

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Athletic Commission**  
**10:00 A.M., March 5, 2008**  
**Kingstree Building, Room 306-30**  
**110 Centerview Drive**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

Michael Tyler, Chairman, of Lexington, called the meeting of the S.C. Athletic Commission to order at 10:00 a.m. Other commissioners present included: George Cox, of Myrtle Beach; Clyde Jones, of Camden; Paul Kennemore, of Greenwood; Lynda Leventis-Wells, of Greenville; and Robert Williams, of Cayce.

Staff members participating in the meeting included: Ronnie Blackmon, Inspector; Randall Bryant, Assistant Deputy Director; Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Larry Hall, Inspector; Connie Huffstetler, Administrative Assistant; Jimmy Knotts, Inspector; and Jim Kyzer, Inspector.

Members of the public attending the meeting included: Jerome Etheredge, James Kelley, Robert Mitchell, Jeff Palkowski, and Andrew Stokes.

**Meeting Called to Order**

Mr. Tyler announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Athletic Commission 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.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Introduction of Commission Members**

The Commission members introduced themselves for the record.

**Invocation**

Mr. Kennemore delivered the invocation.

**Approval of the January 24, 2008 Commission Meeting**

Mrs. Huffstetler noted for the record that staff made one correction to the minutes of the last meeting. She noted that the last meeting was not a conference call meeting.

Mrs. Lynda Leventis-Wells stated she was not at the last meeting because she did not receive a packet.

**MOTION**

Mr. Kennemore moved the minutes of the January 24, 2008 meeting be approved. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Chairman's Remarks – Michael Tyler**

Mr. Tyler stated the Commission met in January 2008. He noted a couple of items have come up in regard to announcers. He thanked everyone for their support during last year.

Mr. Jones stated staff handled the fight held at the Jamil Temple very well. He noted the fight went smoothly. He further stated the fight was supposed to begin at 8:00 p.m. and began at 8:05 p.m.

Mrs. Leventis-Wells stated the Tough Man fight held at the Civic Center in Anderson went very well. She further stated Mr. Knotts and Mr. Hall handled the fights real well.

**Administrator's Remarks – Larry Hall**

*Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel*

*Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office*

There were no advisory opinions or legislative update given during this meeting.

Mr. Hall stated staff has been real busy over the past few weeks. He went on to say there have been eight events, professional and Tough Man, since January 1, 2008. He further stated a Tough Man events will be held March 7 – 8, 2008 in Greenwood and Charleston, events on March 21 – 22, 2008 to be held in Charleston, a professional event in Charleston on March 27, 2008. He noted Tough Man events would be held in Camden on April 4 – 5, 2008, in Aiken on April 11 – 12, 2008, and a professional boxing event in Gaffney on April 12, 2008. He noted the professional boxing event on April 12, 2008 would need approval by the Commission due to the ages of the fighters. He went on to say Tough Man events would be held at the Jamil Temple on April 25 – 26, 2008.

Mr. Hall thanked the Commission members for assisting staff on the events. He further stated the event held in Charleston the previous weekend began late; however, it was not the promoter's fault. He noted the ambulance service went out of business without notifying the promoter. He went on to say an incident occurred in Myrtle Beach during the last event. He noted there have been illegal activities occurring at a club where the events have been taking place. He stated he contacted the local police department and was informed that the police department is aware of the activity; however, the officers cannot go into the club due to the drug activity. He believes the Commission should take serious consideration before permitting another show to be held at that location. He said an individual got in the ring at an event in Charleston and began slinging water on people.

Mr. Tyler thanked Mr. Kyzer for his hard work on the events he has been working. He further stated Mr. Kyzer has been working extremely hard on these events.

Mr. Hall stated Mr. Bryant has completed documents for the agency for a bill on mixed martial arts (MMA); however, he does not know where the documents stand.

Mr. Tyler stated he has contacted an individual at the State House and was informed a bill has been drafted to be introduced.

