**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2017**

**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:**

J.G. moves to accept minutes as written; J.S. seconds; passed, all ayes. J.G. moves to accept financial report and to pay bills and payroll; T.F. seconds, passed, all ayes.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Donald Hernitzy,

Joe Ancona, Promoter applicant

**4) LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Donald Hernitzy – applying for a wrestling promoter license and to book a show. R.Naquin says he was licensed in 2011. J.G. reviews the status of his out of state license and if he was ever suspended. No felony arrests or convictions. License will be under his name; no corp. Shows will be about 500-800 attendees; 4 -6 matches. Will be a bought show for a Harley Davidson event. Waiting for bond. R.Naquin: had no problems in previous license. This event will be in Slidell at the Harley Davidson facility. How to collect the taxes? Wants 11/11 and 11/12 show dates; There will be no admission fees. Flat tax? J.G. says 5% of his fee. T.F: what are your expenses? About $8k. $2k profit. J.G. explains bond process; J.G. moves to grant license pending receipt of bond and 5% tax. T.F. seconds; passed, all ayes.

B.E. reviews show date reservation fee, etc., and commission will charge one show fee for 2-day event; he only has one contract for the weekend event. He will submit copy of contract over to whoever oversees the show; J.G. so motions; T.F. seconds; passed, all ayes. He told R. Naquin he will try to find a doctor and will let him know if he needs help with that.

Joe Ancona: applying for MTE promoter license; J.G. reviews his history with LA; worked as an official also; never suspended; one felony conviction & probation ended 2014; pled in 2011 to 2nd degree battery; unlawful entry at first; pled down to battery; J.G. reviews circumstances of his conviction. B.E. says we have never granted license to an ex-convict. Matchmakers, etc., yes. Mr. Ancona says he has calmed down a lot and learned his lesson; he is 59 now. T.F. moves to postpone this decision. It is always a worry when a fighter uses his skills against the public in general and it would be more than troubling for a promoter who loses his cool to oversee other volatile persons. J.G. explains hearing process if he does not like outcome of commission decision. We do not want to wait too long as he wants a show in November. Why put it off? TF: this sets a precedent by the commission. We must be careful. T.F. withdraws his motion to delay. B.D: has he helped put on shows? Can you find someone to promote the show and you work as a matchmaker? Yes, he has been doing that.

J.S. moves to grant Mr. Ancona a license; B.D. seconds; J.G. & J.B. vote nay; T.F. & H.W. abstain; B.E. casts tiebreaker and votes nay. License denied. Let’s grant him a hearing for October and let him bring evidence of good moral character, etc. Addie will secure a court reporter for hearing.

**5) OLD BUSINESS**:

 No discussion.

**6) NEW BUSINESS**:

R. Naquin needs hotel reservations approved for Wrestlemania 2018; rate is for April 4, 5, 6, and 7th at Hampton Inn for $1,000.00. $660 for other rooms; $1,770 for all workers. T.F. moves to approve hotel rooms; HW seconds. R. Naquin will submit invoices to Addie for pre-payment.

**7) PAST SHOWS:**

 R.Naquin: in Dulac; MC show had no issues and got all the money.

**8) UPCOMING SHOWS:**

 Boxing on 9/22 in Gretna at Goodfellas, 2 guys.

 Dumas 10/7; 3 wrestling in Plaquemine, Houma and Lake Charles

 Boxing to approve undercard promotion 10/26: a black tie event at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport.

 T.F. moves to accept these shows: J.S. seconds, shows approved.

R. Norris has 9/22 MTE in Bossier City; Wrestling show on 10/21 Justin Verdin in Houma; T.F. moves to accept show dates; H.W. seconds; passed, show dates accepted.

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

10/18 good for next meeting at 1:00 P.M. in Room 2. B.D. moves to adjourn. J.S. seconds; meeting adjourned.