MINUTES OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

July 24, 2024

PLACE:

Regulatory Board Room - 101 East Capitol, Suite 119, Little Rock,

AR 72201

MEMBERS PRESENT:

ALEX BLASS, CHAIRMAN; JAMIE ANDERSON; SUSAN PEACOCK;

HANNAH RAY; STEVEN SMITH

MEMBERS ABSENT:

On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024, the ABC Board did convene at Little Rock for its regular monthly meeting. Chairman Blass and all Board members attended in person.

The meeting started at 9:15 a.m., with Chairman Blass calling the meeting to order.

Chairman Blass introduced the Director's Decisions, Violation Resume, Warning Letters, and requests for extensions of Inactive Status Letters, and the Board members confirmed they reviewed each item. Board member Jamie Anderson asked about the violation fine offered to Shooter's Sports Bar & Grill, Permit 03693-01, where ABC Director Christy Bjornson responded. Board member Steven Smith made a motion to approve, Board member Susan Peacock seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was a PowerPoint presented by ABC Director Bjornson before the Board, detailing administrative updates by the ABC Division.

ABC Director Bjornson and ABC staff attorney Drew Dorsey Cousins notified the Board of rule changes and additions for ABC, where they both detailed each of the following rules and answered questions about them from the Board members:

- The proposed amendment makes changes to the prohibition of sale of controlled beverages by vending machines. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 705 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment allows liquor stores to sell clothing products that contain advertising material. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 684 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly
- The proposed amendment allows microbrewery-restaurants to make ready-todrink products. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 169 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment allows microbrewery-restaurant private clubs to sell spirituous beverages. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 334 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment allows private clubs in wet areas to sell food to go or delivery. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 540 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment allows microbreweries to self-distribute by obtaining a microbrewery-restaurant wholesale license. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 207 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly
- The proposed amendment allows state parks to issue permits to sell alcohol. This
  proposed Amendment is in response to Act 655 of the 2023 Regular Session of
  the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment allows bars to expand outdoor operations without getting prior approval. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 882 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- The proposed amendment clarifies private club advertising to allowing for viewing of consumption of alcohol. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 801 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.

- 10. The proposed amendment permits for certain distillers, manufacturers, or small farm wineries in dry areas to exclusively sell to wholesalers. This proposed Amendment is in response to Act 747 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- 11. The proposed amendment changes the time in which deliveries by wholesalers may begin. This proposed Amendment is being made at the discretion of the Director.

ABC Director Bjornson then introduced potential updated logo options for ABC to the Board and asked for feedback. The Board members provided feedback, and ABC Director Bjornson notified them that changes will be made, and a new logo would likely be selected before the next Board meeting.

Next, ABC Director Bjornson and the Board members discussed setting the date for upcoming ABC Board Meeting. The following dates were chosen:

- August 21, 2024
- September 18, 2024

Following this ABC Director Bjornson asked the Board if they would like to further discuss the violation fine offered to Shooter's Sports Bar & Grill, Permit 03693-01, where they agreed to move forward with the offered fine without making changes.

The Board members and ABC Director Bjornson then agreed that the next ABC Board meeting would be held in the Regulatory Board Room located at 101 East Capitol, Suite 119, Little Rock, AR 72201, should additional spacing for large crowds not be necessary.

Lastly, the Board members also offered their appreciation for the consistent and thorough work ABC Director Bjornson puts into the Board meeting presentations.

The meeting was then adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Alex Blass, Chairman

Christy Bjornson, Director