## PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

## PHILADELPHIA MARRIOTT HOTEL SALON H PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2005, 3:03 P.M.

## BEFORE:

THOMAS DECKER, CHAIRMAN
MARY DIGIACOMO COLINS
WILLIAM P. CONABOY
JEFFREY W. COY
KENNETH T. McCABE
JOSEPH W. MARSHALL, III
SANFORD RIVERS
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1 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Good afternoon, everyone.
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- 2 Thank you for coming to the meeting. I'm Tad Decker.
- 3 I'm Chairman of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control
- 4 Board. I would like to welcome the Board and all of
- 5 you to this meeting of the Board.
- 6 We do not have a quorum yet. Chip Marshall
- 7 is running a little late. We can do some of the
- 8 meeting and then we'll have a quorum.
- 9 I'm noting for the record, you can read the
- 10 signs as well as I can, that each of the Board
- 11 members are here and Chip will be here shortly.
- The minutes for the last meeting are
- 13 available on our website; and you will note, as
- 14 usual, this meeting is also being recorded by a
- 15 stenographer.
- 16 Let's start with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 (Pledge of Allegiance.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Thank you. Our first
- 20 item of business today is going to be an update on
- 21 the regulations and the report on the Legislative
- 22 Working Group.
- I want to thank a number of people -- Mary
- 24 is going to cover that in detail -- who have
- 25 volunteered their time in addition to our own massive

- 1 staff to help us on this project.
- 2 At the last meeting, Commissioner Colins
- 3 discussed the work that had been done on our initial
- 4 set of general regs and, again, it was an initial
- 5 set, relating to manufacturer and licensing
- 6 applications. I have asked Mary to update us on this
- 7 process since that last meeting.
- 8 Mary?
- 9 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: Okay.
- 10 Thank you very much, Chairman Decker.
- I'm going to be brief today because I'm
- 12 just going to update you on the process that we are
- 13 engaged in which will result in the publication of
- 14 the regulations.
- As you know at the last meeting, I
- 16 discussed a work plan, basically a footprint that the
- 17 Board was going to follow in the drafting of
- 18 regulations, publishing them, receiving public
- 19 comment, reviewing that comment, submitting the
- 20 finished draft to the Attorney General for the
- 21 Attorney General's review, and then revamping based
- 22 on whatever comment was received by the Attorney
- 23 General resulting in a final work product, which
- 24 would be temporary regulations, which would govern us
- 25 for the next three years until such time the

- 1 regulations are required by Statute to be made
- 2 public.
- In order to do this, we have completed a
- 4 number of drafts, just myself and Michelle Afragola,

- 5 Susan Hensel, who is secretary to the Board. We have
- 6 been engaged in our own endeavor regarding this.
- 7 We have been able to enlist and receive the
- 8 help of, what is now, a working group, which consists
- 9 of different attorneys with experience and expertise
- 10 in not only drafting regulations, because they are
- 11 people who work for different legislative caucuses
- 12 and have had extensive experience in drafting
- 13 regulations; for example, the PUC, the Liquor Control
- 14 Board, other regulatory agencies, but also because
- 15 these are the people who basically have been most
- 16 involved for the last four or five years in the
- 17 legislation itself.
- They have agreed to assist us, and we've
- 19 had our first working meeting and we're going to try
- 20 to meet hopefully once a week, if possible, as a
- 21 group and go through and create a body of regulations
- 22 to address each of the phases that I outlined in our
- 23 previous meeting.
- 24 We're going to be working with Fran

- 1 Thompson's office; Kathy Akin, who is an assistant to
- 2 Steve McNett and has volunteered to assist us; Chris
- 3 Craig, who is counsel from Senator Fumo's office and
- 4 has also agreed to lend his expertise in our
- 5 endeavor; George Bedwick, an attorney from
- 6 Representative Veon's office; Edgar Powell, who is a
- 7 staff member for Representative Deweese; Michael
- 8 Sawyer, who is staff counsel for the House Judiciary
- 9 Committee.
- 10 All of these attorneys who I have been
- 11 meeting with and talking with have precise experience
- 12 in not just the legislative process but the
- 13 regulatory process.
- One of the reasons I'm grateful for us to
- 15 be going this route is that we can fashion our
- 16 regulations in such a way that when they become
- 17 permanent in three years, the process is done. We
- 18 don't have to reinvent them.
- 19 So after our first meeting, we received a
- 20 lot of input, which helped us augment that which we
- 21 had already done.
- We had a framework based on the statutory
- 23 provisions. We added to it in terms of what the
- 24 thinking through and adding elements to what the

- 1 These regulations that we're looking at to
- 2 adopt for the Board are patterned on the PUC
- 3 regulations, the LCB regulations. They're very
- 4 basic, administrative regulations.
- 5 We're working with these individuals, and I
- 6 think we've been able to enhance the product that we
- 7 started out with. I look forward to it.
- Now, I'm anticipating that the next meeting
- 9 we have will be sometime in mid-April. I'm very
- 10 hopeful to be able to get this body to move so that
- 11 we can have completed by that time general
- 12 regulations that I spoke about, manufacturer/supplier
- 13 regulations and we can then fit in the next group of
- 14 regulations into our process thereafter.
- That's a basic update. We're going to meet
- 16 next week again. That's where we're going with this.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Thank you, Commissioner.
- 19 Let me just add something to this. Our
- 20 group, the seven here and the seven out in the
- 21 audience, I think that's our total right now, no one
- 22 here has expertise, maybe other than Jeff Coy to some
- 23 degree, in drafting regulations.

- Our point in trying to put this together
- 25 was to get two types of expertise. The first is

- 1 expertise in helping us prepare these formal
- 2 regulations, you know, the process, the formality.
- 3 To Mary's point, our concept was we don't
- 4 want to have to do this -- was it three years, Mary?
- 5 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: Yes.
- 6 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Second, every one of the
- 7 individuals who have volunteered had a vested
- 8 interest. I know you might think this in a negative
- 9 way but had an interest in seeing that this Statute
- 10 comes to life. For them to volunteer their time here
- 11 is greatly appreciated.
- 12 At the end of the day, these regulations
- 13 are going to be our regulations and not the Drafting
- 14 Committee's regulations. So I want to make sure
- 15 everyone understands that. There is no issue about
- 16 independence on this.
- This is a very, very helpful group of
- 18 individuals, very knowledgable. I don't know how
- 19 many years of drafting experience. It's probably
- 20 100, isn't it, Mary? While our group is going to be
- 21 preparing initial drafts, we're going to get a lot of
- 22 help and a lot of valuable input as to how you get
- 23 this done. We very much appreciate that.

