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Massachusetts State Athletic Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes
Date: April 9, 2025
Time: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 2:02pm

1. Roll Call

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| TJ Lacey -Chair | X present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| John Navien | X present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Brett Miller | X present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Josh Zakim | X present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Melissa Kelly | X present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |

2. Discuss / Vote Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2025.

Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for March 12, 2025, which was seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Rogers reported the Boxers' Fund balance of \$150,452.93, and that there are no pending applications. Executive Director Rogers also reported that staff conducted a Deputy Commissioner training class on Saturday April 5, 2025, and had 14 Deputy Commissioners present at the training. There will be a makeup date for the training on April 16, 2025, at the DOL Office, located at One Federal Street, Boston, at 10:00 a.m.

4. Board Counsel Report

Board Counsel Jamie Dalton reported that legislation has been enacted to permit remote public meetings for another two years.

5. Discuss Disciplinary Hearing Scheduling



Chairman Lacey explained that it would be helpful to schedule a dedicated additional meeting in the next month for several disciplinary hearings. Chairman Lacey will work with staff and Commission members to find a mutually agreeable date.

6. Discuss / Vote Medical Advisory Board Appointments and Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

i. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Executive Director Rogers reported that included in the Board Packet for Commissioner awareness are past meeting minutes of the Medical Advisory Board.

ii. Updates from 03/26/25 MAB Meeting

Executive Director Rogers explained that the Medical Advisory Board wanted clarity on the Commission's interpretation of MGL Ch. 147 s. 39 for combatants over 35 years old and the requirement for these combatants to receive a physical examination performed by a physician designated by the Commission. This will be added as an agenda item for a future meeting.

Executive Director Rogers explained that the Medical Advisory Board is requesting to create a Massachusetts-specific physical exam form or checklist of requirements for physical exam forms. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Miller made a motion to task the Medical Advisory Board with creating this form, seconded by Commissioner Navien. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Rogers read a statement from the Medical Advisory Board advocating for the Commission to audit the USA Boxing medical licensing requirements for events and for the Commission to receive copies of the completed forms. The Commission recently discussed this issue with USA Boxing directly in February.

iii. Appointment of MAB Members

Executive Director Rogers reported that there are 3 letters of intent and resumes for members seeking reappointment to the Medical Advisory Board. Commissioner Navien made a motion to reappoint Dr. Peter Warinner, Dr. Jay Lowney and Dr. Louis Durkin to the Medical Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Zakim. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Applications

i. Ballenas, Edgar Ringside Physician Application (Reinstatement)

After a lengthy discussion with the applicant and his counsel, Commissioner Navien made a motion to take this matter under advisement, which was seconded by Commissioner Zakim. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously. A written decision will be issued to the applicant when it is ready.

ii. Carino, Francis Muay Thai Timekeeper Application

After a brief discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the Muay Thai Timekeeper Application for Francis Carino, which was seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

iii. Cooper, Dewey Boxing Promoter Application (Tabled in March)

Executive Director Rogers reported that this application was withdrawn by the applicant.

iv. Jain, Sunny Ringside Physician Application (Tabled in March)

Commissioner Navien made a motion to deny the Ringside Physician Application for Sunny Jain, due to the applicant being absent for the last two meetings, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

v. LaRoche, Robert Deputy Commissioner Application (Tabled in March)

The Commission tabled the Deputy Commissioner Application for Robert LaRoche, due to his notification to the Commission of unavailability due to an important family matter.

vi. Rossi, Nicholas Deputy Commissioner Application

After a brief discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Navien made a motion to deputize Nicholas Rossi, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

vii. Smith, Kevin Boxing Manager Application (Tabled in March)

After a brief discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the Boxing Manager Application for Kevin Smith, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

viii. Varela, Marcel Deputy Commissioner Application

After a brief discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Navien made a motion to deputize Marcel Varela, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Discuss / Vote Team Combat League (TCL) / Classic Entertainment and Sports (CES) Variance Request.

Executive Director Rogers reported that this variance request was withdrawn by the promoter.

The Commission moved into Quasi-Judicial session.

9. Quasi-Judicial Session

The Commission discussed various matters in closed session.

10. Adjournment

Commissioner Zakim made a motion to adjourn to closed session at 3:10pm, seconded by Commissioner Navien. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.