**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**APRIL 11, 2018**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**    
   BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)   
   JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)

JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)   
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)

HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.) – ABSENT - MEDICAL  
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

JAMES BRENNAN (J.B.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

RICKY NORRIS – DEP. COMMISSIONER

ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) - ACCTG

**2) MINUTES:**

J.G. moves to accept minutes as written and financials and to approve payment of March bills and payroll. J.S. seconds, passed, all ayes. Addie reminds that licenses need to be notated, legibly, what kind of license (MMA, Wrestling, promoter, fighter, etc) for Regina to track numbers for State.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Timothy Wilson MMA promoter from Shreveport

Justin Reese – MMA promoter license applicant

Chad Broussard

**4) LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Timothy Wilson - MMA Promoter License applicant; promoted in OK; had youth organization; to raise money for kids, etc., small town stuff. Moved back to LA & wants to continue same here in LA; would like to do both: boxing & MMA; has contacts for both in LA & TX. J.G. reviews his previous license history; never been suspended in any other state; never had bond problems. $500 fee for both boxing & MMA; can pay $250 for MMA now and if you want to have boxing show you’ll have to come back and pay another $250; but he’s already scheduled a boxing show for Oct 2018; then he’ll need the boxing license; also wants a MMA show in July. Pays $250 in cash to R. Norris. Addie receives cash to deposit from Ricky. J.G. moves to grant license pending receipt of bond & background check; T.F. seconds; passed all ayes. J.G. reviews other info (felony, bond process, show reservation process).

Justin (Joe?) Reese: MMA Promoter applicant. Reviews same as with Mr. Williams; trained with Joe Ancona; both gentlemen will turn in aps and $$ and will vote to approve pending receipt of bonds. Receives check. Will be under King Law firm; J.G. moves to grant license pending receipt of bond; J.B. seconds; passed, all ayes. Addie received check to deposit with Mr. Williams’ cash.

**5) OLD BUSINESS**:

Chad Broussard: Apologizes for missing last meeting; didn’t receive the email. Still owes last payment; asks for more time; money owed is 2 years old. $2586.00 is outstanding balance. We need to get it resolved by fiscal year end of 6/30/2018. J.G. suggests no more show dates approved or future licenses issued until this is paid. We recognize he’s trying hard but we have an auditor to answer to and it’s not fair to other promoters. J.G. so moves; J.B. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Wrestlemania: 1 broke leg, 2 concussions, some broke ribs, etc. Suspended 5 guys for pile driving. Altogether very successful and brought in nice amounts in taxes and license fees.

**6) NEW BUSINESS**:

B.E. and J.G. inform commission on Bills. The wrestling changes in House bill will affect LSBWC oversight of wrestling events. Bill promotes those venues/events under 400 persons not be under commission purview; that no commission rep will preside (unless requested by promoter). They will pay no show reservation fees; no ambulance or doctor will be required but someone certified in CPR must be present. This commission objects to the removal of ambulance and will try and address this to Senate. The commission does not like the bill and hopefully no one gets hurt; have inserted language that LSBWC will not be responsible for any litigation arising from these events. This will be a test of the promoter’s professionalism and care for their fighters and sport.

1. House Wrestling Bill: passed house as amended; going to Senate; needs to add ambulance - call
2. Senate: change of venue bill to be discussed

The commission will look to revise LARS 85.b to reflect changes, if approved by Senate, for these small wrestling shows. New Notice of Intent on hold until results of bills.

On Anti-doping update: Dr. Ferguson is researching testosterone therapy issue. Regardless, new WFO update needs to be on website and linked; B.E. will advise Brian. J.B. will also help with the research.

Mississippi show: J.G. was invited to a casino show and said it was a great production and was able to review their online processes. The LSBWC is invited to visit again.

**7) PAST SHOWS**

Ricky’s past shows were fine.

**9) UPCOMING SHOWS:**

MMA: 5/12 Cypress Bayou WFC, McGovern; May 19 in W. Monroe. 4/18 cancelled, along with planned hospitality crawfish boil.

Wrestling: 4/14: Mark Vaughn in Mansfield; Teddy Nall, Lake Charles; David Pitre in Luling.

4/15: David Pitre in Houma

4/20: Josh Newell in Farmerville

4/21: Josh Newell in Alexandria

4/28: Robert Greif in Sunset

5/5: Mike Beadle in Bayou Vista

J.S. moves to approve these shows; J.B. seconds, passed all ayes.

**10) NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

May 10 looks good for all back here Embassy Suites. Particulars to be relayed later; J.G. moves to approve date and adjourn; T.F. seconds, meeting adjourned.