- 24 Ultimately, I think we want to offer all
- 25 seven of them jobs. I'm joking when I say that. But

- 1 we need people like this in the long term. We hope
- 2 to hire individuals, who will ultimately develop this
- 3 expertise themselves.
- 4 Any questions from the Board members on
- 5 this?
- 6 Okay. All right. Thank you. Again, we
- 7 hope to get drafts of those resolutions. What did
- 8 you say, Mary? We hope to get looks at those at our
- 9 April 12th meeting.
- 10 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: I'm hoping
- 11 we'll have a very complete set that gets us up
- 12 through manufacturers and suppliers up to that time.
- 13 CHAIRMAN DECKER: It's a guide.
- 14 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: Right.
- 15 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Thank you.
- In December, the Board selected
- 17 Pricewaterhouse Coopers to assist the Board with a
- 18 variety of issues, including licensing application
- 19 forms for manufacturers and suppliers.
- 20 With respect to these forms, we asked PWC
- 21 to evaluate best practices for forms used in other
- 22 jurisdictions.

- 23 Mike French is here today to report to us
- 24 on these applications and to provide a status report
- 25 on PWC's activities.

- 1 Mike?
- 2 MR. FRENCH: Thanks, Chairman Decker, and
- 3 good afternoon.
- 4 PWC has two projects that are currently
- 5 under way. The first is the application process and
- 6 the review of the documents, many of which were put
- 7 together and assembled by the staff members and Lynn
- 8 Stelle.
- 9 We, over the past few weeks, have reviewed
- 10 the method that Lynn and the team took -- went
- 11 through to develop these forms. They took a number
- 12 of jurisdictions. They looked in New Jersey, New
- 13 Mexico, West Virginia, Delaware, and South Dakota and
- 14 assembled these applications.
- We tested them in house for some of the
- 16 data that we had. We edited them. We provided some
- 17 cosmetic changes and for the forms associated with
- 18 key employees, manufacturer/supplier application, and
- 19 disclosure information forms, the
- 20 manufacturer/supplier employee application, and
- 21 disclosure forms, the manufacturers and suppliers
- 22 affirmative action statement, and the instructions

- 23 for filing an application for a manufacturer or
- 24 supplier license.
- 25 We've reviewed them in total and we believe

- 1 they're comprehensive and essentially complete. That
- 2 was the first issue we addressed and we completed
- 3 that review for the Board.
- 4 I'll speak a little bit about where we
- 5 stand with the best practices analysis. We have met
- 6 with the Board, discussed the areas where we thought
- 7 we should focus. There are essentially six areas
- 8 where we are going to be analyzing best practices.
- 9 The first one being, Gaming Control Board
- 10 organizational structure. The second one being the
- 11 background investigation processes. The third one
- 12 being the best practices as it relates to security.
- 13 The fourth, best practices as it relates to
- 14 enforcement; and the fifth best practice as it
- 15 relates to internal controls.
- We have solicited input from Board members,
- 17 and we have also been assisted by the Pennsylvania
- 18 State Police in gathering this information.
- 19 What we have done in the first phases is we
- 20 have developed, what I would call, a discussion
- 21 document, which is a detailed questionnaire, which we

- 22 are using as a basis for, you know, collecting all of
- 23 this information.
- We identified nine jurisdictions, and they
- 25 will become the basis for this best practices

- 1 research.
- 2 We selected New Jersey, Delaware, and West
- 3 Virginia primarily due to their proximity to the
- 4 State of Pennsylvania, as well as the fact that
- 5 Delaware and West Virginia have central computer
- 6 systems.
- 7 We selected Iowa and Missouri based on some
- 8 information received from the Pennsylvania State
- 9 Police. We suggested -- we selected Ontario and
- 10 Michigan based on PWC's history with those
- 11 jurisdictions and the fact that we have a lot of
- 12 information already on hand.
- We selected Mississippi because of the
- 14 geographical locations of the casinos, somewhat
- 15 similar to the situation we have here in the
- 16 Commonwealth. We selected Nevada because it's the
- 17 largest, most extensive gaming in North America.
- 18 This research has been ongoing, and we have
- 19 worked with the staff and with Lynn Stelle to collect
- 20 the names of the people that we needed to meet with
- 21 either face to face or via telephone in these

- 22 jurisdictions.
- Today, we have met with the New Jersey
- 24 Division of Gaming Enforcement. We met with a number
- 25 of people there. Extensively, we spent the better

- 1 part of the day there talking to them and going
- 2 through this discussion document in detail.
- 3 We have also met out in Las Vegas face to
- 4 face with the Investigations Division of the Nevada
- 5 Gaming Control Board.
- 6 We have conducted telephone interviews with
- 7 the West Virginia lottery, with various people there.
- 8 On the 17th, which is Thursday, we'll be traveling
- 9 down to Dover, Delaware, to meet with the director,
- 10 deputy director and principal deputy of the Delaware
- 11 lottery. These are all under way.
- 12 On the 22nd, we'll be meeting with the
- 13 superintendent of Investigations and the Enforcement
- 14 Bureau for the Province of Ontario. This will be by
- 15 telephone. We'll be discussing best practices with
- 16 the executive director of the Alcohol and Gaming
- 17 Commission for the Province of Ontario. These are
- 18 people we have dealt with in the past.
- We have calls in to Iowa, Missouri,
- 20 Michigan, and Mississippi. We are in the process of

- 21 scheduling those meetings. They'll probably be via
- 22 telephone to go through our discussion document with
- 23 them.
- 24 Concurrently, we're also developing a
- 25 template to assimilate all of this data and

- 1 consolidate it with what we feel are the best
- 2 practices.
- 3 We have had significant, 100 percent
- 4 cooperation from all of the jurisdictions to date.
- 5 We believe that we're going to come up with a fairly
- 6 comprehensive document with what those best practices
- 7 are.
- 8 Our plan is to -- and it's dependent
- 9 largely on the response we get from the last six
- 10 jurisdictions that we have to interview.
- Our plan is to, hopefully, in a month, be
- 12 able to, you know, assimilate this data in some kind
- 13 of a deliverable and draft form, which we would then
- 14 prepare and provide to the Board for their comment,
- 15 review, and questions. That's where we stand.
- 16 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any questions of Mike?
- 17 COMMISSIONER COY: I do -- go ahead, Ken.
- 18 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Please.
- 19 COMMISSIONER McCABE: How do you foresee
- 20 the package you put together? What do you see it

- 21 looking like when you present it to us?
- MR. FRENCH: Well, to be honest, we haven't
- 23 finished the template yet. We are going to have six
- 24 different categories. We're going to subcategories
- in those six, like where we see there are common

- 1 approaches in these jurisdictions -- some being more
- 2 mature than others -- have followed and where they
- 3 have in many cases in confidence told us this is the
- 4 way we think it should be done, we will summarize
- 5 those comments and say, this is what we believe is
- 6 the best practice for this category or subcategory.
- 7 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Are we then also
- 8 going to be able to see -- is it going to be a part
- 9 of this project where we'll see what each state does
- 10 too? They'll be best practices, but you'll also have
- 11 then the way Nevada does it, the way Jersey does it,
- 12 the way Dover does it so we can look for that?
- 13 MR. FRENCH: No.
- 14 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Why not?
- MR. FRENCH: The reason for that is we
- 16 discussed at length with everybody we have talked to
- 17 so far, and their biggest concern is they do not want
- 18 what we feel their individual best practices or their
- 19 opinions, in many cases their opinions, conveyed

