**MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

**MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, August 21, 2024**

On Wednesday, August 21, 2024, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman David Carl Wilson 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, Eric London, 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 July 17, 2024 meeting were discussed. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the minutes that was seconded by Commissioner Hall. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**RATIFICATION OF COMMISSION-SANCTIONED EVENTS**

Executive Director Johnston Brown advised the Commission that a vote would need be taken to ratify the phone poll to approve a MCW wrestling event that took place on August 10, 2024. A motion was made to ratify the phone poll by Commissioner Jones and was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Dave Norman had no report.

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Interim Executive Director Johnston Brown had no report.

**REVIEW OF COMMISSION SANCTIONED EVENTS**

Executive Director Johnston Brown advised the Commission about the Boxing and Wrestling events in the previous month. Those events included the following:

Jeter Promotions Boxing, July 20th, Baltimore

EWA Wrestling, July 20th, Dundalk

EWA Wrestling, August 10th, Bel Air

EWA Wrestling, August 17th, Dundalk (Cancelled)

ACW Wrestling, July 26th, Cambridge

ACW Wrestling, August 11th, Glen Burnie

AWA Wrestling, July 27th, Waldorf (Cancelled)

AWA Wrestling, August 3rd, Waldorf (Cancelled)

Flying V Fights, July 27th, Silver Spring

WWE Wrestling, August 5th, Baltimore

MCW Wrestling, August 10th, Joppa

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Executive Director Johnston Brown led the Commission in a discussion of upcoming events, which included the following:

Micro-Wrestling Federation, September 12th, Baltimore

Micro-Wrestling Federation, September, 13th, Perryville

MCW Wrestling, September 14th, Joppa

EWA Wrestling, September 15th, Baltimore

A motion to approve the upcoming Micro-Wrestling Federation events on September 12 and September 13 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming MCW Wrestling event on September 14 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming EWA Wrestling event on September 15 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Kristi Hall led a discussion about Gregory Outlaw’s professional Boxing promoter’s license, advertising as Sharpshooter Promotions. After discussion, a motion to approve the professional boxing promoters license of Gregory Outlaw was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Executive Director Johnston Brown lead a discussion regarding a desire to update the Commission’s professional boxing and professional wrestling regulations to modernize them. He stated that he recently had meetings with those associated with the sports to hear their concerns and ideas on how to modernize the Commission’s regulations.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Boxing promoter Christen Jeter stated to the Commission that she was happy to hear about all of the changes happening within the Commission. Ms. Jeter stated that capping round for shows inhibits her ability to schedule the amount of rounds that she would like to have. She also stated to the Commission that increasing the number of days from thirty to sixty or ninety days med for bloodwork would benefit the promoters when it comes to scheduling rounds. Ms. Jeter ended by stating that fees should only be assessed to promoters, if their show runs past midnight.

Boxing trainer Brady Sensibaugh asked the Commission to consider the fighter’s perspective when it comes to making decisions within the Commission regarding round limits.

Boxing promoter Tony Jeter stated to the Commission that the more shows his promotion runs in a year, the more revenue the states makes. He also expressed his concerns regarding the fees that the Commission was assessing.

Muay Thai Promoter Matthew Van Valkenburgh, as a stakeholder, thanked the Commission for allowing him to give input in the Muay Thai regulations currently being drafted. He also stated his hopes to run an amateur Muay Thai tournament in Maryland at the end of the year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Dave Norman called for a motion for adjournment at roughly 3:44pm that was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wilson, the Commission unanimously approved the motion.