**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2018**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**
BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)

JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.) – ABSENT - MEDICAL

HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.) – ABSENT - MEDICAL
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

JAMES BRENNAN (J.B.) – ABSENT – MEDICAL

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

RICKY NORRIS – DEP. COMMISSIONER

ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) - ACCTG

**2) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to LRS 42:16 and 42:17, J. G. moves to Executive Session in order to review Joe Ancona hearing and investigation. J.S. seconds; passed all ayes; adjourned to Executive Session.

1. **MINUTES:**

J.S. moves to accept minutes as written. J.G. seconds, passed, all ayes. J. G. moves to approve financial report and to pay February bills and payroll; B.D. seconds, passed, all ayes.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Joe Ancona and his attorney Brigid Collins to receive determination of the commission regarding the hearing held in January. Ms. Collins submits to commission a letter of reference from fighter M. McDonald for Mr. Ancona.

**5) LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Donald Osborne sent in a manager’s license app; gave to J.S.

**6) OLD BUSINESS**:

J.G. gives finding on Joe Ancona Hearing: He was not here for hearing, but has read the transcript. We will issue a formal decision and you can appeal the decision through the administrative system. Due to past felonies, and fact that other boards and commissions do not license felonies (such as racing and gambling commissions), this commission will not grant a license to promote events for the State of Louisiana. He can form a corporation as long as he has a partner with clean record and he can promote through that partnerships name. He can apply for a license to be a matchmaker, etc. Mr. Ancona says he will apply for that today.

J.G. thanks his counsel and Joe for his honesty; Mr. Ancona will endeavor to heed the commission’s advice and find a partner, etc. J.G. will get a formal order to Ms. Collins ASAP.

J.G. moves to deny Joe Ancona a promoter’s license and requests commission to send out factual findings within 72 hrs. J.S. seconds, passed, all ayes.

On David Pitre: He’s had many problems with his shows. He’s a wrestling promoter. We will grant him a probationary license with the following provisions: J.G. moves to grant his license for this calendar year but he will be subject to have his license pulled if he interferes *in any way* with decisions made by event coordinators, referees or judges or otherwise does not follow the rules. J.S. seconds; passed all ayes. His bond is in order. J.G. will email him the decision of the commission and advise him of his probationary status.

On Bad Chad: J.G. was supposed to send a letter to Bad Chad about remaining past due fees; he will send it soon.

Mr. Stevenson asks did we receive anything from the Gretna lady that cancelled the show. He’s been told she relocated to New Orleans.

On proposed Notice of Intent: reviewed proposed rules questions from Fiscal Officer.

**7) NEW BUSINESS**:

On promoters not being matchmakers etc., cannot be a ref, etc. We should carve out an exception from wrestling. A wrestling promoter should be able to referee his own shows. J.G. will review the statute on that and see if it needs clarification.

**8) PAST SHOWS**

J.G. says show in Lake Charles was really, really good; whoever was the matchmaker did a great job; quality show.

**9) UPCOMING SHOWS:**

MMA - 2/23 Metairie, LA Allan gray; 3/3 Houma, Justin Verdin. 3/10 Troy Carruth at Raxx; 3/10 Shreveport by Amber Bishop. Two shows on 3/16: one in St. Gabriel & one in Luling; 2/17 in Morgan City and 2/18 in Houma. New Iberia on 2/24.

Nicole Cunningham wants a show in St. Bernard on 4/7. She would need to renew her license but haven’t received anything from her so that’s a little in limbo.

J.G. moves to accept show dates; J.S. seconds; passed, all ayes.

J.S. asks how was Cypress Bayou fight by Matt McGovern. All good except Matt & friends weren’t prepared and complained about fees to be paid. He has to pay the casinos fees but that’s nothing to do with us. Wants another show but Ricky is going to talk to him first about his fee complaints.

**10) NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

Might have a problem for room at Capital due to special session. If so, B.E. will find us a hotel room & advise of place. 3/7 is good for all and B.E. will confirm other particulars.

J.S. moves to adjourn; J.G. seconds; passed, all ayes; meeting adjourned.