- 20 unless they are conveyed, you know, in total, in a
- 21 consolidated format.
- So in order to get people to give us their
- 23 candid opinions in what they do, we have taken the
- 24 position that we will consolidate those. In some
- 25 instances, there may not be a conclusive best

- 1 practice.
- 2 COMMISSIONER McCABE: So are you going to
- 3 consolidate what is best practice for Pennsylvania?
- 4 MR. FRENCH: Yes. We're asking them not
- 5 only what their best practices are, but we'll also
- 6 ask them what they think if they were put in the
- 7 position in Pennsylvania, how they think Pennsylvania
- 8 might differ and what might be the best road to take.
- 9 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Mike, what we could do --
- 10 I'll make a suggestion. What we could do in some
- 11 situations is have a grid and have a topic and show
- 12 Nevada does it this way without getting into
- 13 comments.
- MR. FRENCH: Yeah, we can develop
- 15 something, that eight of the nine jurisdictions do it
- 16 this way --
- 17 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Without getting into the
- 18 underlying comments.
- MR. FRENCH: Right.

- 20 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Necessarily form the
- 21 recommendation.
- MR. FRENCH: I believe there's going to be
- 23 some information, you know, that is consistent and
- 24 some that will be inconsistent. We will say that the
- 25 data that we collected was not consistent upon all

- 1 jurisdictions. Some do it this way. Some do it that
- 2 way.
- 3 COMMISSIONER COY: Mr. Chairman?
- 4 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Please, go ahead, Jeff.
- 5 COMMISSIONER COY: That was the direction
- 6 of my question. I guess the reason for asking it
- 7 was, my question was going to be are all of the
- 8 states forthcoming and willing to share information?
- 9 I guess I hear your response.
- 10 So if indeed it's best to -- in a report to
- 11 us give us consensus information or information as a
- 12 total sum, if that's going to help you elicit better
- 13 information from those jurisdictions, then I think
- 14 that's probably better, too, if it's guaranteeing
- 15 some sort of generality and response as opposed to
- 16 this is the way each state does it, especially if
- 17 they consider some of it proprietary in a way. I
- 18 guess as long as we're getting a response through you

- 19 and if it's answered in general terms, I would rather
- 20 have it that way than them being concerned about
- 21 giving information that they shouldn't, if that makes
- 22 sense.
- MR. FRENCH: Yeah. They made it clear in
- 24 every meeting we had to date they wanted this
- 25 information to be held in confidence.

- 1 COMMISSIONER COY: Thank you.
- 2 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Yes, I have a
- 3 question. I want to go back to the first part of
- 4 your presentation, the first task that you were
- 5 charged with.
- 6 MR. FRENCH: Sure.
- 7 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Because I think it's
- 8 important that the public is aware that -- of the
- 9 tasks that are being completed. So could you just
- 10 tell me again the documents that you reviewed?
- 11 MR. FRENCH: Yes. I probably went too
- 12 fast.
- 13 CHAIRMAN DECKER: This is on the
- 14 application?
- 15 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Yes.
- MR. FRENCH: The applications, yes.
- 17 Essentially, there's five applications that have been
- 18 prepared by the staff and, you know, we've reviewed

- 19 them in total. We believe them to be comprehensive
- 20 and complete based on our testing, based on the five
- 21 markets that they used on their benchmark.
- Those applications are the key employee
- 23 qualifier form, the manufacturer/supplier application
- 24 and disclosure information form for the companies and
- 25 vendors, the supplier/manufacturer employee

- 1 application and disclosure information form for the
- 2 individuals, the manufacturer/suppliers affirmative
- 3 action statement, which we have reviewed, and the
- 4 instructions for filing an application for a
- 5 manufacturer/supplier license.
- 6 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: So again, because I
- 7 think it's important for the public to be aware of
- 8 that so you -- your Pricewaterhouse has reviewed the
- 9 work that was done by Lynn Stelle and other staff
- 10 members of the Board and those five key documents.
- 11 Your observations were a very comprehensive and
- 12 complete and so they are ready to go.
- MR. FRENCH: Yes. They were very well done
- 14 when we got them. In many cases, you know, changes
- 15 were editorial, were cosmetic; but from what you need
- in response and what we have seen in the past,
- 17 they're complete and they're done.

- 18 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Thank you very much.
- 19 Obviously, we're pleased with that. I want to thank
- 20 also Lynn and others at the -- other employees that
- 21 worked on this document.
- I think it's very important that each
- 23 meeting we make the public aware of the amount of
- 24 work that is being done and what is complete and
- 25 ready to go. Thank you very much.

- 1 COMMISSIONER COY: Mr. Chairman?
- 2 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Please.
- 3 COMMISSIONER COY: One more item. If you
- 4 said it in a peripheral manner, that's fine; but I
- 5 want to ask directly, are you attempting to elicit
- 6 from the other jurisdictions what they do about
- 7 minority participation in every aspect?
- 8 MR. FRENCH: We have not done that.
- 9 COMMISSIONER COY: Is it possible to add
- 10 that to your areas of concern?
- MR. FRENCH: Sure.
- 12 COMMISSIONER COY: I think it would be
- 13 interesting for me, at least, to know what other
- 14 jurisdictions are doing.
- 15 The Statute directly points to it and calls
- 16 for it. I think if we attempt in an affirmative
- 17 manner to do that, we would be good.

- 18 MR. FRENCH: That's fine.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: Would you
- 20 repeat what you said, please?
- 21 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Do you want to repeat
- 22 that one more time?
- 23 COMMISSIONER COY: I don't know if I can.
- 24 CHAIRMAN DECKER: I think what --
- 25 COMMISSIONER COY: That's what she's for.

- 1 CHAIRMAN DECKER: I think what Commissioner
- 2 Coy is saying is we should ask PWC to take on another
- 3 assignment in addition to the two and take on a third
- 4 one with the internal IT operations.
- 5 Coming back to what Commissioner Coy said
- 6 is we should take a look at some of the best
- 7 practices in other jurisdictions as to what they do
- 8 about implementing their EO opportunities and also
- 9 underlying -- am I saying this right, Jeff?
- 10 COMMISSIONER COY: Yes.
- 11 CHAIRMAN DECKER: The underlying activities
- 12 that each of these Commissions have taken to comply
- 13 with their statutory requirements.
- 14 We've seen firsthand both in New Jersey and
- 15 we'll see it more tomorrow when we visit but also in
- 16 Nevada. I think it would be worth it to go back to a

- 17 couple of those. I'm sorry we didn't think of that
- 18 ahead of time.
- MR. FRENCH: That will be easy to
- 20 accomplish.
- 21 COMMISSIONER COY: It will, Mr. Chairman,
- 22 I'm sure, be a work in progress for us, but I think
- 23 the more assistance we have in seeing what happens
- 24 and has happened in other jurisdictions, it will give
- 25 us another idea about how we can be helpful.

