**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2014**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**
ALVIN TOPHAM (A.T.)
BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)
PATRICK MCGINITY (P.M.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)
HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.)
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

 ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) ACCT

1. **MINUTES:**

B. E. moves to accept August minutes as written; H.W. seconds; passed, all ayes; B.E. moves to pay September bills and payroll; H.W. seconds; passed, all ayes.

1. **LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Glenn Mattina applying for MMA promoter's license; well acquainted w/Mr. Mattina; promoter in MS; over 30 fights; has contacts with casinos; wants a fight in BR next month; A.T. has all paperwork & bond is all in order. A.T. recommends we issue his license; 1st fight @ River Center then Golden Nugget next year in Lake Charles; B.E. moves to accept his license application; P.M. seconds; A.T. reviews LA rules, especially w/casinos, with him about getting dates, etc. Golden Nugget wants him to do a show in Lake Charles in November 2015 so they dictate the dates to him; A.T. says get the documents to us and he will get special consideration since it's a casino show. OPEN DISCUSSION ON BIG SHOWS/MR. MATTINA'S BACKGROUND. P.M. reviews Mr. Mattina's past history in reference to 12 yr old incarceration. Completed all probationary & diversion programs successfully.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**:
2. **OLD BUSINESS**:

On rule deletions: B.E. moves that we accept deletions/red lines as outlined by J.G. in last meeting; T.F. seconds; passed all ayes; A.T. went over MMA amateur rules and suggests that whole section be deleted. There are not amateur associations in LA; B.E. wants to know if we can treat amateur MMA events like we treat amateur boxing? Yes, as long as the amateur association has been approved by this commission we have assumed the authority to sanction.

There are 3 kinds of events: amateur, professional and exhibitions. Should we leave in MTE exhibition? B.E. wonders if there is no Pro fight at an amateur show, can you tax amateur shows? Needs review...B.E. reads statute covering amateur show/taxes; J.G. also reviews statute; not very clear; should we try and change the language? OPEN DISCUSSION ON AMATEUR VS. PROFESSIONAL SANCTIONING/TAXATION, ETC. Should we re-define "amateur?" Tabled until next meeting. J.G. will reconcile the rules with the statute and work with P.M. to finalize.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**:

J.G. has had requests from fighters who want to fight; is it ethical for me to recommend a promoter? Yes, but should ask his trainer if he's at a gym....his trainer knows his skills best, etc.

J.G. also received a bond from Impact Boxing LLC in the amount of $25Million grand total.

1. **PAST SHOWS:**

Boxing: no report; show at the Belle in B.R. on the 16th was cancelled.

MMA: Lake Charles MMA, good event; no injuries by Kyle Miers; show on 22nd in NO by Impastato was good, typical show at Harrah's...Rich Clementi's farewell show went well; he's leaving the MMA arena and going into medical professional.. He may referee, etc., for us in the future.

At the Belle last weekend; o.k. Wolfe show in DeRidder was a disaster; bad crowd, unorganized; truly unprofessional; B.E. says her boxing show was just as bad. Doubt the commission would renew her promoter's license at this point. J.G: should we pull her license or just not authorize any more shows for her? A.T. will speak to her.

WWE show in Monroe went well last weekend. Show in Lafayette (Raw) was great.

1. **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

Saturday, Oct. 4, MMA - Shannon Folse in Patterson, LA

Oct 11- Addison in Shreveport

Oct 17 in BR -Matt McGovern, Boxing

Oct 9 at Evangeline Downs - Bad Chad also boxing

Sept 19 - MMA in Shreveport by Alan Gray

November 15th, Boxing in Houma

November 24th - Glenn Mattina in BR - MMA

November 14th - MMA Impastato @ Harrah's

Justin Verdin November 15th, Houma

Matt McGovern - 11/22 @ Belle

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

P.M. moves to Executive Session per LRS 42.6.1A(2) to discuss pending litigation; B.E. seconds; passed, all ayes. Adjourn to Executive Session.

1. **NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

Next meeting will be October 17th at the Belle in Baton Rouge since convenient for commissioners who will be overseeing boxing match.

P.M. moves to adjourn; B.E. seconds; passed, all ayes; meeting adjourned.