

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

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

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**May 14, 2025  
1:00 PM**

**Call the Roll:**

Chair Berg called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**I. Present**

Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner</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>

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner LaMalfa to approve the minutes of the April 16th, 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**

- **2025 Legislative Session**
  - Monitoring multiple bill findings
  - Senate Bill 1634 and House Bill 2485.
- **Job Positions**
  - Licensing vacant position will begin the onboarding process.
    - Supervisor in Springfield.

- Executive 1 position in Chicago.
    - Pending background check.
  - Our Michael J. Curry interns will begin on June 9, 2025.
- **Fiscal**
  - Fiscal Year 2025 Total Revenue - \$1.6 Million
  - \$19.2 Million in the Dram Shop Fund
    - The ILCC operating budget
- April Revenue - \$1.45 Million
  - Licensing division generated 96%.
  - Fines/Penalties and Violations generated approximately 4%.
- **Licensing**
  - April 2025 Figures
    - Active licenses - 31,175
      - 3,571 issued.
      - 281 new applications
    - Special event licenses
      - 381
  - 90% increase from last year.
- **Enforcement**
  - **Delinquency list**
    - 1017 Delinquencies Reported
    - 1196 Cures.
    - There were 13 Bona-Fide disputes filed for the month.
  - Inspections Totals for February
    - Total of 712 Inspections.
      - 76 were First Inspections.
      - 226 violations were cited.
    - Most common violations
      - IL Sales Tax certificate unavailable
      - Personnel not BASSET certified.
      - ILCC license not displayed.
      - Contaminated Liquor
      - Pre-mix not destroyed weekly.
    - 56 warnings were issued.
      - Most common
        - Pregnancy Sign not displayed.
        - ILCC license not being displayed.
        - 90 days of invoices not available.
        - IL Sales Tax certificate unavailable
        - Pre-mix not being destroyed weekly.
  - Complaints
    - The ILCC received 57 complaints in April. The complaints came via the online submission form, email, phone calls, and in-person information.
    - The most common complaints were retail purchase, Not Basset certified, the sale of alcohol to a minor.
    - Enforcement investigated 6 complaints.

- Underage Compliance Details totals for February.
  - 10 Underage Compliance missions
  - 168 establishments were checked.
    - 34 failures
    - 134 were compliant.
    - 22 prior offenders were retested for compliance.
- Online marketplace sales
  - Removed from marketplace:
    - 9 posts from Craigslist
    - 4 posts from Facebook Marketplace
    - 1 post from Offer-Up
- **Legal**
  - 96 cases pending
    - 5 distributor cases.
    - 34 retailer cases.
    - 57 sales of alcohol to minor
      - 45 first offense.
      - 9 second offense.
      - 3 third offense
  - Closed 139 cases.
    - Include 57 SAM cases
    - 45 were first offense.
    - 9 were second offense.
    - 3 were third offense.
  - Pre-disciplinary conferences
    - Conducted 7 pre-disciplinary conferences.
    - 1 outstanding conference
  - SAM Conferences
    - April 30<sup>th</sup> in the Chicago office and April 29<sup>th</sup> in the Springfield office.
  - Appeals
    - 6 pending appeals
    - Last appeal status was held April 4th.
  - FOIA
    - Received 26 FOIA requests.
  - Administrative review
    - 3 are under administrative review.
- **Industry Education**
  - April was alcohol awareness month.
    - We published several social media posts as well as a press release.

#### IV. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

#### V. Executive Session

Commissioner Gibbons made a motion to move the ILCC into executive session at 1:10pm. Commissioner Span-Cooper 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 1:51 p.m.

## VI. Appeals

In the matter on 24 APP 07 (*Kulwinder Kaur v. City of Fulton Liquor Control Commission*) Commissioner Powell made a motion to DENY the PETITION FOR REHEARING. Commissioner LaMalfa seconded the motion.

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

## VII. ALJ Parry Cases

For *ILCC v. Crow's Mill, LLC. – Case ID: 1713064064*, Commissioner Gibbons made a MOTION TO MODIFY THE ALJ PARRY'S DECISION TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Brian Sullivan	No
Pat Pulido Sanchez	Yes	Cynthia Berg	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes		

For *ILCC v. Alley View, Inc. – Case ID: 1526382720*, Commissioner Spann-Cooper made a MOTION TO MODIFY THE ALJ PARRY'S DECISION TO A FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR FINE AND A SEVEN DAY SUSPENSION. 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
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes		

## VIII. Comments from the Board

Commissioner Powell made a comment regarding a handwritten letter being sent out to a licensee and would prefer for the ILCC staff to type out information on letters moving forward.

Commissioner Sullivan complimented the ILCC for giving a licensee a green slip after passing an inspection. (Later found out it was from the locals not from the ILCC)

## IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adjourn and 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		

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m. CST

**ATTEST:**

/S/ Jacqueline Villa, Acting Commission Secretary

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