- 1 CHAIRMAN DECKER: It's a very good idea.
- 2 Are there any other questions for Mike?
- 3 One thing I might note, because
- 4 Commissioner Colins and I have talked about this
- 5 earlier, as we move forward with these regulations on
- 6 manufacturers and suppliers to the extent that there
- 7 are some changes in the basic draft, we may have to
- 8 come back to Lynn Stelle and Mike and PWC to make
- 9 sure that the application form is consistent with the
- 10 final regs.
- 11 We'll keep that in mind that as we work
- 12 through it to make sure that if we make some changes
- 13 there, we might have to make some changes in the
- 14 application.
- Okay. Any other questions?
- 16 Thank you very much.

- 17 MR. FRENCH: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Our next item today is on
- 19 testing and certification standards. In addition to
- 20 PWC looking at other jurisdictions best practices for
- 21 forms and other procedures and processes, we have
- 22 asked Lynn Stelle to study how other jurisdictions
- 23 deal with testing and certification standards for
- 24 slot machines.
- 25 As you know, this is an important area that

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- 1 the Board will have to address as we bring gaming to
- 2 Pennsylvania.
- 3 Lynn will provide us with an overview of
- 4 what he has learned to date. Lynn?
- 5 MR. STELLE: Thank you very much. Before I
- 6 begin, I would like to amplify Michael's comments by
- 7 thanking specifically Captain Ron Petyak and
- 8 Lieutenant Michael Rudolph for their great help. The
- 9 State Police have been invaluable in getting the
- 10 application forms done correctly and presented to the
- 11 Board.
- 12 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Thank you.
- MR. STELLE: As we move forward discussing
- 14 the manufacturers and suppliers and considering the
- 15 licensing of manufacturers and suppliers, it's

- 16 important that we provide guidelines and standards
- 17 that will be required for the gaming machines and the
- 18 related equipment that will be sold and installed
- 19 within the state.
- These standards and guidelines will be
- 21 divided into two very broad categories,
- 22 communications and operations. To do this, we need
- 23 to establish a way to test and certify the equipment.
- 24 The purpose of establishing the standards
- 25 and guidelines is to establish in the Commonwealth

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- 1 that we will deliver and maintain all aspects of
- 2 gaming at the highest level of integrity and control
- 3 by providing to every manufacturer and every supplier
- 4 very specific requirements of each and every piece of
- 5 equipment and software.
- To enforce these standards and guidelines
- 7 and to measure compliance, the Commonwealth will
- 8 establish a laboratory. The laboratory will inspect,
- 9 test, certify, and establish compliance with these
- 10 standards.
- In most jurisdictions of the United States,
- 12 we found that the regulatory body has been assisted
- 13 in the creation of these standards and guidelines by
- 14 one or more of several independent testing and
- 15 certification laboratories.

- 16 Additionally, the independent testing and
- 17 certification laboratory has assisted these
- 18 jurisdictions in the creation of their own gaming
- 19 laboratory.
- Today, there are only three jurisdictions
- 21 that operate their own labs without the use of these
- 22 private laboratories for assistance. Most
- 23 jurisdictions have chosen to partner with the
- 24 independent laboratories to share the work.
- 25 Act 71 offers the Board specific direction

- 1 as regards to certification and testing of all gaming
- 2 equipment employed in the Commonwealth.
- 3 To accomplish the requirements of the Act
- 4 and develop the standards to be implemented within
- 5 the state, it will be necessary to acquire assistance
- 6 for the Board.
- 7 We have researched the practices in other
- 8 jurisdictions. I would like to provide the Board
- 9 with a summary of overall testing and certification
- 10 as the first step in developing our own lab.
- 11 To start off, what do gaming laboratories
- 12 do? The backboard of any gaming activity is the
- 13 perception and reality of the level of integrity and
- 14 honesty offered by the games and facilities licensed

- 15 within the jurisdiction.
- The foundation of that probity is the
- 17 machines and the games themselves. It's incumbent
- 18 upon the Commonwealth to ensure that the games that
- 19 are in play and the licensed entities perform as
- 20 advertised and that the players can trust that the
- 21 games provide fair and honest play. That's the first
- 22 role of the gaming laboratory.
- The lab will provide a highly specialized
- 24 and technical interface between the Gaming Board and
- 25 the actual licensee and their selected gaming

- 1 machines and manufacturers.
- 2 Based on the jurisdiction, the gaming test
- 3 laboratory will test every machine or sample those
- 4 machines; a decision will have to be established by
- 5 the Board.
- 6 Initially, the Gaming Board will have to
- 7 rely heavily on an outside vendor to supply the
- 8 expertise in fulfilling these requirements. Within
- 9 the scope of the Act, the Board is allowed three
- 10 years to establish its own laboratory.
- 11 This presentation is just the first step to
- 12 assist the Board in understanding the role of the
- 13 lab, the best practices in other jurisdictions, and
- 14 the steps necessary in creating our own testing

- 15 laboratory.
- The establishment of a lab is a very
- 17 exacting science that requires specific knowledge,
- 18 training, and experience.
- 19 It is recommended that the Board move
- 20 forward to review the organizations capable of
- 21 providing these valuable services as quickly as
- 22 possible.
- 23 It should be noted that the industry
- 24 practice is the cost of the testing and certification
- 25 of the slot machines and the gambling related

- 1 equipment is borne by the manufacturers directly, not
- 2 by the Commonwealth and not by the Board.
- 3 The BGCB testing certification capability
- 4 will need to be incorporated into three areas;
- 5 professional facility large enough for the
- 6 acquisition of new equipment and technology on a
- 7 regular basis with security and documentation
- 8 management capability.
- 9 Trained personnel, training is a constant
- 10 in gaming. Games are created daily. On a daily
- 11 basis, new challenges are found.
- 12 The technical expertise, expertise in
- 13 hardware, electronics, software, mathematics, network

- 14 conductivity, and communications, including gaming
- 15 equipment and associated equipment as well.
- 16 It also needs to be independent from the
- 17 operators, the manufacturers, and any other
- 18 pressures. It has to have high integrity or
- 19 integrity without question.
- The laboratory will need to address the
- 21 following: Communication protocol testing. The
- 22 Department of Revenue has recently selected a Central
- 23 Control System vendor.
- It is the responsibility of the laboratory
- 25 to make sure that all devices connected to the

