



**California State Athletic Commission**  
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Members of the Commission

John Frierson, Chair  
John Carvelli, Vice-Chair  
Christopher Giza, MD  
Van Buren 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**

March 17, 2014

10:00 a.m. to Close of Business

LOCATION:

California Department of Transportation District 7  
100 South Main Street, Room-01.040 A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Commissioners Present**

John Frierson, Chair  
John Carvelli, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Christopher Giza  
Commissioner Van Buren Lemons  
Commissioner Mary Lehman

**Commissioners Absent**

Commissioner Martha Shen-Urquidez

**Staff Present**

Andy Foster, Executive Officer  
Spencer Walker, Senior Staff Counsel, DCA

**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**

Chairman Frierson did not have any opening remarks.

**Agenda Item 3 – Approval of February 10, 2014 Commission Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Lehman referenced slight changes in Agenda Item 10 for Commissioner Lemons' review and suggested the minutes be revised to reflect that the TUE policy will not be granted retroactively. Commissioner Carvelli motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Lehman seconded the motion – passing 4-0 (Frierson, Lemons, Carvelli, Lehman)

**Agenda Item 4 – Executive Officer Report**

**BUDGET UPDATE**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with an overview of the Commission's current budget. He explained that during the winter months the Commission's revenue dropped, which is a historic trend for the Commission. Mr. Foster further explained that the Department of Finance (DOF) has agreed to a \$50,000 increase to the Commission's budget. Additionally, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) has agreed to pay for half of the current litigation cases. Considering the assistance from DCA and DOF, as well as current revenue projections, Mr. Foster stated that he is cautiously optimistic that the Commission will make this Fiscal Year's budget.

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### STAFFING UPDATE

Mr. Foster indicated that the current staffing remains unchanged from the last Commission Meeting.

### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **1) Litigation Strategy subcommittee (Carvelli/Shen-Urquidez)**

Mr. Foster informed the Commission that the Legal Subcommittee is now titled the Litigation Strategy Subcommittee. Commissioner Carvelli explained that the reason for the name change is to identify itself more as an oversight to the budget strategy with regard to Commission litigation.

#### **2) Youth Pankration Subcommittee (Lehman/Carvelli)**

Commissioner Lehman reported on the subcommittee's recent and future meetings and discussions, including mixed gender bouts, the current state of youth mixed martial arts and possible delegation.

#### **3) Boxer's Pension Fund Subcommittee (Carvelli/Shen-Urquidez)**

Commissioner Carvelli reported that there is information about the Boxer's Pension Fund on the California Athletic Commission's Facebook page and urged everyone to go view the page to locate the Pension information. Carvelli also reported that the subcommittee is currently working on revisions to the regulations concerning Boxer's Pension.

#### **4) Anti-Bullying Campaign Subcommittee (Carvelli/Shen-Urquidez)**

Mr. Foster reported that they are very close to locking in dates and locations for the first couple presentations. He explained although there were some scheduling conflicts for a couple of the participants, the subcommittee has commitments from Mr. John McCarthy and Mr. Herb Dean as presenters for future demonstrations. Currently the campaign is scheduled to visit 2 Los Angeles Unified School District campuses, which will reach close to 200 students.

#### **5) Large Event Incentive Subcommittee (Frierson, Carvelli)**

Commissioner Carvelli reported that this subcommittee is actively reaching out to multiple government agencies including the Franchise Tax Board and the Travel and Tourism Commission to discuss options for staying competitive as well as incentivizing larger events in California.

### **Agenda Item 5 – California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts (CAMO) Dehydration Study**

Commissioner Giza reported on the dehydration study that was performed on CAMO participants. The study was intended to identify any links between an athlete's weight cut before their fight and the outcomes of those fights. The concern was that athletes who cut large amounts of weight are at a higher risk of getting knocked out because of the dehydration before the fight. The outcome of the study displayed no significant effect from the current weigh-in methods. After much discussion it was determined to further review this topic at a Medical Advisory Committee meeting.

### **Agenda Item 6 – Public Announcement of California State Athletic Commission support for the Cleveland Clinic Professional Fighters Brain Health Study**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with information regarding the Cleveland Clinic's study. Commissioner Carvelli motioned to support and offer participation in the study. Commissioner Lemons seconded the motion – passing 5-0.

