



TENNESSEE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

1:00 p.m.

The meeting was held on May 24, 2018, in Nashville, Tennessee. Chairman Skiles, Commissioner Jones, and Commissioner Harb Roberts were present. In attendance on behalf of TABC staff were the following: Director Byrd, Assistant Director Blair, Commission Counsel Stepp, Commission Counsel Hollingshead-Cook, Mark Reineke, Nancy Townsend, CLEO Tubbs, John Pallas, and Nichelle Dorroh.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 26, 2018, COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Discussion/Action Taken: Commissioner Jones moved the minutes be accepted as presented and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

2. RETAIL MATTERS

1. 8TH AVENUE NORTH LIQUOR NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (DAVIDSON COUNTY)

Applicant: Mike & Beroo, LLC
Member(s): Michael Ibrahim, 100%

Date of application: 4/13/18

Before the Commission is a request for licensing of a new retail package store to be located at 1312 Rosa L. Parks Blvd., Nashville, TN 37208. Applicant is leasing the premises from landlord, Abram Gerges and Michael Ibrahim. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the request subject to receipt of the following items:

- a. license fee

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended conditional approval subject to payment of the license fee. Commissioner Jones moved approval contingent on any necessary items and the motion was seconded. The motion was approved with three ayes.

2. MASON SPIRIT SHOPPE MASON, TENNESSEE (TIPTON COUNTY)



Applicant: Buzzard Holding Co. Inc.
Member(s): Dexter Lee Orman, 100%

Date of application: 4/11/18

Before the Commission is a request for licensing of a new retail package store to be located at 95 Highway 70, Mason, TN 38049. The applicant is leasing the premises from landlord, Joe Christmas, Jr. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the request subject to receipt of the following items:

- a. license fee

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd recommended conditional approval of the request subject to the license fee. Commissioner Jones moved the application subject to receipt of any items missing and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

3. ALCOA HIGHWAY LIQUORS KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE (KNOX COUNTY)

Applicant: Ma Ambe Inc.
Shareholder(s): Pramit Patel, 100%

Current licensee: Rodi Inc. d/b/a Alcoa Highway Liquors (license no. 4056)
Proposed licensee: Ma Ambe Inc. d/b/a Alcoa Highway Liquors

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 3105 Alcoa Hwy. Suite B, Knoxville, TN 37920. The applicant is purchasing the business from the existing owner¹ and will lease the premises from landlord, Chu Brothers Partnership. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the request subject to receipt of the following items:

- a. license fee
- b. completed credit check form and proof of financial viability

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended conditional approval of the application subject to the license fee and the completed credit check form and proof of financial viability.

¹ In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



Commissioner Harb Roberts moved for conditional approval subject to receipt of missing items and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

**4. SOUTHERN SPIRITS WINES & WHISKEYS
LEXINGTON, TENNESSEE (HENDERSON COUNTY)**

Applicant: Dustin Jones, 100%

Current licensee: Lanny Jones d/b/a Southern Spirits (license no. 3835)
Proposed licensee: Dustin Jones d/b/a Southern Spirits Wines & Whiskeys

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 902 S. Broad St., Lexington, TN 38351. Applicant is acquiring the existing package store at this location.² The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of this request subject to receipt of the following items:

- ~~a. certificate of occupancy~~
- b. license fee

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended conditional approval of the request and noted that the certificate of occupancy had been provided. Commissioner Harb Roberts moved for approval subject to receipt of the missing items and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

**5. AIRPORT CHAMPION DISCOUNT LIQUOR AND WINE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (DAVIDSON COUNTY)**

Applicant: Airport Champion Discount Liquor and Wine, LLC
Member(s): Ayad Ibrahim, 100%

Current licensee: Airport Champion Discount Liquor & Wine Inc. (Adel Halaka, 100%) d/b/a Airport Champion Discount Liquor & Wine (license no. 3974)

Proposed licensee: Airport Champion Discount Liquor and Wine, LLC d/b/a Airport Champion Discount Liquor and Wine

² In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 152 Donelson Pike, Nashville, TN 37214. The applicant is purchasing the business from the existing owner³ and the applicant will lease the premises from Samir Aramanuous and Heba Rezk, landlord. The TABC staff recommends that this item be scheduled for a contested case hearing due to financial viability, hidden ownership and other related concerns.