- 1 Central System communicate properly through to what
- 2 is referred to as a communication protocol.
- 3 You can relate a protocol to a foreign
- 4 language. The lab needs to confirm that all
- 5 equipment within the licensed facility speak the same
- 6 languages with all its nuisances.
- 7 I compare this to a visit I make in the
- 8 midwest. When I go to a restaurant and the waitress
- 9 asks, do you want a pop? I say, no, I have one. He
- 10 lives in Chicago. She replies, no, I mean, do you
- 11 want something to drink?
- 12 The nuisances of the protocol are just as
- 13 difficult. There are significant challenges in

- 14 making sure the protocols work correctly.
- To determine the levels of security and
- 16 control of the machines based on the scope and
- definition of the protocol, the communication
- 18 protocol allows the state's Centralized Computer
- 19 System to control the functions of each and every
- 20 machine, the constant monitoring of all activity and
- 21 reporting gaming results in a real-time environment,
- 22 mechanical, electrical, and software testing in each
- 23 game, testing at multiple levels including mechanism,
- 24 the gaming operating system and the game performance.
- As each game is introduced to the lab, the

- 1 lab will test the machine in every aspect. This will
- 2 include the following: Mechanical and electrical
- 3 aspects of the gaming, including the coin/bill
- 4 acceptor, the ticket-in ticket-out mechanism.
- 5 Special care will be taken to make sure the
- 6 machines are not susceptible to any and all illegal
- 7 interventions.
- 8 Software testing, sometimes referred to as
- 9 EPROM, the actual encoded chip within the machine is
- 10 tested for its ability to perform as specified within
- 11 the game documentation.
- 12 It's also necessary to achieve the

- 13 statutory win/loss ratio that is achieved by every
- 14 machine.
- 15 Each machine is required to have its own
- 16 personal identity. That is encoded within the EPROM
- 17 and is required as a prerequisite to play.
- 18 This personal identity is what will allow
- 19 our Central System to control each individual machine
- 20 and make sure that every individual machine is
- 21 properly secure.
- In essence, we'll have 61,000 potential
- 23 individual machines controlled through these
- 24 identifying traits.
- What that brings us down to is, where are

- 1 we today? Well, in researching this, we found there
- 2 is really only three companies that provide these
- 3 services in the United States and, of course, are the
- 4 three states that I mentioned earlier that provide
- 5 their own.
- I suggest that the Board goes to the next
- 7 step and does a complete evaluation of the three
- 8 companies providing these services. They include
- 9 Gaming Labs International, Inc., BMN Test Labs, and
- 10 Nick Farley and Associates.
- 11 At this point without going further into
- 12 their identity, I think that will give you a basic

- 13 update on of where we are in our research and what we
- 14 need to do is this next step.
- 15 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any questions of Lynn?
- 16 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Lynn, do you know
- 17 what the three states that have the state labs, what
- 18 do they do when they have a backlog of work?
- 19 MR. STELLE: Well, actually, they call up
- 20 an independent laboratory for help. I can't tell you
- 21 exactly which state it was. I think it was
- 22 Mississippi. They got themselves in trouble with
- 23 their lab. They went back to one of these
- 24 companies -- I believe it was GLI -- to take over the
- 25 lab because they did have a backlog they couldn't

- 1 clean up.
- 2 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN DECKER: When you say outsourcing,
- 4 how does it work? I guess there's all different
- 5 levels. But when you're establishing your own and
- 6 when you're outsourcing, how does that work?
- 7 MR. STELLE: You'll find what I call the
- 8 newer generation gaming marketplaces or gaming
- 9 jurisdictions, the ones that are specifically similar
- 10 to ours in that they have Central Computer Systems,
- 11 every one of them has sole sourced the decision to

- 12 use an independent lab.
- What happens is they will have their own
- 14 staff working in conjunction with the independent lab
- 15 at performing these tasks.
- 16 It allows you access to all of the
- 17 information traveling throughout the marketplace,
- 18 throughout the United States and the world, and stay
- 19 current on all activities. What they do is they do,
- 20 for lack of a better term, a joint venture with the
- 21 gambling lab, independent gaming lab.
- 22 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: And in that
- 23 case, would the gaming lab more or less act as a
- 24 quality control type of entity?
- MR. STELLE: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER DiGIACOMO COLINS: So then the

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- 2 gaming lab would be more or less just an oversight
- 3 entity with respect to the work that the independent
- 4 --

- 5 MR. STELLE: They're doing oversight of the
- 6 independent lab. They're managing that contract or
- 7 that relationship.
- 8 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Ken?
- 9 COMMISSIONER McCABE: These independent
- 10 labs, who establishes the protocols used to test the
- 11 machines? Is it the lab or is it the state that is

- 12 asking them to do the work?
- 13 MR. STELLE: I think the standards for
- 14 testing certain aspects are an art. It's actually an
- 15 industry standard that is established to evaluate the
- 16 EPROMs.
- 17 What happens is the manufacturer writes
- 18 working papers that says, we're giving you a machine.
- 19 Here is what it is supposed to do. What the gaming
- 20 lab does is instead of believing that that is what
- 21 it's going to do from just reading the software that
- 22 is within this chip, they take the chip and they
- 23 actually drive that chip through the process of
- 24 testing its capabilities or performing to the
- 25 specifications of the working papers.

1 They actually can crunch through a short

- 2 period of time the activity that that chip will
- 3 experience over a long period of time. That's the
- 4 whole extent of the gaming lab, to test that it does
- 5 what it says it's going to do.
- 6 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Aren't we supposed to
- 7 establish the protocols? It has to tie into the
- 8 centralized computer system. It cannot take
- 9 downloadable games.
- 10 MR. STELLE: You're absolutely right.

- 11 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Are we responsible --
- 12 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Could you elaborate on
- 13 that?
- MR. STELLE: Okay. There's two separate
- 15 issues. One is the ability of the game to do what it
- 16 is supposed to do. You'll establish the win/loss
- 17 ratio. You may even establish what games will be in
- 18 play.
- 19 Once you establish that, then someone has
- 20 to make sure that every individual machine without
- 21 fail does exactly what it is supposed to do. That is
- 22 testing the machines themselves.
- On the other side, it's communication
- 24 protocol. Because of the Central System, you'll have
- 25 the ability to be communicating constantly with all

- 1 61,000 potential machines.
- 2 Every machine can have rules to live by.
- 3 There are 5,600 of these that are available. They
- 4 include if the door is open, do you shut the machine
- 5 down? Do you turn on an alarm? Do you send a camera
- 6 over to look at that machine? If a machine jams, how
- 7 do you handle that? Maybe you just call security,
- 8 call a person over to check it.
- 9 It establishes days it's allowed to work.
- 10 You may decide you only want a 20-hour day. You can

- 11 control that by establishing in that protocol the
- 12 hours that that machine is allowed to work.
- 13 You can set locks on it so can't download
- 14 data into that machine, that only it is reading data
- 15 out only.
- So yes, the protocols for communication are
- 17 established with your Central System and through a
- 18 communications protocol. The machine is creating a
- 19 vast amount of data. It's just a matter of you
- 20 determining how you want that data presented back to
- 21 the state. That will have to be presented both
- 22 through -- we'll have to develop that with an outside
- 23 laboratory, how you want to handle each and every one
- 24 of these individual machines.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DIGIACOMO COLINS: And can

- 1 that be developed by best practices analysis, what
- 2 other states with Central Computer Systems has?
- 3 MR. STELLE: I think that is a very good
- 4 place to start. We can certainly look at what the
- 5 newer states, New Mexico, West Virginia, Delaware,
- 6 how they use the protocols.
- 7 I think we'll also find that there's a lot
- 8 of new opportunities as the technology has grown even
- 9 since those states were installed.

