

MINUTES

South Carolina Athletic Commission

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Conference Room 105

110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

1. Meeting Called to Order:

Alan Wells, Chair, called the regular scheduled meeting of the South Carolina Athletic Commission to order at 10:05 a.m.

Board members participating in this meeting included:

Alan Wells, Chair – 4th Congressional District

William “Ed” E. Lawson – 1st Congressional District

William “Bill” O. Boyte – 2nd Congressional District

Anthony “Tony” Eubanks – 3rd Congressional District

Pamela Shealy – At-Large Member

James Phillips – At-Large Physician

Staff members participating during the meeting included Jay Pitts, Administrator; Tracey McCarley, Education Coordinator; Dean Grigg, Advice Counsel; Glenn Frick; Charlie Ido, Assistant Deputy Director; Sharon Wolfe, Chief of Investigators; and Barbara Derrick, Deputy Director of Operations.

2. Public Notice:

Mr. Wells announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Board of Environmental Certification Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Wells. The invocation was led by Mr. Eubanks.

4. Approval of July 15, 2011 minutes:

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2011 meeting. Mr. Eubanks seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Excused Absences:

Mr. Jones and Mr. Dean were absent.

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion to approve the absence of both Commission members. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

6. Chairman's Remarks:

Chairman Wells thanked the Commission members and staff for work and dedication.

7. Administrator's Report:

Jay Pitts

1) 2% or 5% gate fee clarification – See document provided.

MOTION:

Ms. Shealy made a motion to create a task force to review the Code of Laws and regulations. Mr. Eubanks seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Shealy, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Lawson volunteered to serve on the task force.

2) Fighters with prosthetic devices participating in MMA events – See document provided. Discussion ensued. Chairman Wells suggested that the same task force formed previously to review regulations for MMA events whether to allow allowing prosthetic devices.

Ms. Shealy, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Lawson volunteered to serve on the task force.

3) Federal Statute for South Carolina to regulate athletic events on federal property – See document provided. Mr. Grigg, Advice Counsel, explained information contained in document.

4) Athletic Commission Budget Review – See document provided. Barbara Derrick explained information contained in document.

5) LLR Board Travel Policy – See document provided. Jay Pitts explained a revised policy.

Mr. Pitts stated that two (2) members may attend the Association of Boxing Commission annual meeting in Clearwater, Florida scheduled for July 19 – 27, 2012 at the Hilton Clearwater.

6) State Board/Commission License Plate Order Form – See document provided. Jay Pitts explained the process for members to obtain tags.

7) Report on Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Annual Meeting – Jay Pitts attended the meeting and provided a report and unapproved minutes for review.

8. New Business:

1) Commission Designee to review and approve Fight Fax reports – Jay Pitts asks the Commission to consider appointing a Commission Designee. Commission Designee as explained by Dean Grigg, Advice Counsel would be an individual would be a current commission member that the Commission designates. Mr. Grigg continued to explain the Department Representative appointment by the Administrator.

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion appoint Glenn Frick and Larry Hall as Department Representatives. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Phillips made a motion to appoint Alan Wells as a Commission Designee. Mr. Eubanks seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2) Approval of NAAFS (North American Allied Fighting Series) as mixed martial arts sanctioning body – Mr. Grigg, Advice Counsel explained the issue of authority over an MMA

(Mixed Martial Arts) events taking place on federal government property. The building in which the event will take place is not on federal property and the Commission has authority and obligation over the event at the air base. Dwight Decker presented information concerning the event at the air base in Charleston, South Carolina.

3) Review of proposed new MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) regulations – The Commission discussed revised regulations. See document.

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion to approve proposed MMA regulations with changes as noted, subject to a special meeting if necessary. Mr. Eubanks seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4) Appointment of the Commission Representatives for events – Jay Pitts suggested hiring temporary employees, possibly from law enforcement, for three major areas – the upstate, midlands, and the low county. The Commission will suggest names for consideration.

5) Appointment of IRC (Investigative Review Committee) representative – Jay Pitts suggested that the Commission appoint an individual for the IRC – individual cannot be a current Commission member.

6) Application Review Process – Jay Pitts discussed the review process. Discussion ensued.

MOTION:

Mr. Eubanks made a motion to take a 30-minute lunch. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Lawson made a motion to return to public session. Mr. Boyte seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

9. Application Hearing:

Chad Booth

The Commission held an Application Hearing regarding Mr. Booth. Mr. Booth appeared before the Commission to present testimony. He waived his right to legal counsel. Mr. Dwight Decker, coach and promoter and Mr. Andrew Stokes appeared to testify for Mr. Booth.

Chris Harrison

The Commission held an Application Hearing regarding Mr. Harrison. Mr. Harrison was not in attendance.

MOTION:

Mr. Lawson made a motion to deny Mr. Harrison's application. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Lawson made a motion to withdraw previous motion. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which carried unanimously

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion to go into executive session. Ms. Lawson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Eubanks made a motion to return to public session. Mr. Boyte seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve Mr. Booth's application to carry valid through December 2011. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Boyte made a motion to deny Mr. Harrison's application. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(This proceeding was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript if requested in accordance with the law.)

MOTION:

Mr. Eubanks made a motion to approve NAAFS for one (1) event providing all paperwork is completed. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

10. Public Comments:

- Daniel Kilpatrick – ISKA representative for South Carolina, discussed NAAFS issues.
- Sam King, promoter in Columbia, South Carolina – discussed regulatory issues. Concerned about medical conditions of over-35 fighters as well as physicals for all fighters.
- George Greeves, over-aged fighter – discussed regulations regarding over-35 fighters be approved for one (1) year increments.
- Christian Manganelli, over-aged fighter – discussed making changes for over-aged fighters.
- Andrew Stokes, promoter – discussed required physicals and approving/disapproving fights. He suggested providing an appeals process.

Jay Pitts – informed the members of an agency wide Commission Orientation held at the Fire Academy on October 11, 2011 at 9:45am at the Denny Auditorium.

Kristy Bell, former Administrative Specialist, with the Athletic Commission left the position for another job. The position has been upgraded to Administrative Assistant and posted.

The next scheduled meeting of the Athletic Commission is February 2, 2012.

11. Adjournment:

MOTION:

Mr. Eubanks made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting of the Athletic Commission adjourned at 3:21 pm.