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended the matter be referred to a contested case hearing to further develop the facts. Attorney Danielle Elks was present on behalf of the applicant. The matter was rolled to the end of the meeting and the other items on the agenda were taken up. The matter was then taken up later in the meeting. Director Byrd then noted that the audience could be asked to leave if the discussion would include the applicant's confidential and proprietary information. Attorney Elks declined to have the audience leave and then addressed the Commission on the timeline of the application, financial viability, hidden ownership concerns, and the applicant's lack of IRS tax returns. A discussion was held and after the discussion Director Byrd commented that his concerns with the application were still present. Further discussion was held and it was discussed whether the matter should be referred to a contested case hearing or continued one month in order to see if the issue of the failure to file returns could be addressed within that time. After discussion, Commissioner Harb Roberts moved to continue the matter of Airport Champion's application one month during which applicant will make all efforts to correct the failure to file federal income tax returns and if not, the Commission will address the matter at the next meeting. The motion was seconded and the motion to continue the matter passed with three ayes.

3. WHOLESALE MATTERS

1. TRIPLE "C" DISTRIBUTING (LICENSE NO. 38) KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE (KNOX COUNTY)

Applicant: Triple "C" Distributing Company, Inc.
Shareholder(s):

Current (%)

Kimberly V. Lightholder, 16.667

Elizabeth H. Craig, 16.667

Proposed (%)

Kimberly V. Lightholder, 33.332

Elizabeth H. Craig, 33.332

³ In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



IRR Trust f/b/o Robert J. Bruce (Raymond D. Hand, Trustee), 16.67

IRR Trust f/b/o Robert J. Bruce (Raymond D. Hand, Trustee), 33.332

Kenneth W. Christenberry Jr., 12

Kenneth W. Christenberry Jr. IRR Trust f/b/o Meredith C. Kuester, 28

Kenneth W. Christenberry Jr. IRR Trust f/b/o Paige C. Moncier, 10

The wholesale licensee (no. 38) operating at 6600 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919 is requesting Commission approval for changes in ownership as indicated in the chart above. There are no new owners involved in the transaction. The TABC staff recommends approval of the request.

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended approval of the request. Commissioner Jones moved for approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

4. DISTILLERY/BREWERY

1. THUNDER ROAD DISTILLERY (LICENSE NO. 115) KODAK, TENNESSEE (SEVIER COUNTY)

Applicant: Dumplin Creek Distillery, LLC

The manufacturer doing business at 3605 Outdoor Sportsman's Place, Kodak, TN 37764 is requesting approval to expand its premises pursuant to T.C.A. § 57-3-202(i)(4)⁴ authorizing a distillery to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises of the distillery, including any property owned or leased by the distillery that is contiguous to the distillery location. The distillery has identified a portion of its property to be used for tastings and is seeking Commission approval to include such property as part of its licensed premises for the purpose of on premise consumption sales. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of this request subject to an inspection.

⁴ T.C.A. § 57-3-202(i): (4) (A) A distiller's license issued or renewed under this section authorizes a distillery to sell to any person of legal drinking age alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises of the distillery, other than the bonded premises, where such consumption is also permitted by federal law. Distilled spirits sold under this subdivision (i)(4) must be manufactured on the premises of the distillery. (B) As used in subdivision (i)(4)(A), "premises," for purposes of consumption on the premises: (i) Means any and all of the real property owned or leased by a distillery upon which the distillery is operated, including any real property owned by the distillery contiguous thereto; and (ii) Does not mean the bonded premises of a distillery



Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommend conditional approval of the request subject to an inspection. Commissioner Harb Roberts moved for conditional approval subject to the inspection and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

2. TENNESSEE LEGEND NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (DAVIDSON COUNTY)

Applicant: Crystal Falls Spirits, LLC
Member(s): Jay Holeman, 100%

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a manufacturer to be located at 1310 Clinton St., Suite 115, Nashville, TN 37203. This will be the fourth manufacturer's license for the applicant.⁵ The applicant holds two manufacturer licenses in Sevierville and one in Cookeville. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the request subject to receipt of the following items:

- a. TABC agent report
- b. TABC inspection which includes an acknowledgment of rules & regulations
- c. certificate of occupancy
- d. license fee

Discussion/Action Taken: Director Byrd reviewed the matter to the Commission and recommended conditional approval of the request subject to receipt of the listed items. Commissioner Jones moved for approval subject to receipt of any items as necessary and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

- RLPS UPDATE

Discussion/Action taken: Director Byrd updated the Commission on the RLPS system and licenses issued from the system.

6. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS

⁵ Crystal Falls Spirits LLC holds three other TABC manufacturer licenses: License no. 124 in Sevierville, license no. 161 in Sevierville, and license SUPMFR-PUT-1807932 in Cookeville.



- Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 26, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. The July meeting was confirmed to be July 26, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. The audit committee meeting will follow the regular July meeting.
- August (TBD) -The August meeting was not set.

APPROVED FOR ENTRY UPON THE MINUTE BOOKS OF THE TENNESSEE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION THIS THE 28th DAY OF JUNE 2018.



COMMISSIONER



CLAYTON BYRD, DIRECTOR