



Members of the Commission

John Frierson, Chair  
John Carvelli, Vice-Chair  
Christopher Giza, MD  
VanBuren Lemons, MD  
Mary Lehman  
Martha Shen-Urquidez

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**Agenda items may be taken out of order the  
agenda except public comment.  
Action may be taken on any item listed on**  
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**CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

December 3, 2014

10:00 a.m. - conclusion of business

LOCATION:

Department of Consumer Affairs  
2005 Evergreen Street, Hearing Room  
Sacramento, CA 95815

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION:

Park Hyatt Hotel  
Avenida Alvear 1661  
Buenos Aires, Argentina C1014AAD

**Commissioners Present**

Chair John Frierson  
Vice-Chair John Carvelli  
Commissioner Christopher Giza, MD  
Commissioner Van Buren Lemons, MD  
Commissioner Mary Lehman  
Commissioner Martha Shen-Urquidez

**Staff Present**

Andy Foster, Executive Officer  
Sophia Cornejo, Assistant Executive Officer  
Spencer Walker, Senior Staff Counsel, DCA

**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call the meeting to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 2 – Chairman’s Opening Remarks**

The Chair did not have any statements.

**Agenda Item 3 – Approval of May 16, 2014 Commission Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Lehman requested minor revisions regarding Agenda Item 4 - Budget Update to spell out Commissioner Shen-Urquidez, which had been abbreviated.

*Commissioner Lehman motioned to approve the minutes as revised; Chair Frierson seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 by roll call.*

**Agenda Item 4 – Executive Officer's Report**

**a. Budget Update**

Executive Officer (EO) Andy Foster presented his budget report, stating that the winter months are tough for the Commission in terms of revenue. He explained that he anticipates December revenue to be around 40K.

Commissioner Carvelli stated that the fund is at a 6.4 month reserve and congratulated the EO for this. He further stated that this was a goal given to the Commission by the Director of DCA and the Commission was successful in reaching this goal.

The EO stated that UFC will be having a major event in February 28, 2015, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The EO is confident that despite the declines in the winter, March 2015 and April 2015 will bring in enough revenue to help the deficits we may run in the winter months.

The EO stated that we have exceeded our drug testing allowance for this year, however, we have made adjustments in other areas to make up for this. The EO pointed out that the Commission will regulate less events for this year mainly because the Commission has more televised events scheduled this year, as well as the delegation of amateur kickboxing to IKF.

Chair Frierson stated that he would like to hear the announcers at events state that the proceeding is a California fight. The EO stated that he has now made this a policy for all Lead Inspectors to ensure.

The EO stated that the Commission has exceeded the Attorney General line item due to pending litigation.

**b. Report of Pending Regulations**

The EO briefly explained this agenda item and asked the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO), Sophia Cornejo, to speak on each specific pending regulation. The AEO outlined the current status of each pending regulation and explained that there will be some follow up with the Department on the status of the regulation packages that are at agency for approval.

**Agenda Item 5 – Presentation by Mr. Cyril Shaw with Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.**

Mr. Cyril Shaw of Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. presented to the Commission a summary and publication on the services provided by Raymond James Financial Services.

**Agenda Item 6 – Presentation by Ms. Beth Harrington of Benefit Resources, LLC.**

Ms. Beth Harrington of Benefit Resources presented to the Commissioners a summary of the services provided by Benefit Resources. Commissioner Lehman requested Ms. Harrington to provide more information with regard to projections at future meetings.

**Agenda Item 7 – Report regarding weight cutting from Association of Ringside Physicians' Conference and possible revision of weigh-in regulations and update of CSAC License Applications**

The EO presented this agenda item and recommended that the Commission include an attachment to the Athlete licensing application an information flyer explaining the dangers in

weight-cutting. The EO explained that once the flier is created and approved by legal, the Commission can vote on approving the attachment.

The EO explained that he proposed the NCAA caliper test to be used on athletes to determine body fat percentage and establish a healthy weight.

Commissioner Lemons stated that this is a good first step but far from ideal because it still allows people to use dehydration to lose weight rather than fat weight. He also stated that this test can easily be manipulated. He further explained the reasons why and the ways that athletes are capable of cheating this test. He concluded that he does not see this as an ideal resolution.

The EO stated that he has experienced some industry push-back on this proposal. He explained that there needs to be a change and it can be California leading the change. He anticipates that once we provide this information, and industry is made fully aware of the dangers, support will come; at that point the Commission will approach the stakeholders for support on the proposal, which will help in the last step of proposing changes in the regulations.

It is the EO's fear that there will be dire consequences if the Commission allows current practices to continue. He further stated that the Commission needs to be committed to this change because it will be a long process with little support from industry. Commissioner Lemons stated again that this proposal is an excellent first step.

Chair Frierson asked if most of the ringside physicians at the conference agreed with this proposal. Commissioner Lemons stated that there was universal agreement as well as collective concern. Chair Frierson inquired about how the EO plans to approach the industry regarding this proposal. The EO stated that a majority of promoters want healthy fighters. He further stated that he can point out to them that serious revenue has been lost due to unhealthy weight cutting. However, the safety of the athletes is still the Commission's number one concern.

Commissioner Giza commended the EO for making this effort and acknowledged that this is a great first step in the right direction.

The EO suggested that at the next commission meeting he can present a one page document which will be included with the athlete license application.

The AEO further explained that as long as this attachment to the license application is strictly informational and we are not enforcing anything, then regulations are not necessary. Once we make a change to weigh-in procedures and enforcement, regulations will be required.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Certification of Ringside Physicians**

The EO presented the list of current Ringside Physicians and requested that the Commissioners certify the list of Ringside Physicians.

*Vice-chair Carvelli motioned to certify the list and Commission Lemons seconded the motion.*

*Commissioner Giza asked the EO to explain what the qualifications are to be a Ringside Physician. The EO read the regulation that outlines the qualifications for approved Ringside Physicians.*

*The motion passed 6-0 with a roll call vote.*

**Agenda Item 9 – Awards of Recognition for 2014**

Chair Frierson tabled this item to the next Commission Meeting.

**Agenda Item 10 – Review and approval of modifications to the Neurological Assessment proposed regulation language.**

The AEO presented this agenda item and explained that a vote will not be required at this time because there will be additional changes made to the language which will include what was intended by section 18711 of the Business and Professions Code, specifically, the medical examinations that are required by licensees and the timeframes in which they are required. The modified language will be presented to the Commission at a special meeting sometime in January 2015 or at the next regular scheduled Commission Meeting in February.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**OPEN SESSION**

Next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT