**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**JUNE 14, 2016**

**BATON ROUGE, LA.**

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

JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)
HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.)
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

JAMES BRENNAN (J.B.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

RICKY NORRIS – DEP. COMMISSIONER

ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) ACCTG

1. **MINUTES:**

H. W. moves to accept May 2016 minutes as written, with edits, B.D. seconds, passed, all ayes. T.F. moves to pay bills, payroll per financial memo; B.D. seconds, passed all ayes. Russell cites a little over $30k in taxes for the month covering May/June. Many good shows in Lake Charles and other areas.

May 16 minutes, page #1, #6 on approved/unapproved drug lists. T.F. recommends adding the entire drug list emailed to commission as an appendix to the title.

Addie salary memo deferred to July meeting.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

None.

1. **LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Timothy Woods from Vicksburg, MS. Has applied for promoter MMA; $250 fee paid; approved pending bond; Ricky checked him out and has good rep. B.D. moves to accept application & grant license pending receipt of bond; H.W. seconds, approved, all ayes. In addition, Alan Gray has sent in bond to J.G. and he has received all cks. This application was approved last month pending bond. When Alan Gray applied for his license and was told about the $250, plus bond and new app, said he gave $5k ck last year in lieu of bond and ck was never cashed and he never got a bond. He is all straight now.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**:

Licensing amateur corner people: We need to license everyone working a show for the commission. Our biggest problem are the “no shows”. We must be able to suspend & penalize no shows; do not necessarily have to charge fees but if we can suspend them & keep them from working, maybe it will cut down on the no shows. H.W. agrees with that...Ricky says let us wait until we get different colored licenses for amateurs. B.E. agrees; B.D. believes that is the right track. Ricky: Bossier had six fights and after medicals were done, one amateur fighter dropped out at the last minute. B.E. says he notates that in MMA.com, and if we start licensing amateurs, we can do the same with them and stop the amateur dropouts. T.F. says there should be an exception for medical reasons, e.g., could not pass physical pre-fight; we should not have to have different licenses for corner men.

All corner inspectors, including MMA, have to police how many people are in the corner at events; only two corner men should be allowed per corner. Corner men should be licensed, that will help keep down the amount of people in the corners.

B.E. submits bond cancellation for TNA Entertainment & an old fight file from Russell on 11/19/2015.

B.E. asks J.G. about amateur MMA agreement to fight; no money changes hands, but they get a free license. That way we can suspend if they are no shows and can be posted on MMA.com that they are no shows. Should weight be in the agreement and language that excepts medical physical by ring doctor? Commission cannot help promoters with no shows if there is no contract (for pros) or agreements (for amateurs)...J.G. would like amateur trainers to sign off on agreement to certify amateur is trained and fit to fight. John will draw something up in the vein of an amateur agreement with aforementioned exceptions. B.E. & J.G. discuss current contracts on #2368 white license (voided), #5429 green license (voided).

J.G. is concerned that highly profitable promoters will have all amateur shows and do not even pay these amateur fighters mileage. Should we charge promoters a fighter fee for each amateur fighter they include on a card?

We received an email from Seth Landry on his correspondence to former chairman A.T. (12/6/2015) a long time ago...seems at some point that A.T. decided there was no need to have a commissioner or deputy present at weigh-ins. Mr. Landry complained about this to A.T. in 2015. This confirms what we’ve found out from several sources that A.T. was letting fighters, for certain shows, for certain promoters, think that they weren’t required to have official weigh-ins.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**:

J.G. reminds all commissioners that he needs list of unsold license numbers from everyone. J.G. directs Addie to follow up on license #’s from everyone one (Jimbo, B.E., Ricky & Russell) both green and white licenses.

Clarified trip charge for traveling officials: 30 miles to 100 miles = $25; over 140 miles = $50, over 240 is $75, over 340 = $100...this will be the formula for trip charge.

ACSC training convention is from July 8th through 12th at the Hilton Riverside in New Orleans.

B.E. would like next meeting to be Wednesday 7/13/16 while all are still in N.O. for training convention. 10 a.m. is good for all.

On Rule Promulgation: Russell & John & Ricky will work on MTE edits. John & Russell on wrestling rules.

J.G. moves to pay first $20k Risk Mgt bill for 2014; T.F. seconds. Passed, all ayes...J.G. will print the check and mail. He will also inquire about 2017 billing.

1. **PAST SHOWS:**

Wrestling shows, no problems, collected $30k a little over; no boxing shows; Ricky had 1 MTE event (47 people).

1. **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

Golden Nugget Lake Charles 7/22/2016

Monroe 6/25 boxing

Boxing 6/25 at Belle of BR

Seven wrestling shows between now 7/10/16. Need to approve WWE show 8/6 at Morial Convention center.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

J.G. moves to Executive Session per LRS 42.6.1A(2) to discuss pending litigation and internal personnel matters; B.D. seconds; passed, all ayes. Adjourn to Executive Session.

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

Meeting will in N.O. on July 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hilton Riverside. J.G. moves to adjourn; B.S. seconds, meeting adjourned.