**MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

**MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, June 12, 2024**

On Wednesday, June 12, 2024, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:00 p.m. Present were the following: Chairman David Norman, Commissioner Carl Wilson, Commissioner James “Binky” Jones, Commissioner Dr. Kristi Hall, John Dove, Commission for O&P, Sarah McDermott, Assistant Commissioner for O&P, Kenneth Sigman, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel; Matthew McKinney, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Olga Escobar, Administrative Officer, Jason Curtis, Administrative Assistant, and Interim Executive Director Johnston Brown. Commissioner Brian Boles was absent. This was a hybrid meeting with Commission members, Commission staff, and the public calling into Google Meets, as well as joining in person.

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Minutes from the May 15, 2024 meeting were discussed. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes that was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Dave Norman advised the Commission that the State is still negotiating with a promoter regarding conditions under which the Commission will authorize more than forty rounds at an event scheduled for July 2024.

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Interim Executive Director Johnston Brown did not have anything to report to the Commission.

**REVIEW OF COMMISSION SANCTIONED EVENTS**

Interim Executive Director Johnston Brown advised the Commission about the wrestling events in the previous month. Those events included the following:

CZW Wrestling, May 18th, Baltimore

Micro Wrestling All-Stars, May 18th, Baltimore

EWA Wrestling, May 25th, Hunt Valley

Flying V Wrestling, June 1st, Silver Spring

CZW Wrestling, June 2nd, Harve de Grace

MCW Wrestling, June 8th, Joppa

AWA Wrestling, June 8th, Waldorf

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chairman James Dave Norman led the Commission in a discussion of upcoming events, which included the following:

MCW Wrestling, June 15th, Baltimore

EWA Wrestling, June 15th, Dundalk

Ponytail Promotions Boxing, June 22nd, Baltimore

EWA Wrestling, June 22nd, Bel Air

F1ght Club Wrestling, June 23rd, Cheverly

ACW Wrestling, June 28th, Hagerstown

AWA Wrestling, June 29th, Waldorf

CZW Wrestling, July 6th, Baltimore

CZW Wrestling, July 7th, Havre de Grace

MCW Wrestling, July 13th, Joppa

Jeter Promotions Boxing, July 20th, Maryland Live!

A motion to approve the upcoming MCW wrestling events on June 15 and July 13 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming Ponytail Promotion boxing event for 60 rounds on June 22 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming EWA wresting event on June 22 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming F1ght Club wrestling event on June 23 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming ACW wrestling event on June 28 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming AWA wrestling event on June 29 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming Voltage Wrestling event on June 29 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to not approve the upcoming CZW wrestling events on July 6 and July 7 was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion to conditionally approve the professional wrestling promoters license for James Nolan advertising as Voltage Wrestling was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Muay Thai instructor Matthew Van Valkenburgh stated to the Commission his intentions to run an amateur Muay Thai tournament later in the year.

Boxing promoter Tony Jeter addressed the Commission as to how fees are structured between boxing and wrestling promoters in the state of Maryland.

Boxing promoter Christen Jeter addressed the Commission regarding an email sent to the Commission about the fee structure for her upcoming event scheduled for July 20. Mrs. Jeter stated how in February, the $4000 fee imposed by the Commission severely impacted her ability to put on her show for July. Mrs. Jeter asked the Commission to create a fee structure that would allow promoters to better adapt their shows.

Lawyer Eddie Pounds Esq. expressed his disappointment with the Commission regarding their transparency with promoters. He asked the Commission to explain how it calculated the fees for boxing events with more than forty rounds.

O&P Commissioner John Dove updated the Commission on the hiring process for the Commission’s new Executive Director.

Boxing manager Ron Pisano addressed the Commission about how the Athletic Commission’s fees for promoters have crippled promoters financially and said he would like to see more successful shows put on in Maryland.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman David Norman called for adjournment at roughly 3:41pm. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Commissioner Jones, and the Commission unanimously approved the motion.

/s/ Dave Norman

Chairman