**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**APRIL 10, 2014**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**
ALVIN TOPHAM (A.T.)
BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)
PATRICK MCGINITY (P.M.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)
HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.)
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER (R.N.)

 ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) ACCT

1. **MINUTES:**

J.G. moves to accept minutes as written; B.E. seconds; passed, all ayes. B.E. moves to pay salaries and bills, J.G. seconds; passed, all ayes.

1. **LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

Rich Clementi: promoter renewal MMA; J.G. moves to approve pending bond renewal; B.D. seconds; all ayes.

A.T. reminds Mr. Clementi about getting Federal ID numbers from contestants and to keep up with website entries. Advises him to remind everyone that id's are required for MMA fighters. He will pass it on to all. Should be done a week before shows. That way gives all time in case we need replacement fighters.

1. **PAST SHOWS:**

2 MMA shows; Shreveport & Sulfer; both ok...not as well attended but ok. R.N. had numerous small shows (19) in Plaquemines & at Wrestlemania. Independent shows with Wrestlemania did very well. B.E. says if every organization was as professional as WWE we would never have any problems.

1. **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

One boxing this Friday @ Houma @ Civic Center; 26th Belle of BR, Matt McGovern; 5/10, Evangeline Downs by Bad Chad Broussard; 5/24 Boxing in Monroe.

MMA: 4/26 Rich Clementi in Slidell; Delta Downs on 5/3 by Scott Dawson; 17th in Monroe by A. Gray; 5/3 in Shreveport by K. Addison; June 20th @ Horseshoe Casino in Shreveport, TV show.

T.F. moves to approve all shows; H.W. seconds; all shows approved; all ayes.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**:

On Risk Mgt bill; they say they spent $20k defending suit against A.T.; B.E. moves we hold pmt to Risk Mgt until we get review of costs; H.W. seconds; passed, all ayes.

J.G. still working on rule changes.

James Johnson issue: we have a complaint from Oklahoma about forged blood work by James Johnson. B.E. got a call from J.J. telling him he's won his last few fights and wants to re-apply for a boxing license. At present, at last 6 fights, the combined record of 6 opponents is 38W-135L and 1 draw; he also applied in MO; ABC advised him not to apply as he has alleged to have forged blood work; he has been denied licenses in other states even though he won his last fight.

Due to these facts, A.T. states he should be not allowed to be associated with any sporting events in the state of LA, indefinitely.

T.F. brings up that due to his physical condition he should never be able to fight in LA, period.

B.E.: he's already on suspension in LA; 7 of 14 of his last fights he TKO'd...we can do an immediate suspension due to danger to general public and other contestants. Also, Fight Fax doesn't want JJ on any fight cards. A.T. suggests we add to his suspension the OK charges and that J.G. compose a letter to him to that effect.

JG moves that, due to aforementioned facts, we immediately suspend him from all ring sports in LA and issue an order he may not attend any events in any capacity other than a spectator. B.E. seconds; passed all ayes. B.E. will contact FightFax upon written notice from J.G.. JG will also review whether we should give him a hearing or not.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**:

B.E. says a gentleman named Gibson was supposed to be here from NABU to apply as a sanctioning body...J.G. moves to give B.E. authority to grant a championship fight to NABU provided that the fight is a bona fide competitive fight. H.W. seconds; passed all ayes.

James Gibson out of NABU from Shreveport arrives to address the commission; had 4 title fights; originally formed in 2011; he purchased it; fight in Monroe on 5/24 by Hickson and he's been requested to do a title fight. ([NABUboxing.net](http://NABUboxing.net)); he's not a promoter just looking for sanctioning authority; works with Jim Erickson; B.E. reviews specifics with him (what weight class, etc.); He reviews his criteria for his contestants for champions.

J.G moves that, based upon the fact that NABU is sanctioned by ABC, will give them sanctioning ability in LA; B.D. seconds; passed all ayes; Mr. Gibson will keep B.E. informed of progress of "title" shows.

A.T.: @ Superdome the gate taxes were paid by the LA Superdome and not the WWE...

ABC Convention is July 26, 27th training sessions; B.E. would like to commit to helping ABC out with the convention training sessions; also will need membership fee.

Ortho surgeons had seminar in NO and Dr. Leddis has been authorized to submit a bill to the legislature to allow sports teams/contestants to bring their own doctors to the State of LA. We need to support these efforts. T.F. has reservations against unknown quacks possibly providing substandard care; A.T. reassures only Drs we know will be Okayed prior to events.

1. **NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

Financial year end is 6/30/2014; J.G. needs a new Adobe Pro Program to track bonds; will inquire about a 5 key version so Addie and others can take advantage of the program.

B.D. would like to move that next Boxing event on 5/10 that we have something special for Johnny Raymond; BE seconds; passed, all ayes. Addie - resend obit to B.E.

5/8 would be a good date for next meeting for all....J.G. moves to adjourn; H.W. seconds; passed all ayes; meeting adjourned.