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Roy Englebrecht suggested that the Commission consider changing all 4, 6, and 8 round bouts to be 2-minute rounds, instead of 3-minute rounds. He explained that this would potentially cut down on nearly 25% of injuries in an athlete's career.

### **Agenda Item 8 – Review and possible action of Neurological Assessment proposed regulation language**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with background on the neurological assessment, explaining that the current assessment has been significantly lowered awaiting a spending strategy. He recommended that the Commission perform research to produce an amount for the assessment, once the Commission has determined how the monies are to be spent. Mr. Spencer Walker explained that during the regulatory process, the Commission will be required to explain how the amount for the assessment was reached, and suggested that a subcommittee form to conduct this research.

The Neurological Assessment Subcommittee was formed. Commissioners Lehman and Giza volunteered to sit on this subcommittee.

### **Agenda Item 13 – Reconsideration of Kella Byers for license application and possible opponent**

Mr. Foster presented background on Ms. Kella Byers' professional Boxing license application. He recommended that the Commission reconsider Ms. Byers' license, suggesting that a temporary license be issued - allowing one fight against the opponent approved by Mr. Foster.

Chair Frierson made a motion to approve Ms. Byers' temporary license for the opponent that Mr. Foster approved. Commissioner Lehman seconded the motion - passing 3-1-1.

Frierson/Lehman/Carvelli - Approved

Lemons - Opposed

Giza - Abstained

### **Agenda Item 11 – Discussion of using proctoring ringside physicians**

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Review and possible action of Pension Lost Beneficiary Clause proposed regulation language**

Commissioner Carvelli presented the Commission with the language for the Pension Lost Beneficiary regulation and recommended approval to move forward. Commissioner Carvelli made a motion to approve the language with the most recent revisions. After some discussion and clarification, Commissioner Giza seconded the motion - passed 5-0.

Commissioner Lemons made a second motion to direct commission Staff to commence the rulemaking process and to delegate the Executive Officer the authority to make all non-substantiate changes. Commissioner Giza seconded the motion - passed 5-0.

### **Agenda Item 9 – Discussion and possible action regarding increasing the Television Tax Cap**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with background on the Television Tax Cap and recommended that the Commission begin the process of increasing the cap amount from \$25,000 to \$35,000. He explained that many of the affected stakeholders are supportive of the

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Commission's effort toward a higher tax cap. Mr. Spencer Walker explained that during the regulatory process, the Commission will be required to explain how the amount for the cap was reached, and suggested that a subcommittee form to conduct this research.

The Television Tax Cap Subcommittee was formed. Commissioners Lehman and Carvelli volunteered to sit on this subcommittee.

### **Agenda Item 10 – Discussion and possible action regarding delegation of amateur kickboxing**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with background on the possible delegation of amateur kickboxing to the International Kickboxing Federation (IKF). He recommended that the Commission approve a temporary delegation of amateur kickboxing to IKF until June 30, 2014 and revisit the delegation at a future Commission meeting after the fiscal year. After discussion regarding rules and reporting requirements, Commissioner Lehman made a motion to approve the IKF delegation with the same terms and oversight requirements as CAMO. Commissioner Carvelli seconded the motion - passed 5-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. JT Steele, CAMO - Expressed CAMO's interest on working with IKF to create more similar rules between the delegates.

### **Agenda Item 12 – Nomination of Edmund Ayoub, M.D. and Steven Steinschriber, M.D. to the Medical Advisory Committee for Safety Standards**

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with background on two physicians that he is recommending as new additions to the Medical Advisory Committee for Safety Standards (MAC). Commissioner Giza made a motion to nominate both physicians to the MAC. Commissioner Lemons seconded the motion - passed 5-0.

### **Agenda Item 14 – Certificate of Appreciation presented to Supervising Deputy Attorney General Karen Chappelle**

Mr. Foster publicly acknowledged Ms. Karen Chappelle's service to the California State Athletic Commission.

### **Agenda Item 15 – Certificate of Appreciation presented to CSAC Medical Chair, Dr. Paul Wallace**

Mr. Foster publicly acknowledged Dr. Paul Wallace's service to the California State Athletic Commission.

### **Agenda Item 16 – Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

Mr. Steve Fossum readdressed the Commission regarding blood work and insurance requirements for IKF.

ADJOURNMENT