OHIO CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

10 A.M. –May 4, 2011
RIFFE CENTER, 77 SOUTH HIGH STREET
31ST FLOOR, SOUTH B AND C
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chairman Jo Ann Davidson. Commissioners McKinley Brown, Martin Hoke, Ranjan Manoranjan, Peter Silverman, John Steinhauer and June Taylor were in attendance. The minutes of the April 18 meeting were approved.

Chairman Davidson introduced Fredric E. Gushin, Project Manager for Spectrum Gaming Group. Along with Michael C. Epps, from Spectrum's Legal Department, Mr. Gushin presented an overview of strategic advisory and gaming regulatory services available to the Casino Control Commission from Spectrum Gaming Group. They discussed the background of Spectrum Gaming Group, reviewed their key team members, preparation of a Strategic Plan and gaming regulatory services available. They indicated that they will be working with the Ohio Lottery Commission and stressed their company's focus on ethics. Any potential conflicts of interest will be avoided because Spectrum prohibits working for casino companies operating in the state of Ohio during the time period of their contract. They reported that 60 percent of their business is working for government entities. They also said that they are comfortable that a nine-month strategic plan could be developed to meet the estimated time that one or more of Ohio's casinos plan to open. Spectrum's key advice for the members of the Commission is to be prepared for the complex policy issues they will be asked to consider, keep an eye on revenue and keep the games fair for Ohio's citizens.

The meeting continued with a presentation from Robert W. Stocker II, Attorney at Law, from Dickinson Wright PLLC in Lansing, Michigan. A graduate of Denison University, Mr. Stocker is chair of his firm's gaming practice group but does not associate with groups doing business with Ohio. Mr. Stocker offered advice regarding independent gaming labs vs. state labs, the definition of institutional investor, providing a solid foundation on dealing with problem gamblers, and licensing for gaming equipment suppliers only as opposed to all suppliers. He also spoke to dealing with the hiring of Casino Commission staff and the importance of being involved in the Gaming Regulators Association to keep abreast of changes in the industry. He continually stressed the importance of integrity for all groups involved in the casino industry: developers, management and employees. Regarding problem gamblers, he cited a National Center for Responsible Gaming report he co-authored regarding self exclusion indicating that one percent of the male population is in the problem gambler category, one percent will have difficulty with gambling at some point in their life and the greatest at-risk group is college-age males in the 18-25 year old age group. He also offered advice on how best to keep abreast of the gaming industry, sharing information with casino authorities and the appropriate level of background checks.

The Commission members approved Resolution 2011-3 designating Chairman Davidson as the Ohio Casino Control Commission's designee to work with the Ohio Legislative Service Commission regarding electronic rule-filing for the Commission.

Chairman Davidson indicated that effective immediately recently-retired Attorney General attorney John Williams is on board to assist the Casino Control Commission as needed. His contract will be renewed July 1, 2011 and be in effect until September 30, 2011. She reminded Commissioners that May is open enrollment month for health care under the State of Ohio plan and indicated that all Commission members have been fingerprinted with the exception of Commissioners Hoke and Silverman who have their fingerprints on file with the Ohio Supreme Court. She said that payroll is set to begin the first of June and they will receive payment for previous months' service. She also advised Commission members to keep track of their expenses for future reimbursement. Chairman Davidson reminded Commission members that as registered lobbyists, they must file a quarterly report with the Joint Legislative Ethics Commission by the end of May. Finally, she discussed continuing meetings on the first and third Wednesday at 10 a.m. for the time being. The Commission meeting will be moved to the Commission office at 10 West Broad Street as soon as possible. Several Commission members suggested starting the meetings at 9 a.m.

Because of the importance of meeting with regulators from other states, the Commission discussed possible visits of two teams of three to Iowa and Missouri. It was also discussed that Chairman Davidson will look at state agency and commission policies on attending professional conferences to assist with developing a policy for the Casino Control Commission.

The Attorney General's staff is working on the development of additional rules for the Commission's consideration regarding insurance requirements, surveillance, general organization, general definitions and authority, rule construction, debt financing and a key employee application using the multi-jurisdictional form with Ohio supplemental questions. These draft rules will be shared with Commission members as soon as available.

The Attorney General staff reviewed changes to the Ohio Casino Control Commission's Application for a Casino Operator, Management Company, or Holding Company License. The application has been revised and the Commission made additional changes which will be reviewed by Commission members at the next meeting.

The Ohio Casino Control Commission will be working with the Ohio Lottery who will process billing for the Commission. The Commission members also asked Chairman Davidson to make a recommendation as to which tasks Spectrum would be asked to perform for the Commission and make a recommendation on the number of hours. Staffing level priorities and advice and review on rules were key areas discussed. In addition to focusing on which services to use from the consultant, other priorities are to focus on recruiting an Executive Director and finalizing the Application.

The Commission meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.