Minutes of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
July 15, 2020

On the 15th day of July, 2020, the ABC Board did convene at Little Rock, Arkansas for its regular monthly meeting and in appearing in person was Chairperson Freddie Black. Appearing via an online video link were Steve Smith, Pam Depriest, Jamie Anderson and Alex Blass.

The Board considered the Director’s Decisions, Private Club Resume, Violation Resume, Warning Letters and Inactive Status Letters. Board member Jamie Anderson made a motion to approve, Steve Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

The next item considered were changes in rules. A.B.C. Division Director Doralee Chandler stated this was the public comment time period for A.B.C. Rules and Medical Marijuana Rules. She also stated that these rules were posted on the A.B.C. website at: https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/alcoholic-beverages-control and that anyone could call in to voice their opinions on the rule changes.

The first rule introduced into the record for comment pertained to Title 2, Rules Applicable to Permits to Manufacture and Wholesale. This was a change to Amendment 100 of the Arkansas Constitution which established four Casino licenses under which controlled beverages may be sold or provided under a Casino License, which are overseen by the Arkansas Racing Commission. This rule change modified the A.B.C. Rules to allow wholesalers to continue to sell product at a Casino License pursuant to Amendment 100. Public comment was welcomed on this rule, but none were offered.

Chairperson Black asked if the Board had a motion to approve this rule and Board Member Steve Smith made a motion to accept the change in Rule, Pam DePriest seconded the motion and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the rule change.

The second rule introduced into the record for comment pertained to Distillers or Liquor Manufacturers, A.B.C. Rules 2.85 through 2.88. Director Chandler stated that Subtitle K is a new addition resulting from Act 740 of 2019. The Act amends the Distiller or Liquor Manufacturer permit and defines operations, and specifically authorizes off-premises and on-premises sales of vinous liquor and authorizes vinous liquor tasting events, and Subtitle K reflects those legislative changes of Act 740. Public comment was welcomed on this change, but none were offered.

Chairperson Black asked for a motion to approve this change and Board Member Jamie Anderson made a motion to approve the change in Rule, Steve Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed for a 5-0 vote.
The third rule introduced by Director Chandler pertained to the Oversight of Medical Marijuana Transporters and Distributors and will be rules put in place by the Medical Marijuana Commission to set the regulatory and operational requirements for medical marijuana transportation and distribution in Arkansas. Public comment was welcomed on this change, but none were offered.

Chairperson Black asked for a motion to approve this change and Board Member Pam DePriest made a motion to approve the change in Rule, Jamie Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed for a 5-0 vote.

Chairperson Black asked Director Chandler if there have been any violations issued by Enforcement dealing with the transportation of medical marijuana product. She acknowledged none and stated the third rule change introduced today will deal with allowing third party transporters, which are currently not allowed. She did acknowledge to the Board that there were pending violations against distributors, which could potentially proceed to hearings before the Board. She also stated that was aware that there were several open investigations being conducted by Enforcement.

Chairperson Black set the next ABC Board Meeting on August 19th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., which is the third Wednesday of August.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Freddie Black, Chairperson         Doralee Chandler, Director