**LOUISIANA STA.T.E**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**JANUARY 14, 2015**

**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.) – ABSENT - MEDICAL
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

 ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) ACCT

1. **MINUTES:**

B.E. moves to accept minutes; T.F seconds; no expenses and bills except new iPad for R.N. & regular payroll/taxes/mileage...iPad for R.N. was approved at last meeting.

Computers have been ordered by JG & coordinated with Mr. Avara & Addie. Should be delivered in a week or two; BE says website will be updated to reflect boxing emails for each commissioner to streamline process and no commission emails will be in personal emails.

1. **LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Teddy Nall: reapplying for wrestling license...will relay bond to J.G.; very familiar to commission and knows the process; J.G. moves to grant license pending receipt of bond; B.E. seconds; application approved, all ayes.

Kim Addison: also well known to the commission; very successful; also familiar with the processes. Would like to move into kickboxing events....A.T. reviews problems associated with those types of shows...#1, need to find a sanctioning body. Open discussion on involvement of youngsters (again, amateur vs. pro shows). J.G. moves to grant MTE Promoter license; T.F. seconds; passed, all ayes. She has all documents, with bond required & gives to J.G. A.T. congratulates the Addisons on their success and professionalism. We wish all promoters were as well organized and could run such great shows. She requests 1/31/2015. J.G. moves to approve that date; B.E. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Kyle Miers: Vengeance Fighting Alliance renewal; has request to do a show during Contraband Days who want them to start a show at 4 p.m. so the show would be over by fireworks at 9; also would like to do a show for fallen/disabled policeman...Stuart Moss and Kevin Guidry want to perform in an exhibition. B.E. has no problem as long as they follow the rules as written; J.G. agrees. Mr. Miers wants to make sure there are no other special rules he needs to go by. B.E. is concerned they'd be able to go a whole 3 rounds; they’re hoping to donate quite a bit to the fund. A.T. asks how the financing is set up with the Contraband people. Has a question about a fighter (Josh Quayhagen, sic) who got knocked out a while back. A.T. said he got a 60 day medical suspension and the doctor approved him to fight. Got choked out, not knocked out. Good athlete; A.T. has no problem with him fighting if docs o.k. him to fight. Show isn't until May but he's fighting sometime during Feb. J.G. says bond is in order; B.E. moves to renew his license and when show time comes, we'll revisit whether or not Josh can fight; J.G. seconds; passed, all ayes. Date request for 5/9/2015. Date looks good; B.E. moves to accept date; B.D. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Troy Carruth: Bond is good till April; license is in his name; is a co-defendant in the lawsuit by Tobey Wiley...J.G. moves to grant MTE license renewal pending receipt of new bond; B.D. seconds; requests a date of Jan. 24, 2015 at this club RAXX. B.E. moves to accept date; T.F. seconds; passed, all ayes. A.T. reminds him to be as specific as he possibly can when entering fighters and their ID numbers on the MTE website. Makes searching for suspensions much faster & easier; do it early in order to work to get a suspension removed.

A.T. submits Mark Vaughn's application; he couldn't appear in person, but A.T. has his paperwork for renewal. Bond in order, goes into affect 2/13/2015 renewal date. J.G. moves approval pending receipt of good bond; T.F. seconds; passed, all.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**:

A.T.: In reference to upcoming year, he thinks we'll get the same activities from WWE, etc. looks good so those sources of revenue look good. On MMA, thinks we'll continue to see a drop off similar to last year; promoters that were renewing today are probably the only ones making any money unless you're a casino. It’s a lot of work for a few thousand per show. Bellatore is under new management; has a series on Spike TV on Fridays, new season. We don't know how much they'll be in LA this year. We think they're planning a show in N.O. this summer. Not sure where yet. B.D. asks about Gill Guillory and how are his shows going? Very well, has a good deal where he holds his fights.

Hope to get a UFC show this summer; that's a great revenue source for us. P.M. references a blurb he read about a large promoter that skipped out on some vendors in N.O. We haven't heard any complaints from anyone.

Regular problems with the independent wrestling shows; same old same old.

R.N. says he's been having female wrestlers take a pregnancy test before fighting after witnessing a throw-down by a female wrestler's male partner. Very jarring and concerning.

Open discussion on drug testing of fighters before or after a show. J.G. would like commissioners to think of what drugs to test for in their opinions.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**:

On Oren Hawxhurst: the birthday party issue: spoke to a commissioner from Maryland about the same issue; A.T. talked to Oren and what was reported originally was not the case. He has a wrestling school where the fighters train daily where the public is allowed to watch fighters train and spar. There were some birthday parties around the training area (??). J.G. asks if we still want him to appear before the commission to discuss? All agree to have him to the next meeting. J.G. will contact him for appearance. B.D. moves for J.G. to summon Oren to next meeting; B.E. seconds; passed, all ayes.

New computers have been ordered by J.G. & coordinated with Mr. Avara & Addie; should be delivered in a week or two. B.E. says website will be updated to reflect boxing emails for each commissioner to streamline process and no commission emails will be in personal emails.

1. **PAST SHOWS:**

December show by Kim Addison was good...last two nights of WWE in N.O., last night in B.R, last Sunday in Shreveport...total revenue $28k.

1. **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

Mid-South Wrestling requests a charity show permit on 3/22/2015; has submitted expenses and other required docs. Has done many of the Relays for Life shows. All in order; B.E. moves to approve the charity show; J.G. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Show date approval 3/3 for Matt McGovern Belle of BR; another in Cut Off by Brian Cullotta;

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

On rules meeting: A.T. may be able to get us some rooms at L'Auberge in Lake Charles for March 9 or 10th.

Next meeting on February 12th. B.E. moves to accept date & adjourn meeting; B.D. seconds, passed; meeting adjourned.