# TENNESSEE ATHLETIC COMMISSION MINUTES

**DATE:** November 18, 2010

**PLACE:** Andrew Johnson Tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

710 James Robertson Parkway

Nashville, Tennessee

**PRESENT:** Commission Members:

Joe Smith, Chairman

Steve Hannah, Vice-Chairman

Melissa Bast

R. Warne Fitch, M.D.

Teri Mast Jack Sammons Scott White

**PRESENT:** Staff Members:

Jeff Mullen, Executive Director

Steve Majchrzak, Assistant Commissioner Ed Scudder, Assistant General Counsel

Susan Lockhart, Executive Administrative Assistant

**ABSENT:** Commission Members:

Chuck Clark Tanika Pinn

**GUEST:** Nick Harmeier

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and the following business was transacted:

## **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Mullen called the roll. Five (5) Commission members were present and two (2) were absent. Chairman Smith advised that Mr. Sammons had called to say that he would be arriving late.

#### **MINUTES**

Ms. Mast made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Hannah. **Motion** Carried.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Mr. Mullen gave an oral report regarding the pro and amateur events that occurred since the September 2010 meeting of the Athletic Commission. He also handed out a report comparing the average revenues and costs for pro events. Ms. Bast requested that Mr. Mullen present a comparison of event schedules for amateur events at the next meeting including locations for the Commission's review

Mr. Majchrzak joined the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

### **LEGAL REPORT**

Mr. Scudder advised that there were no complaints to be presented. Mr. White asked for an update regarding complaint 2010016621 that was previously reviewed by the Commission. Mr. Scudder advised that the Consent Order notice to the Respondent was returned in the mail and would be forwarded to another address on file

Mr. Scudder notified the Commission that he reviewed the information provided by Mr. Madagan at the last meeting and determined that the World Series of Boxing (WSB) and its athletes would both be considered "professional" by Tennessee's laws and rules.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was not old business to discuss.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**World Series of Boxing -** Chairman Smith advised that the WSB plans to hold its events in Mississippi as they are recognized in that state as amateurs. He further advised that there are some legislators interested in proposing changes to Tennessee's laws to allow organizations and athletes such as those associated with WSB to maintain their amateur status.

**Discuss Rules to be Proposed at Rule Meeting -** Chairman Smith asked if any matters needed be discussed relating to the proposed rule meeting. Mr. Majchrzak presented the budget report to the Commission for their consideration during the rule making process. He stated that having part-time staff to assist administratively and at the professional events would result in more predictable increments of expenditures in the future. Mr. White asked Mr. Mullen to prepare a report based on the total cost for the Commission to exist excluding event revenues and expenditures. It was determined that this report would also not need to include potential costs related to complaints.

Mr. Scudder presented a draft of the rules previously discussed for proposal. After some discussion, he advised that the proposed rules would be filed in time for the rule making hearing

to take place at the Commission's next meeting in January 2011. The Commission agreed to discuss possible fee changes at the next meeting after everyone has had more time to review the budget reports.

**Election of New Chairman** – Mr. Sammons made a motion to nominate Mr. Hannah for Chairman, seconded by Mr. White. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Hannah was elected by acclamation

Mr. Sammons made a motion to nominate Ms. Mast for Vice-Chairperson, seconded by Mr. White. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Mast was elected by acclamation.

The Commission inquired as to the process to submit recommendations for legislation changes. Mr. Majchrzak advised the Commission of the protocol and Mr. White advised that the filing deadline is in February. Mr. Mullen and Mr. Scudder requested that any ideas for proposed legislation be submitted to them no later than December 25, 2010. This will allow time for Mr. Scudder to prepare a draft for the Commission's review at their next meeting.

Nick Harmeier was recognized and he advised the Commission that he has some concerns with the insurance process for amateur promoters. Mr. Majchrzak cautioned the Commission that Mr. Harmeier may have a complaint that would need to be presented by appropriate means. Mr. Harmeier advised that he does not want to file a formal complaint and that he only wants the Commission to be aware of potential problems regarding the insurance purchased through the sport's sanctioning bodies. Mr. Scudder advised the Commission that he would consult with Mr. Harmeier after the meeting to determine how he would recommend the Commission to proceed in this matter

After a brief discussion regarding how to solicit big events for Tennessee, the Commission agreed on Mr. Majchrzak's recommendation that Mr. Mullen prepare a list of available venues to share with promoters and to post on the Commission's website.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.