner Gibbons to allow Commissioner Powell to participate remotely and was seconded by Commissioner Span-Cooper.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Spann-Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to approve the minutes of the September 18th, 2024, meeting; the motion passed.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez		Cynthia Berg	Yes

III. Executive Director's Report

The ILCC generated approximately 5.4 million in revenue in quarter one. That is a 16% increase from quarter one last year. This is a 16% increase from quarter one of last year in September 2024 ILCC generated approximately 1.85 million in revenue that is a 27% increase from last year and 32% increase from September 2019. of that 1.85 million 95% of it was generated by the licensing division in the amount of 1.75 million of that 725,000 went to the general revenue fund and approximately 1 million went to the dramshop fund. 5% of the generated revenue was generated from enforcement and legal in the amount of approximately \$100,000 that money went to the general revenue fund. As of September of 2024 the ILCC has approximately 31,000 active licenses of that 31,000 they were 2794 licenses that were issued in the month of September. Of that there were 234 new licenses. I am happy to report that I am happy to report that 90% of our applicants submitted their applications electronically and 97% of the renewals in September 522 special event licenses were issued. 87% submitted their applications electronically which is up from 83% last year. We do want to continue to encourage all of our licenses, especially special event applicants to apply for their license via my tax Illinois account. This does help expedite the review and processing of these applications. They were 3620 special event licenses issued year to date in September 1485 retailers were reported delinquent. There were 1724 delinquencies cured and six bonafide disputes. In September, there were 813 inspections. conduct of which 98 were first inspection there are 303 violations cited the most common being contaminated liquor found personnel not being Basset certified. The ILCC license not displayed, the Illinois sales tax certificate being unavailable, and premix not being destroyed weekly. We issued 61 warnings of which the most common being the pregnancy warning sign not being displayed, the Illinois sales tax certificate being unavailable, the ILCC license not being displayed, 90 days of invoice being unavailable and the business not being in good standing with the Secretary of State. We received 52 complaints via online submission form, emails, phone calls, as well as in person information obtained during inspections and investigation. Nine complaints were investigated and closed the most common being operating without a valid license, sale of alcohol to minors, happy hour violations, and local ordinance violation. We are continuing our commitment to reduce you access to alcoholic beverages by use of underage compliance check. We're happy to report that the new UAC Assistant program is growing. We currently have 44 active under age participants. There were 10 conducted in the month of September of which 131 establishments were checked, 99 establishments were compliant however 32 failed of those 32 failures, 18 were prior offenders being rechecked of which they were two repeat offenders. In August enforcement kicked off a special enforcement operation SAFE. School Area Focus Enforcement is focused on licensees located around Illinois colleges and universities. ILCC partners with local law-enforcement agencies to conduct three safety details at 45 locations located around Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois university Edwardsville and the university of Illinois campuses. There was a 77% compliance rate with 31 failing and six repeat failures. Enforcement also continues the concentrate on cases involving the sale and delivery of alcohol via the online marketplace. These are problematic for many reasons, including but not limited to the fact that these illegal sales not having the proper safeguards to prevent selling to minors there were 15 listings removed from craigslist, 5 from the Facebook marketplace and one from offer up. There are 165 pending legal cases of which 7 are distributor cases, 30 retailer cases and 127 sale of alcohol to minor cases. The legal division closed 119 cases in September and conducted 22 pre-disciplinary conferences. There are still 12 PDC's outstanding, there are 6 appeals pending that do not include other open administrative review pending cases. We received 16 FOIA requests and there are 6 under admin review. The ILCC is excited to announce the kickoff of a new IT project to build a new licensing and enforcement system which will be on the salesforce platform. This new system is designed to streamline the licensing process, as well as creating efficiencies for all users, thereby improving the user experience. Once completed this system will replace the existing system. The ILCC remains busy attending community conferences panel discussion we continue to maintain an open dialogue so we can provide valuable information and education to both the public in our industry stake holders and licensees. We published a press release on fetal alcohol spectrum disorders awareness month in September and these press releases are instrumental in getting our message out to

wider audience. Our social media impressions remain steady, and we continue to reach our audience organically on all of our social media platforms. Our next schedule Bassett training class will be October 21 in our Chicago office to receive emails to register for in person classes as well as up to date on other ILCC news please subscribe to our mailing list and check our calendar on our new improved ILCC website.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

V. Executive Session

Commissioner Sullivan made a motion to move the ILCC into Executive Session at 1:14 p.m. Commissioner Spann-Cooper seconded the motion.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez		Cynthia Berg	Yes

The Commission moved back into regular session at 1:42 p.m.

Present

Thomas Gibbons	<i>Commissioner</i>
Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner</i>
Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner</i>
Pat Pulido Sanchez	<i>Commissioner</i>
Brian Sullivan	<i>Commissioner</i>
Cynthia Berg	<i>Chair</i>

VI. Appeal Cases

For *24 APP 03 El Corral Night Club v. Berwyn LCC* Commissioner Sullivan made a MOTION TO DENY THE PETITION FOR REHEARING. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes	Cynthia Berg	Yes

For *24 APP 05 1848 Entertainment v. City of Moline LCC* Commissioner Gibbons made a MOTION TO REVERSE LOCAL'S ORDER. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Span-Cooper.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes	Cynthia Berg	Yes

VII. Comments from the Board

VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes	Cynthia Berg	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m. CST.

ATTEST:

/S/ Patrick Schoeben, Acting Commission Secretary
