**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**JANUARY 11, 2018**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**
BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.) - ABSENT - MEDICAL

JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)
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

Joe Ancona Hearing: Tom Shea for commission, Brigid Collins for Mr. Ancona; transcript will be distributed when completed.

1. **MINUTES:**

T.F. moves to accept the minutes as written and approve financial report to pay bills and payroll; J.S. seconds; passed, all ayes.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Mr. David Pitre, Jr. and Mr. David Pitre, Sr.

Joe Ancona and his attorney, Brigid Collins

**4) LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:**

David Pitre, Jr., wrestling promoter renewal. Russell Naquin: Elmo Boudreaux was more involved in this physician issue at one of his shows. D.P.Jr. did not like the price of the doctor Elmo found for his show. Elmo was deputy. The doctor cancelled out show. We found a doctor for the show but he wanted $400. D.P.Jr. refused to pay, and said he was going to do the show anyway. Elmo contacted a friend of D.P.Jr. to let him know his license will be suspended if he went ahead with the show without a doctor. We cancelled that doctor; another doctor was found elsewhere. D.P.Jr. affirmed that is an accurate recitation. D.P.Jr. says he always intended to find a doctor but was under a lot of stress.

D.P.Jr. says, by our Revised Statutes that commission should find and appoint physician. Commission takes view that “appoint” means commissions approves the doctor that the promoter finds. T.F. suggests we should perhaps make the statute more clear. OPEN DISCUSSION BY T.F. ON PROCESS TO PROCURE, APPOINT PHYSICIAN BEFORE THE SHOW TO REVIEW HIS CREDENTIALS.

Fees on physicians: D.P.Jr. usually pays $250 for a doctor. Now it’s up to $500. B.E. reiterates that doctors set their fees, not the commission. Discussion on contracts with physician contracts (doctor agreed to $250, but his contract with commission says $300) but fee is up to the doctor, not us...typo in contract, will talk to J.G. You can have doctor donate their time; agreed fee is between physician and promoter. Addie gives a copy of the contract to Mr. Shea for his review.

In addition, Acadian Ambulance is the only game in town and was looking for some kind of relief.

T.F. relays that interns are not covered by state General Liability insurance so we can’t use them at fights. Promoters must have a state licensed medical doctor.

Waiting on his fees and bond for his promoter license renewal.

**5) OLD BUSINESS**:

 Will delay discussion of NOI/FIS questions until J.G. is present

**6) NEW BUSINESS**:

 Addie will produce a draft house bill on the domicile and clarification of the physician appointment issue.

Senator Waldsworth will present a bill to have the domicile language from Orleans Parish to “wherever the domicile of the Secretary”.

**7) PAST SHOWS:** No discussion

**8) UPCOMING SHOWS:**

Wrestling: 1/15 in Cecilia and 26; Oakdale 1/27; Plaquemines on Feb. 3, also Lake Charles and Shreveport on the same day. Russell will verify with J.G. that bonds, etc., are in order and all licenses renewed.

WWE has sent all docs and $$ ; T.F. moves to accept their license, J.S. seconds. Approved, all ayes.

T.F. moves to accept shows, B.D. seconds; passed, all ayes.

From WWE: on 4/6 have 8 shows 4/6 - 4/10, many events and exhibitions, at Smoothie King Center and/or convention center.

T.F. moves to accept WWE dates & exhibitions; J.B. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Senator Waldsworth will present a bill to have the domicile language from Orleans Parish to “wherever the domicile of the Secretary”.

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

Next meeting: Feb. 7 or 8 for next meeting; 7th seems good at 1pm, Room 2. T.F. moves to adjourn, J.S. seconds, meeting adjourned.