- 10 COMMISSIONER COY: Lynn, could you comment
- 11 a little bit on the nuts and bolts of setting up a
- 12 lab in Pennsylvania?
- In other words, if we were to start today,
- 14 if you were to start today, how long do you think it
- 15 would take to really set it up? How many personnel
- 16 are we talking about? What is the size of the
- 17 building and so on, just some things like this?
- 18 MR. STELLE: The ones that we're familiar
- 19 with, I think you can probably guess a facility about
- 20 the size of this room is what you're going to need.
- 21 A lot of the materials that you will need
- 22 you can acquire, especially through a relationship
- 23 with the independent testing lab.
- 24 The real difficulty is acquiring the talent
- 25 and the knowledge to do the job. The manufacturer

- 1 has come on board and they will give you a lot of
- 2 what you need.
- 3 Then what you do, you actually
- 4 independently -- it's like having Pricewaterhouse
- 5 come in and do our audit, you hand them a financial
- 6 statement and then you prove the financial statement
- 7 is true. That is what happens here.
- 8 The equipment we need can easily be
- 9 acquired from the manufacturers, then we will take

- 10 the time to test that equipment to make sure the
- 11 equipment is, in fact, going to do what it is
- 12 supposed to do from a testing standpoint.
- Our biggest challenge is to getting the
- 14 personnel who can actually run that lab. It takes a
- 15 lot of sophistication and experience to do that.
- 16 COMMISSIONER COY: My question, about how
- many people?
- 18 MR. STELLE: You're probably -- again, this
- 19 is just a guess but I'm guessing we're in the
- 20 neighborhood of six to eight people.
- 21 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: If I could just
- 22 follow-up on that one observation I was going to ask
- 23 you about also.
- It struck us when we were in Las Vegas, we
- 25 had the opportunity to go through their lab. What

- 1 struck me, first of all, it wasn't that big. I think
- 2 Nevada has in excess of 200,000 slot machines. The
- 3 lab really wasn't that big, but they had a lot
- 4 crammed in a little space.
- 5 I think they had about eight people, but
- 6 what struck you was the expertise of the people
- 7 involved, particularly the individual that was
- 8 running the lab. It was a highly educated electrical

- 9 engineer. Before he came to Nevada, Ken, I think he
- 10 was involved with counterterrorism. I don't know if
- 11 it was the FBI or what was his last assignment with
- 12 the government. These are very sophisticated
- 13 individuals, pretty highly compensated because
- 14 they're doing very sophisticated work.
- 15 It struck that that's going to be our
- 16 biggest problem is establish the labs and the people
- 17 who run it, particularly when we have all of those
- 18 neighboring states that are either already in
- 19 business or getting into the business. It seems like
- 20 it's a small number of people who do this type of
- 21 work.
- MR. STELLE: I think the statute is very
- 23 keenly aware of that. That's why they allow us to
- 24 partner with an outside organization to help us
- 25 either with a state or an independent lab.

- 1 I think that would be a good move on our
- 2 part to do either of those things. I do think that
- 3 from talking to many other jurisdictions, instead of
- 4 trying to reinvent the wheel and partnering with an
- 5 independent gaming lab would certainly allow us to be
- 6 up and running, to provide both the operators and the
- 7 manufacturers and the general public the confidence
- 8 that the integrity was there from the Central System

- 9 out to the field and through the operating of these
- 10 61,000 potential devices.
- 11 COMMISSIONER COY: You're correct. The
- 12 Statute gave the particular amount of time and extra
- 13 amount of time in order to do just what you're saying
- 14 and that was the intent of the Statute.
- I think the thing that the Board needs to
- 16 continue to be concerned about is the integrity of
- 17 the process and to make sure that whatever we do,
- 18 whether it is outside, inside, a combination of both,
- 19 all of the above, that it assures the folks who are
- 20 participating and the people of Pennsylvania that the
- 21 system has been tested and has integrity with it.
- MR. STELLE: Absolutely.
- 23 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Do you have any other
- 24 questions for Lynn?
- 25 That was a very interesting report. It

- 1 confirms a lot of the information we picked up in
- 2 Nevada as well. Okay. Thank you.
- 3 Okay. Well, I just want to announce we
- 4 have a quorum. Commissioner Marshall has joined us.
- 5 I also want to note that Secretary Wolff has joined
- 6 us as well. Thank you.
- 7 We have one housekeeping item that I would

- 8 like to discuss. I would like to suggest to the
- 9 Board that we pass a motion that formally approves
- 10 and adopts the transcripts or minutes of the meetings
- 11 that we have had previously; specifically, December
- 12 14th and 15th, 2004 meeting, January 25th, 2005
- 13 meeting, the February 8th and March 3rd, 2005
- 14 meetings.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DiGIACOMO COLINS: I move that
- 16 we adopt the minutes of the aforesaid meetings.
- 17 CHAIRMAN DECKER: May I have a second,
- 18 please?
- 19 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Second.
- 20 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any discussion? All in
- 21 favor, please indicate by saying aye.
- 22 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 23 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any nos? Motion passes
- 24 unanimously.
- 25 COMMISSIONER McCABE: And all of those

- 1 transcripts are posted on our --
- 2 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Yes. All of those
- 3 transcripts, I think everyone knows, are on our
- 4 website.
- 5 We will now hear from Commissioner Rivers
- 6 and Mike Walsh, who are spearheading our
- 7 administrative and staffing matters for the Board. I

- 8 asked them to provide us with an update on their
- 9 efforts since our last meeting.
- 10 Commissioner Rivers?
- 11 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Thank you,
- 12 Mr. Chairman.
- 13 Fellow Board Members, let me bring you up
- 14 to date as to where we are and what we've been doing.
- 15 At our last meeting, I gave you specific
- 16 information in terms of the number of the hirees that
- 17 need to be made in the next 45 days.
- I can assure you that we've had a large
- 19 number of applications arrive. We've been doing
- 20 interviewing. I'm going to ask Mike Walsh to talk
- 21 very specifically about our manpower needs and where
- 22 we are.
- 23 I'll also add that the State Police are in
- 24 the process of doing background investigation on
- 25 these individuals, so that's an ongoing process.

