

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

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

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**March 19, 2025
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 Arrived at 1:10 p.m.</i>
Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner Remote</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 Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Gibbons to allow Commissioner Powell and Commissioner LaMalfa 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		

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Spann-Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez to approve the minutes of the February 19th, 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
 - Chief of internal affairs David Betz began March 3rd.
- Licensing supervisor vacancy was posted in the month of January along with an Executive 1 position in the Chicago office.

- **Fiscal**

- Fiscal Year 2025 Total Revenue - \$11.3 Million
 - 12% increase from FY24
 - 6% increase from FY19

- February Revenue - \$1,759,912

- Liquor Licenses generated approximately \$1,665,927.
 - Of that \$716,451 went to the General Revenue Fund.
 - \$949,476 went to the Dram Shop Fund
- Fines/Penalties or Violations generated approximately \$93,025.

- **Licensing**

- February 2025 Figures
 - Active licenses - 31,153
 - 2,811 issued.
 - 205 new licenses were issued.
 - Special event licenses
 - 256

- **Enforcement**

- **Delinquency list**

- 1095 Delinquencies Reported
- 1388 Cures.
- There were 15 Bona-Fide disputes filed for the month.

- Inspections Totals for February

- Total of 602 Inspections.
 - 74 were First Inspections.
 - 192 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.
- 39 warnings were issued.
 - Most common
 - Pregnancy Sign not displayed.
 - ILCC license not being displayed.
 - IL Sales Tax certificate unavailable
 - Taps not cleaned pursuant to ILCC Rule
 - Personnel not Basset certified.

- Local Liquor license not being available.
 - 4 Pre-licensing site inspections
- Complaints
 - The ILCC received 38 complaints in January. The complaints came via the online submission form, email, phone calls, and in-person information.
 - The most common complaints were operating without a valid license, Not Basset certified, the sale of alcohol to a minor, and Happy hour violation(s)
 - Enforcement investigated and closed 5 complaints.
- Underage Compliance Details totals for February.
 - 11 Underage Compliance missions
 - 166 establishments were checked.
 - 40 failures
 - 126 were compliant.
 - 14 prior offenders were retested for compliance.
 - Total of 39 participants are currently active and working on the Underage Compliance missions.
- Online marketplace sales
 - Removed from marketplace:
 - 13 posts from Craigslist
 - 4 posts from Facebook Marketplace
 - 1 posts from Offer-Up
- **Legal**
 - 145 cases pending
 - 5 distributor cases.
 - 45 retailer cases.
 - 95 sales of alcohol to minor
 - 89 first offense.
 - 4 second offense.
 - 2 third offense
 - Closed 98 cases.
 - Pre-disciplinary conferences
 - Conducted 5 pre-disciplinary conferences.
 - All were scheduled online.
 - 67 cases were closed.
 - 7 outstanding conferences
 - SAM Conferences
 - March 25th in the Springfield office.
 - Appeals
 - 3 pending appeals
 - Last appeal status was held February 6th.
 - FOIA
 - Received 18 FOIA requests.
 - Administrative review
 - 6 are under administrative review.
- **Industry Education**
 - Bulletin

- The first Basset Bulletin was published by the industry education division on February 28th, which reached 158,000 subscribers.
- This bulletin will be a quarterly publication that speaks directly to those working in the hospitality industry.
- The information will include rules, laws, frequently asked questions, training, trainer information, tips and more.
- To stay up to date on ILCC and industry news subscribe to the mailing list.
- One press release was submitted on February 26, 2025.
 - Discussed Senate bill 2625, which was on alcohol infused non-beverage products.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

V. Executive Session

Commissioner Gibbons made a motion to move the ILCC into executive session at 1:14 pm. Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez 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 2:00 p.m.

VI. Appeals

For 24 APP 07 *Kulwinder Kaur v. City of Fulton LCC*, Commissioner Powell made a MOTION TO AFFIRM THE LOALS DECISION. 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		

For 25 APP 01 *Bar the Hour v. City of Wheaton LCC*, Commissioner Spann-Cooper made a MOTION TO REVERSE LOCALS. 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		

VII. Comments from the Board

N/A

VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner Sullivan made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Gibbons.

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 2:04 p.m. CST.

ATTEST:

/S/ Jacqueline Villa, Acting Commission Secretary