



STATE OF INDIANA  
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION

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**MEETING MINUTES**  
March 18, 2025 | 10:00 A.M.

**CALL TO ORDER/NOTING OF QUORUM**

Chair Allen called the meeting to order and noted the quorum and the attendance. Vice Chair Payne, Commissioner Maginn, Commissioner Jones, Prosecutor Wignall, Deputy Director Serak, and General Counsel Merritt were in attendance.

(\*\*NOTE: Commissioner Maginn was remotely participating in this meeting. There were some technical issues with the meeting audio. Those present in person could not hear Commissioner Maginn, however, those participating in the meeting virtually could see and hear her. Commissioner Maginn called Chair Allen during the hearing so her voice could be heard by those present at the meeting in person.)

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair Payne moved to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PROSECUTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PARTIES' AGREED DISPOSITIONS** – Vice Chair Payne moved to approve the Parties' Agreed Dispositions, submitted by Prosecutor Wignall. Eighty-five (85) dispositions were submitted with fines totaling \$47,000.00. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**HEARING JUDGE'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

**BR1599847 TIFFANY LOGAN** – Vice Chair Payne stated Commissioner Maginn held an appeal hearing regarding the denial of this employee permit due to two unrelated convictions for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, and the proposed findings have been submitted for approval.

Vice Chair Payne moved to adopt the proposed findings and uphold denial of the permit. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS**

Commissioner Jones moved to approve and incorporate by reference the lists of permits for renewal, which have been recommended by local boards and reviewed by said staff with the authority of the Commission, pending any escrow hearings, if needed. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve and incorporate by reference the list of applications for a new permit or applications for changes in location and/or ownership of existing permits, which have been recommended by local boards and reviewed by at least two Commissioners, pending final floor plan approval by the Indiana State Excise Police and any escrow hearings, if needed. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the catering applications. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the carrier application. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the direct wine shipper applications. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**LETTERS OF EXTENSION**

Vice Chair Payne moved to approve the fee-waived letters of extension issued in the preceding weeks. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

RR49-41603 LA MALQUERIDA LLC – Chair Allen noted this is a new application with the local board voting 4-0 to deny for failure to appear at the local board hearing.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to deny. Commission Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR49-27664 EL CHISPAS NO 2 LLC – Chair Allen noted this is a renewal with the local board voting 4-0 to deny.

Chair Allen stated there have been issues in the past with serving minors and at that time, the permit holder stated the problem was with the security company. Two years ago, they were granted a one-year renewal. During the one-year renewal period, the permit holder was cited for no minimum food service, but was granted another one-year renewal because the violation did not involve minors. The permit holder was cited last year for serving minors again. The permit holder again blamed the security company. The business does have scanners, however, the minor involved was 20 years old and used her mother's ID, which was valid, but the ID was not hers.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to deny. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

DL49-32133 RAJSURU INC. – Chair Allen noted this is a renewal with the local board voting 4-0 to deny.

Chair Allen stated this business was cited for selling to a minor. During the investigation, the clerk would not identify himself to law enforcement on two occasions. The permit holder was not very cooperative during the investigation or the local board hearing.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to deny the renewal. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

DL11-33019 JATINDER KUMAR – Chair Allen noted this is a transfer with the local board voting 3-0 to approve. Chair Allen stated there were remonstrators present. Testimony offered at the hearing suggests that there is a church located in a home within 200 feet of the proposed permit location.

Chair Allen moved to continue this to the 4/1/2025 meeting to look further into the question about the church. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

DL85-33895 SUKHJINDER SINGH – Chair Allen noted that this is a new application with the local board voting 3-0 to approve. Remonstrators were present.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to approve the new permit. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

DL85-33894 MULTANI LIQUORS INC. – Chair Allen noted this is a new application with the local board voting 3-0 to approve.

Chair Allen stated there were remonstrators and persons in favor of the permit in attendance at the local board hearing. A petition with signatures in favor of the permit was submitted.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to approve the new permit. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RC61-89315 AMVETS PARKE COUNTY POST #61, INC. – Chair Allen stated this is a renewal with the local board voting 3-0 to deny.

Chair Allen stated that a hit-and-run investigation by Rockville Police Department led back to this business for overservice. The business was subsequently issued violations for refilling bottles, retail to retail sales, and no employee records on file. There was a discussion regarding suspected drug activity at the licensed premises, but no definite evidence regarding drug activity was found during the investigation.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to deny the renewal. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR79-40754 D.A. BROWN LLC – Chair Allen noted this is a renewal with the local board voting 3-1 to approve for one year.

Chair Allen stated the business was cited for serving a large number of minors and having no employee permits. She also noted that this is the second meeting in a row where a business in a college town had violations for serving alcohol to a large group of minors and stressed the hope that this does not become a trend.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to approve the renewal for one year. Vice Chair Payne seconded. Commissioner Jones felt this was not an isolated violation and was concerned with the number of minors and the manager not being licensed. He voted against the motion. The motion passed 2-1.

DL29-31993 AJAY PETROLEUM INC. – Chair Allen noted this is a request by the local board to remand the renewal application. There is no audio recording of the local board hearing, and it appeared that one of the local board members was having difficulty understanding the discussion of the violations.

Chair Allen moved to approve the request for remand to the local board. Commission Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR49-37227 THE SALTY LEMON – Chair Allen noted this is on for a Motion to Place the Permit Into Escrow, Grant Permission to Transfer the License and Withdraw the Appeal.

Commissioner Jones stated the appeal of the denial in this matter is assigned to him. He granted the Motion upon approval by the Commission.