- 1 Mike, would you please enlighten us?
- 2 MR. WALSH: I'll do my best. Thank you,
- 3 Commissioner Rivers.
- 4 I would like to provide a brief update to
- 5 the Board in the efforts to create administrative
- 6 framework, which we have been discussing in the

- 7 meetings since December.
- 8 First, I would like to spend a few minutes
- 9 on the proposed staffing structure. That is the
- 10 packet we just handed out and then provide a quick
- 11 update on the process we have put in place to
- 12 identify potential candidates for key positions.
- 13 First, the proposed staffing plan. We have
- 14 included in that packet a draft staffing plan and
- 15 complement structure. This document, as Commissioner
- 16 Rivers said at the last meeting, is a work in
- 17 progress. It is just that. It is a draft.
- 18 It is literally updated each week,
- 19 sometimes many times each week as staff and Board
- 20 members hone in on a specific operational unit of the
- 21 organizational structure, as we learn more by looking
- 22 at other jurisdictions, about the needs of the
- 23 complement structure and about the -- as we just
- 24 discussed with labs, about the critical talent needs
- 25 that we have.

- 1 Recruitment is a key point of that and
- 2 understanding what skill sets are needed for each
- 3 position is a key part of that. Again, this draft is
- 4 updated quite often.
- 5 With that being said, the draft structure's
- 6 most significant purpose is to align the core

- 7 business function of the organization to its
- 8 corresponding complement structure.
- 9 Not only does this help us better
- 10 understand the possible budget implementations but
- 11 also allows us, as an organization, to identify those
- 12 skill sets necessary for each position and go about
- 13 the business of recruiting and attracting the most
- 14 qualified candidates as possible.
- 15 As outlined by Commissioner Rivers at our
- 16 last meeting, Board members and staff have been
- 17 working together to identify the key positions that
- 18 need to be filled in the near term, as well as those
- 19 that we feel should be filled prior to the end of
- 20 this fiscal year, June 30th, 2005.
- 21 From the outset, I will add for the benefit
- 22 of our guests today that 3 of those 18 key positions
- 23 are currently in the recruitment process; executive
- 24 director, the director of Bureau of Investigation
- 25 Enforcement, and the chief counsel position. Those

- 1 interviews have already been in an ongoing process.
- 2 So that leaves 15 more key positions that we need to
- 3 hire in the near term.
- 4 You will see an X that clearly marks those
- 5 18 positions in your packet, as well as proposed

- 6 salary structures.
- 7 As Commissioner Rivers mentioned at the
- 8 last meeting, we have done benchmarking to look at
- 9 other jurisdictions, as well as look internally
- 10 within the Commonwealth at Commonwealth agencies
- 11 under the Governor's jurisdiction and independent
- 12 agencies so that we have an attractive salary
- 13 structure for starting salaries, as well as something
- 14 that reflects the industry standards.
- 15 As you will notice on page 2 and 3 of your
- 16 packet, those 15 positions have been identified for
- 17 priority hiring, and the Bureau of Licensing and the
- 18 Bureau of Administration makes up 10 of those 15
- 19 positions.
- I think this is obvious given the
- 21 discussions that we have had over the past couple of
- 22 months. We are a new agency. We are just getting
- 23 off the ground.
- 24 The positions within the Bureau of
- 25 Administration, HR, and Finance specifically are

- 1 needed really to help us build the organization.
- 2 In licensing, given our discussions on the
- 3 rules and regulations, that expertise is needed, that
- 4 you'll notice that not only are the deputy positions
- 5 identified there but those middle management

- 6 positions are really key.
- 7 So each time we fill a position going
- 8 forward, it sort of creates a building block for us
- 9 as an organization. It will make this process become
- 10 more fluid for all of us.
- In order to fill these priority positions,
- 12 the 15 plus the 3 that we said are currently
- 13 underway, we are in the process of identifying
- 14 potential candidates and scheduling Round 1
- 15 interviews.
- In one case, the director of human
- 17 resources, for example, we are currently in the Round
- 18 1 process. We will begin shortly with the finance
- 19 director position.
- 20 As you know, we've received literally
- 21 hundreds of resumes. It's probably upwards of 700 so
- 22 far. We've been going through those to -- you know,
- 23 the first step is sorting them out and figuring based
- on the person's talents and background and still
- 25 sense that they have identified for us what pile they

- 1 go in, literally what operational unit are we going
- 2 to consider them for.
- 3 There's a whole sort of internal process
- 4 about how we'll acknowledge those resumes, and

- 5 contact the people for interviews, which I would be
- 6 happy to provide you with off line.
- 7 Identifying the positions has been the
- 8 biggest part of that complement structure that we
- 9 have given you.
- I would just add one other thing, the
- 11 position descriptions that are being developed right
- 12 now, we will have drafts for you at the April 12th
- 13 meeting of those 18 key positions. This will get
- 14 easier, obviously, when we have an HR director
- 15 because some classes don't exist in other agencies.
- We're creating entirely new positions given
- 17 that there isn't a similar agency to compare
- 18 ourselves with.
- 19 We're looking at other jurisdictions,
- 20 obviously, in other states; but we're trying to come
- 21 up with an entirely new set of class and pay
- 22 structures that don't exist anywhere currently within
- 23 the Commonwealth.
- 24 For those 18 positions, we're going to have
- 25 position descriptions and we're going to provide them

- 1 for you at the April 12th meeting.
- 2 Between now and then, I also wanted to let
- 3 you know that there would be a schedule of
- 4 interviews, those Round 1 interviews. We'll provide

- 5 you with those via e-mail in the next couple of weeks
- 6 to let you know when each candidate will be
- 7 considered and who is in that first round.
- 8 That is an overview of the 18 -- just one
- 9 other thing beyond the 18 and the 3 that we talked
- 10 about to get us to June 30th, and the same process
- 11 will happen with them but we're focusing on the first
- 12 18.
- 13 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Sandy, anything else?
- 14 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Mr. Chairman -- first
- 15 of all, Mike, thank you very much. You do an
- 16 outstanding job and I appreciate all of the help and
- 17 assistance you have afforded me.
- 18 I would also like to thank my fellow Board
- 19 members for their intelligence in helping with the
- 20 interviewing.
- I can say that the quality of the
- 22 application makes us feel very good about being able
- 23 to hire a greater and professional oriented staff.
- 24 They are individuals that are coming from
- 25 all parts of the Commonwealth from cross gender, I

- 1 mean, any particular subset that you can possibly
- 2 think of, we have quality applications coming from.
- I think what you're going to see is the

- 4 final staff in the building of this process will, in
- 5 fact, represent that diversity, the quality, the
- 6 educational level, the skill set level so that we
- 7 will be able to do the type of job that we have been
- 8 asked to perform.
- 9 I just, again, say thank you to the Board
- 10 members for your continued participation and look
- 11 forward to seeing you at the next set of rounds of
- 12 interviewing. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Do any of the
- 14 Commissioners have any questions of either Sandy or
- 15 Mike?
- Okay. Thank you very much.
- 17 I was remiss before. I didn't notice he
- 18 was here. I received a notification from Treasurer
- 19 Casey that he was unable to attend today in light of
- 20 his other duties; but he was kind enough to send one
- 21 of his chief deputies who has been helping us in a
- 22 number of ways, Terry Kostoff.
- 23 Thank you, Terry. I appreciate you being
- 24 here today. It's very important.
- 25 Are there any other questions from any of

