

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

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

--
**February 19, 2025
1:00 PM**

Call the Roll:

Chair Berg called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. Present

Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner Remote</i>
Thomas Gibbons	<i>Commissioner</i>
Julieta LaMalfa	<i>Commissioner</i>
Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner</i>
Pat Pulido Sanchez	<i>Commissioner</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>
Jacqueline Villa	<i>Acting Commission Secretary</i>

Motion for Remote Participation of Commissioner Powell

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

Brian Sullivan	Yes	Steven Powell	Yes
Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes	Julieta LaMalfa	Yes

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Gibbons to approve the minutes of the January 15th, meeting; the motion passed.

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

III. Executive Director's Report

- **Job Position**

- 3 new enforcement supervisors begin at the beginning of this month.
 - Supervisor for the Chicago central region
 - Northern region
 - Southern region
- Licensing supervisor vacancy was posted in the month of January.
 - Currently in the grading process to determine which candidates will be invited to sit for an interview.

- **Fiscal**

- Fiscal Year 2025 Total Revenue - \$11.3 Million
 - 12% increase from FY24
 - 6% increase from FY19
- Dram Shop Fund - \$19.3 Million (4.8% decrease from beginning balance)
- January Revenue - \$2.1 Million
 - Liquor Licenses generated approximately \$1.1 Million.
 - Fines/Penalties or Violations generated approximately \$145,00.

- **Licensing**

- December 2025 Figures
 - Active licenses - 31,092
 - 2,693 issued.
 - 227 new licenses were issued.
 - 97% of licensees renewed online.
 - Special event licenses
 - 178
 - 85% of the special event licenses were submitted online.

- **Enforcement**

- **Delinquency list**
 - 2091 Delinquencies Reported
 - 1713 Cures.
 - There were 11 Bona-Fide disputes filed for the month.
- Inspections Totals for January
 - Total of 740 Inspections.
 - 96 were First Inspections.
 - 232 violations were cited.
 - Most common violations
 - ILCC license not displayed.
 - Personnel not BASSET certified.
 - IL Sales Tax certificate unavailable
 - Contaminated Liquor
 - Pre-mix not destroyed weekly.
 - 107 warnings were issued.
 - Most common
 - Pregnancy Sign not displayed.
 - IL Sales Tax certificate unavailable
 - Taps not cleaned pursuant to ILCC Rule
 - Tap cleaning record not kept.

- Personnel not Basset certified.
- 6 Pre-licensing site inspections
- Complaints
 - The ILCC received 28 complaints in January. The complaints came via the online submission form, email, phone calls, and in-person information.
 - The most common complaints were No valid License, Not Basset certified, the sale of alcohol to a minor, and Happy hour violation(s)
 - Enforcement investigated and closed 10 complaints.
- Underage Compliance Details totals for January.
 - 11 Underage Compliance missions
 - 166 establishments were checked.
 - 40 failures
 - 126 were compliant.
 - 30 prior offenders were retested for compliance.
 - 5 of the prior offenders checked failed compliance.
 - Total of 53 participants are currently active and working on the Underage Compliance missions.
- Online marketplace sales
 - Removed from marketplace:
 - 23 posts from Craigslist
 - 5 posts from Facebook Marketplace
 - 2 posts from Offer-Up
- **Legal**
 - 110 cases pending
 - 7 distributor cases.
 - 30 retailer cases.
 - 72 sales of alcohol to minor
 - 63 first offense.
 - 5 second offense.
 - 4 third offense
 - Closed 98 cases.
 - Pre-disciplinary conferences
 - Conducted 20 pre-disciplinary conferences.
 - All were scheduled online.
 - 25 outstanding conferences
 - Appeals
 - 5 pending appeals
 - Last appeal status was held January 3rd.
 - FOIA
 - Received 22 FOIA requests.
 - Administrative review
 - 6 are under administrative review.
 - Pending
 - Full Pull Wines v. Berg
 - On January 10th the attorney general's office filed defendants reply in support of their motion for summary judgement, independence response to plaintiffs' statement of additional material facts.

Plaintiffs filed their reply in support of their motion for summary judgement and plaintiffs' response to defendants' supplementary statement of material facts.

- **Industry Education**

- Newsletter
 - How to handle mobile ID's, stay compliant, and the new rule on non-beverage alcohol products.
- To stay up to date on ILCC and industry news subscribe to the mailing list.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

V. Child Support

For 25 CS 01 (*Underground Backyard BBQ*), Commissioner Powell made a MOTION TO SUSPEND THE LICENSE INDEFINITELY. The motion was seconded by Commissioner LaMalfa.

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

VI. Executive Session

Commissioner Powell made a motion to move the ILCC into executive session at 1:11 pm. Commissioner LaMalfa seconded the motion.

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

The Commission moved back into regular session at 1:35 p.m.

VII. Appeals

For ALJ Parry's Case (#953601792- *UV Liquor, Inc*), Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez made a MOTION TO MODIFY THE ALJ'S RECOMMENDATION TO A \$500 FEE AND A THREE DAY SUSPENSION. The motion was seconded by Commissioner LaMalfa.

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

For ALJ Parry's Case (#1003169536- *Niemann Foods, Inc*), Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez made a MOTION TO MODIFY THE ALJ'S RECOMMENDATION TO A \$500 FINE AND A SEVEN DAY SUSPENSION. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell.

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

For ALJ Parry's Case (#1480003328 – *Martin & Bayley, Inc*), Commissioner Gibbons made a MOTION TO MODIFY THE ALJ'S RECOMMENDATION TO A \$500 FINE AND A FOUR DAY SUSPENSION. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sullivan.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
---------------------	-----	----------------	-----

Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes	Cynthia Berg	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes		

VIII. Comments from the Board

N/A

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Spann-Cooper.

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m. CST.

ATTEST:

/S/ Jacqueline Villa, Acting Commission Secretary