Mr. Hall stated North Carolina will begin holding regular events beginning in April 2008. He hopes he and Mr. Knotts would be able to attend some of the North Carolina events to see how they are handled.

Mrs. Huffstetler reminded the Commission members to file the Statement of Economic Interest Forms with the State Ethics Commission prior to April 15, 2008.

## **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business for discussion during this meeting.

## **New Business**

### Application Hearing

The Commission has received an application from Robert Mitchell to become a promoter's representative.

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

### **MOTION**

Mr. Cox made a motion the Commission defer this matter to enter executive session. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### Announcers – Jim Kelley

Mr. Kelley stated there was an incident at an event at the club in Myrtle Beach of which he has documented with video. He went on to say the licensed announcer acted in a horrendous fashion during that event and asked that the Commission produce a set of standards for the officials during the events.

Mr. Cox asked staff to brief him on the legislative process. Mrs. Dantzler briefed the Commission on the legislative process.

## **Executive Session**

### **MOTION**

Mr. Williams moved the Commission enter executive session to seek legal advice. Mr. Cox seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **Return to Public Session to Report on Executive Session**

Mr. Tyler noted for the record that no motions were offered and no votes were taken during executive session.

### **MOTION**

Mr. Cox moved the Commission hold a roll call vote in the matter of Mr. Mitchell's promoter's representative application. Mr. Kennemore seconded the motion.

Clyde Jones – deny  
Lynda Leventis-Wells – deny  
Michael Tyler – deny  
George Cox – deny  
Paul Kennemore – deny  
Robert Williams - deny

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Tyler if he could poll the Commission members to see if there had been any previous discussion among the members prior to this meeting. Mr. Tyler agreed to Mr. Mitchell's request.

Clyde Jones – no  
Lynda Leventis-Wells – no

Michael Tyler – no  
George Cox – no  
Paul Kennemore – no  
Robert Williams – no

Mr. Mitchell asked if there is an appeal process. Mr. Tyler answered affirmatively and asked that staff have Mrs. Dantzler return to the meeting.

Mr. Tyler stated the Commission would like for Mr. Hall and Mr. Knotts to file an incident report on any event such as the issue with Mr. Brown to allow the Commission could take the appropriate action on these incidents.

Mrs. Dantzler stated a written order would be completed based on the Commission's decision and briefed Mr. Mitchell and the Commission on the process.

Mrs. Lynda Leventis-Wells questioned Mr. Hall on the incident at Club Kryptonite. Mr. Hall stated an incident report would be filed with the Commission if the individual files an appeal of his suspension to the Commission. He further stated Mr. Williams would not be able to participate in the hearing, if it occurs, as he attended that event. He noted he cannot file an incident report with the rest of the members at this time as the other members would be tainted and could not hear the case.

Discussion ensued on the five percent issues.

#### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments made during this meeting.

#### **Election of Officers**

Chairman

##### **NOMINATION**

Mr. Kennemore nominated Mr. Tyler as chairman. Mr. Cox seconded the nomination.

Mrs. Leventis-Wells nominated Mr. Cox. Mr. Cox stated he would have to decline at this time.

##### **MOTION**

Mrs. Leventis-Wells moved the nominations be closed. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman

##### **NOMINATION**

Mr. Kennemore nominated Mr. Cox as vice chairman.

Mr. Cox nominated Mr. Williams. Mrs. Leventis-Wells seconded the nomination, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Hall presented the Commission members with a fight card for an event scheduled to be held in Gaffney on April 12, 2008.

The Commission directed Mr. Hall to inform the promoter that the Commission disapproved the fighters, with the exception of the 19 year old, listed on the fight card and that he must locate other fighters if he wants to hold the event.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION**

There being no further business at this time Mrs. Leventis-Wells made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kennemore and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned.

The March 5, 2008 meeting of the SC Athletic Commission adjourned at 12:00 p.m.