- 1 the Commissioners on what we have covered so far?
- 2 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Mr. Chairman, the one
- 3 thing I would like to add and that is at all of our

- 4 Board meetings, I think you will get an update in
- 5 terms of where we are staff-wise so that you will be
- 6 able to see this is an ongoing process and be able to
- 7 watch us build this thing as we move down the road.
- 8 CHAIRMAN DECKER: I think that's a fair
- 9 comment. What we intend to do at each of these
- 10 meetings is provide a timeline. Commissioner Colins
- 11 did that a bit where we are on the licensing process.
- 12 We'll get a report from PWC on some of the
- 13  $\,$  activities that we have asked them to undertake. We
- 14 have asked them to help us build the foundation.
- 15 Commissioner McCabe will be talking to us a little
- 16 bit on issues about our various activities in the BIE
- 17 area. I'm missing somebody.
- 18 Lynn Stelle and others will be making
- 19 periodic reports to us at these meetings, again, an
- 20 update of where we stand.
- 21 Again, I want to thank everyone for their
- 22 reports. The Board will now break for Executive
- 23 Session for the purpose of discussing personnel
- 24 vacancies and potential candidates.
- The time is approximately 4:00. We will

- 1 reconvene, my guess, which I've been wrong about all
- 2 along, will be within one hour. In fact, I believe

- 3 we're going to make it 45 minutes because we have
- 4 some additional things.
- 5 For those of you in the audience, I want to
- 6 let you know that then we will then report back on
- 7 these issues briefly and then we're going to adjourn
- 8 and go back and have -- go back into Executive
- 9 Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates.
- 10 So I just want to let you know so you can plan the
- 11 rest of your afternoon.
- 12 With that said, we're now adjourned
- 13 temporarily.
- 14 (Executive session.)
- 15 CHAIRMAN DECKER: All right. Thank you.
- 16 Sorry to be late. The Board will now go back into
- 17 regular session. The time for the record is 5:09.
- 18 As noted prior to the break, we went into
- 19 Executive Session to discuss personnel issues,
- 20 including vacancies and potential candidates.
- 21 As I mentioned to you, we have been doing a
- 22 lot of interviewing. We are very pleased at the
- 23 quality of interviews we have been getting through
- 24 the three positions; executive director, head of the
- 25 Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, and chief

- 1 counsel. However, we're not ready to make a decision
- 2 on those because we still have a number of interviews

- 3 to finish.
- 4 But today, we have two individuals that we
- 5 are going to offer employment to. I'm going to turn
- 6 it over to Commissioner Rivers to discuss that.
- 7 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Thank you,
- 8 Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, based on our meeting and
- 9 interviewing process, there are two names I would
- 10 like to bring forward for the opportunity to offer
- 11 them a position within our organization. Sheryl T.
- 12 Possavich, she would be an administrative assistant
- 13 to Commissioner Coy.
- 14 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Can I add something to
- 15 that? Just so everyone is clear, each of the
- 16 Commissioners may or may not, it depends on what
- 17 happens, hire someone; but each one of those
- 18 individuals that will be hired will also be helping
- 19 in another function, perhaps licensing, probably not
- 20 BIE but perhaps BIE -- I would say no to BIE because
- 21 of some other issues -- but in various of our
- 22 administrative functions. They won't just be 100
- 23 percent with the Commissioner. I wanted to make that
- 24 clear. Sorry.
- 25 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Not a problem. Let

- 2 talk very specifically about expanding job
- 3 responsibilities.
- 4 So as we are in the process of hiring
- 5 individuals, no one can say that their job
- 6 description is so finely defined that their areas do
- 7 not go outside their particular area. So I would
- 8 just like to make that a point.
- 9 There again, Sheryl Possavich as the
- 10 administrative assistant to Jeffrey Coy at a salary
- of \$43,000, and Lamont J. Williams as deputy chief
- 12 counsel for administration at a salary of \$90,000.
- 13 Those are the only two recommendations I have at this
- 14 point. I ask for a motion.
- 15 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: I make a motion that
- 16 we proceed with those two hirings.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MARSHALL: Can I just ask a
- 18 question? Could you clarify Mr. Williams? What is
- 19 his position?
- 20 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: It's going to be
- 21 deputy chief counsel for administration.
- 22 CHAIRMAN DECKER: And included in that will
- 23 be the --
- 24 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: He will also be our
- 25 EEO officer. In light of the fact we don't have an

- 2 also.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MARSHALL: Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN DECKER: In fact, like everyone
- 5 else, he will be helping to do drafts and regulations
- 6 as well.
- 7 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: Are there any other
- 8 questions from the Board members?
- 9 COMMISSIONER MARSHALL: I second.
- 10 COMMISSIONER McCABE: I would just like to
- 11 add to the motion, pending a successful background
- 12 check.
- 13 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Yes, that will go with
- 14 everyone. Thanks for reminding us. We're still not
- 15 sure about Mike Walsh.
- 16 COMMISSIONER RIVERS: We have a motion.
- 17 And do we have a second?
- 18 COMMISSIONER McCABE: Second.
- 19 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any discussion?
- 20 All in favor?
- 21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 22 CHAIRMAN DECKER: Any against? Motion
- 23 carries unanimously.
- Is there any other new business to come
- 25 before the Board?

- 1 All right. I have one more announcement
- 2 then before we adjourn. The Board will hold an
- 3 Executive Session for the purpose of discussing
- 4 personnel matters, but it's really for
- 5 interviewing -- I want to be direct about that -- 15
- 6 minutes ago here at the Marriott. No business will
- 7 be conducted at the Executive Session, which will be
- 8 closed to the media and the public.
- 9 The Board's next meeting is scheduled on
- 10 April 12th at 1:00 in Harrisburg. Beginning in May,
- 11 the Board will adopt a regular meeting schedule.
- 12 We're going to try to have regular meetings to be
- 13 held on the first and third Thursday of every month.
- Okay. Do I have a motion to adjourn the
- 15 meeting?
- 16 COMMISSIONER MARSHALL: So moved.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CONABOY: Second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN DECKER: All in favor?
- 19 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN DECKER: The meeting is adjourned.
- 21 Thank you.
- 22 (The meeting concluded at 5:07 p.m.)

24

1	I hereby certify that the proceedings and
2	evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
3	notes taken by me on the within proceedings and that
4	this is a correct transcript of the same.
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6	
7	Hillany M. Haglatt Danartan
8	Hillary M. Hazlett, Reporter Notary Public
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