Chair Allen noted the business has recently been cited for another violation and is unsure of granting the Motion until the violation is settled. Commissioner Jones suggested granting the escrow, to prevent the business from being open and possibly receiving additional violations.

Commissioner Jones moved to grant escrow and take the request for permission to transfer and withdraw appeal under advisement. Chair Allen seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR27-42252 BLISS BARN LLC – Chair Allen noted this is a request to be designated as a catering hall.

Chair Allen moved to approve the request. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR30-41836 DEPOT STREET INVESTMENTS LLC – Chair Allen noted this is a request to be designated as a catering hall.

Chair Allen moved to approve the request. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

DL41-32220 FRANKLIN SMOKE TIME INC. – Chair Allen noted this matter was continued from the 3/4/2025 meeting for an extension request. A request to continue this matter was received.

Chair Allen stated this is the third permit with common ownership of two permits considered at the 3/4/2025 meeting. No corrective action plan has been submitted regarding this permit. However, the Settlement Agreement for the recent violations involving all three permits states that the permit renewals are to be returned to the local board for the purpose of investigating the reputation and character of the applicant as if it were a new permit.

Chair Allen moved to approve the extension. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR50-02170 MAYFLOWER INC – Chair Allen noted this is on for an extension request. Chair Allen stated the local board is scheduled for April 7th; however, a certificate of liability insurance has not been received.

Chair Allen moved to approve the extension conditioned upon receipt of a certificate of liability insurance. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR45-01021 MENCHACA LTD – Chair Allen noted this is on for an extension request. Chair Allen stated the Commission has not received a certificate of liability insurance.

Chair Allen moved to approve the extension conditioned upon receipt of the certificate of liability insurance. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR49-36592 8501 PENDLETON CLUB LLC / RR49-36594 7259 PENDLETON CLUB LLC – Chair Allen noted these are on for extension requests.

Chair Allen stated one of the permits (RR49-36592) just recently received a new violation, so the local board continued the renewal hearings.

There was discussion among the commissioners regarding whether the local board was continued due to the new violation, if the permittee failed to appear or if the permittee requested it. Chair Allen moved to approve the remainder of time left on the current extensions making it expire on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Vice Chair Payne seconded. Commissioner Maginn moved to approve. With the understanding the permittee requested a continuance ahead of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> local board hearing, Commissioner Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved 4-0.

RR02-23790 ROBERT HAWKINS – Chair Allen noted this is on for an extension request.

Chair Allen stated there is a pending violation from last year. The permittee failed to appear for the settlement conference. There have been several back-and-forth emails between Prosecutor Wignall and the permittee, but no communication since January. The Chair stated that a corrective action plan needs to be filed, and a prehearing conference scheduled.

Chair Allen moved to continue this matter to the 4/1/2025 meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR49-39282 / CT49-32468 ICE BAR AND LOUNGE LLP - Chair Allen noted this is on for an extension request.

Chair Allen stated there are violations on both permits. The violations include not following human trafficking laws regarding adult entertainment and hindering enforcement. The violations are scheduled for hearing. The permittee submitted a letter that doesn't constitute an acceptable corrective action plan.

Chair Allen moved to reluctantly approve an extension until 4/1/2025, to allow time for a more detailed corrective action plan to be submitted. Vice Chair Payne reluctantly seconded, stating he agreed the corrective action plan needs to be amended. Commissioner Maginn approved. Commissioner Jones abstained because he is the hearing judge for the violation hearing. The motion passed 3-0.

RR49-11398 TRI-ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION – Chair Allen noted this is on for a request to file a transfer and withdraw of the appeal.

Vice Chair Payne stated he is the hearing judge regarding this appeal. All of the paperwork has been filed regarding the requests. However, there are pending violations that must be settled before a transfer can be processed.

Vice Chair Payne moved to continue this matter to the 4/1/2025 meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR32-28238 THAI ORCHID LLC – Chair Allen noted this is on for an extension request. Consent was granted to add this permit to the agenda.

Chair Allen stated this permittee failed to appear at the local board hearing regarding the denial after a violation.

Chair Allen moved to approve the extension. Vice Chair Payne seconded. Commissioner Jones voted to approve, but stated he feels missing a local board hearing is inexcusable. Commissioner Maginn voted to approve. The motion was unanimously approved.

RR49-31238 SUNNY VENTURES LTD – Chair Allen noted this is a renewal with the local board voting 3-1 to approve for one year. This was added to the agenda by consent.

Chair Allen stated the owners are now divorced and the wife is now running the business. There were violations for overserving and no smoking ban exemption on file. The overserving issue started with a fight inside the bar that led to one person leaving the bar and returning with a gun. There were issues with the owners not being able to operate their camera system. However, there have been significant changes to the operations since the wife took over.

Chair Allen moved to uphold the local board's recommendation to approve the renewal for one year. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **INACTIVE FILES**

Chair Allen moved to make 24 permits dead that were previously posted on the March 4, 2025 meeting agenda. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Allen stated permit #CH49-30115 was removed, making the total of 25 permits posted to be made dead at the April 1, 2025 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS


Chair Allen noted that the amended public meeting dates for 2025 are:

- Wednesday, May 28, 2025 (escrow hearings)
- Wednesday, September 3, 2025 (Commission meeting)
- December 2025 (no escrow hearings)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Payne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approved this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2025.

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Jessica Allen, Chair

Signed by:  
  
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James W. Payne, Vice Chair

Signed by:  
  
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Marjorie Maginn, Commissioner

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Mark A. Jones, Commissioner