

MINNESOTA GAMBLING CONTROL BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2025

Chair Janet Lorenzo called the monthly meeting of the Minnesota Gambling Control Board to order on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Gambling Control Board Office, 1711 West County Road B, Suite 300S, Roseville, MN 55113.

Members Present: Janet Lorenzo, Jim Nardone, Kate Luthner, Mike Sundin, Doug Forsman, and Al deJesus.

Members Excused: Bill English

Members Absent:

Also Present: Laura Wade, Executive Director; Leah Hedman, Assistant Attorney General; Brett McKeever, Enforcement Manager

1. Approval of Agenda

Mike Sundin moved to approve the agenda. Doug Forsman seconded the motion; the motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

Al deJesus moved to approve the July 21, 2025, meeting minutes. Mike Sundin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

3. Chair's Comments

The Chair asked for a moment of silence for all our fallen heroes including firefighters, EMS, paramedics, police, veterans, those currently serving, and nurses.

4. Director's Report

- Industry Update
 - Preliminary FY25 numbers show Gross Receipts at \$4.098 billion, down .56% from FY24 numbers which were \$4.936 billion. June of 2025 was \$406 million which was up .39% over June of 2024.
- Budget
 - One month into the new fiscal year, we are under budget. Hard close for FY25 was on Saturday and there are no issues to report with that.
- Staffing
 - The GCB is working on getting the position description approved by MMB for a Communications Specialist and the agency is hopeful to get that posted in the next month or so. The website is still being fine-tuned and Director Wade thanked everyone who has provided feedback for the site. Director Wade also stated that the agency is looking forward to the end of the calendar year rush of classes and the annual report.

5. Committee Reports

- *Education and Outreach Committee:* Kate Luthner provided a committee update as they met for the first time since Chris Mau retired and his absence was felt. The committee went through the normal agenda. The website has launched, and feedback continues to come in. Small adjustments continue to be made on the site. A training video to help users navigate the website is also on the agency's radar. The training video would probably fall under the Communications Specialist role. The GCB submitted an application last year for a booth at the State Fair, but has not received word that there are any openings this year. The GCB recently attended and spoke at the United Way conference which was a great opportunity to extend education as this group only partakes in gambling a couple times a year. The Fergus Falls office is moving and the hope is to host continuing education classes in the future which would save money. Six continuing education classes are scheduled regionally for the fall.
- *Compliance Review Group (CRG):* No update, but two groups will be coming before the CRG today.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Old Business

Executive Committee Elections. Chair, Janet Lorenzo (unanimous vote), Vice Chair, Jim Nardone (unanimous vote), Secretary, Mike Sundin (unanimous vote).

8. TRANSFER OF GAMBLING FUNDS TO ORGANIZATION ACCOUNT

Exhibit A: None.

Exhibit B: None.

9. PROPERTY AND CAPITAL ASSET EXPENDITURE REQUESTS (LG269)

Exhibit C: Doug Forsman moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit C. Jim Nardone seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Doug Forsman requested further discussion asking for additional information and documentation be provided with these requests, such as a description of the issue, any bids received, or additional verification to help mitigate fraud. Forsman also asked that the requesting organization include proof that the board members are aware of the ask. Forsman asked if his fellow board members support this ask. Al deJesus said he does agree, but it's not up to the Gambling Control Board to control these specifics, however, deJesus said he would like to see that an organizations members are aware of these requests. Mike Sundin said determining a monetary threshold might help alleviate making these asks a burden to the organizations. Kate Luthner said she had noted concerns previously on how the board knows whether these are real situations. Luthner said she believes GCB staff asks for information, but wasn't sure. Brett McKeever, Enforcement Manager, was asked to come forward and stated that the staff asks for information as the situation warrants. McKeever stated it is not up to the GCB staff to determine if a roof needs repairing, but to make sure the request meets one of the twenty-six lawful purpose categories. If money is not being used correctly, it is investigated, and the proper action is taken. Chair Lorenzo said if the board would like to require additional documentation after a certain threshold, this can continue to be a discussion. Director Wade clarified that this would not be a statute change, however, the board is allowed to request additional information that would help the members make informative decisions.

Exhibit D: None.

Fire or Other Catastrophe (LG262)

Exhibit E: None.

Exhibit F: None.

Eminent Domain (LG263)

Exhibit G: None.

Exhibit H: None.

Exclusively Used for LPE (LG266)

Exhibit I: Al deJesus moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit I. Mike Sundin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Kate Luthner asked for comment to remind the organization who requested the reverse osmosis water system that they should question where the salted water is purged to as water softeners are the biggest ground water issue.

Exhibit J: None.

10. CONTRIBUTION OF GAMBLING FUNDS TO ANOTHER LICENSED GAMBLING ORGANIZATION (LG270)

Exhibit K: Mike Sundin moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit K. Kate Luthner seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Exhibit L: None.

11. FUND LOSS REQUESTS (PROFIT CARRYOVER ADJUSTMENT) (LG250)

Exhibit M: Al deJesus moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit M. Kate Luthner seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Exhibit N: None.

12. ADA REPLACEMENT BUILDING (LG268)

Exhibit O: None.

Exhibit P: None.

LICENSE TERMINATION PLANS (LG204)

Exhibit Q: Mike Sundin moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit Q. Al deJesus seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Exhibit R: None.

MANUFACTURERS' GAMES

Exhibit S: Kate Luthner moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit S. Al deJesus seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Exhibit T: None.

APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE

Manufacturer License Renewal/Linked Bingo Game Provider License/Method of Sale or Transfer of Electronic Games to Distributors:

Exhibit U: None.

Exhibit V: None.

Distributor License Renewal/Method of Sale or Transfer of Electronic Games to Organizations:

Exhibit U2: Kate Luthner moved to approve the requests contained in Exhibit U2. Mike Sundin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Exhibit V2: None.

RULE VARIANCE REQUEST

Exhibit W: None.

Exhibit X: None.

REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE METHOD SELECTING RAFFLE WINNERS

Exhibit Y: None.

Exhibit Z: None.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting Announcement

Chair Lorenzo announced that the next board meeting will be Monday, September 15, 2025, at 10 a.m. at the Minnesota Gambling Control Board, 1711 West County Road B, Suite 300S, Roseville, MN 55113 where Board Committee Members will be appointed by the Chair.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.



Mike Sundin, Secretary