

HAWAII STATE BOXING COMMISSION
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar (use link below)
<https://dcca-hawaii.gov/us/j/91388795167>

Present: Mike Freitas, Chairperson
Nante Manangan, Commission Member
Joel Kim, Commission Member
Benjamin Creps, Esq., Deputy Attorney General (“DAG”)
James Skizewski, Executive Officer (“EO”)
Kellie Teraoka, Secretary
Mia Hoang, Office Assistant (Technical Support)

Excused: Mark Ozaki, Commission Member

Guests: Lank the King
Coach Eiichi Jumawan
Robyn Jumawan
Phone-in Caller
Andrew Verdi, California State Athletic Commission, Department of
Consumer Affairs (In-person attendee)

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was filed with the State electronic calendar as required by Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) section 92-7(b).

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m., at which time quorum was established. Chair Freitas proceeded with a roll call of the Commission members. Chair Freitas, Mr. Manangan, and Mr. Kim stated that they were present and alone. Mr. Ozaki, Commission Member, was excused from the meeting.

Approval of the December 5, 2019, Meeting Minutes: Chair Freitas asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item.

Mr. Jumawan raised his hand and was promoted to a panelist at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Jumawan stated that he raised hand in error as his testimony was not related to the minutes.

Mr. Jumawan returned to an attendee at 10:11 a.m.

It was moved by Mr. Kim, seconded by Mr. Manangan, and unanimously carried to approve the open session minutes of the Commission's December 5, 2019, meeting, as circulated.

Chair's Report:

Chair Freitas stated that he had no announcements.

Mr. Jumawan was promoted to a panelist at 10:12 a.m.

Mr. Jumawan reported that there were 3 to 4 boxing shows this year. Mr. Kim held an officials' clinic on Maui to ensure that there are adequate officials to put on a boxing event. However, due to timing, lack of venues and officials, they could not hold the event this year. He also reported that in a few weeks, many Hawaii athletes, clubs, and coaches are flying to Texas for the national championships.

Chair Freitas asked for input regarding unsanctioned boxing events that are occurring in Hawaii. Mr. Jumawan explained that these unregulated events, often called "smokers," are being advertised on social media. These are unsanctioned events and the clubs and coaches involved are not registered with USA Boxing. In addition, they are sparring with or without head gear and there are no medical physicians on-site. The public are misinformed and believe these events are sanctioned by USA Boxing, when they are not.

Chair Freitas asked if there is anything the Commission can do to stop these events. EO Skizewski explained that the Commission is not an investigative body. The investigation would fall under the Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO"). RICO will investigate the unlicensed activity and decide whether to prosecute. Once the investigation is complete, the Commission will be notified of a settlement agreement, which they can decide to approve or not.

EO Skizewski thanked Mr. Jumawan for his dedication to the boxing community and stated that he would like to attend upcoming amateur boxing events.

Mr. Jumawan reported that there are 3 upcoming boxing events in 2023.

Mr. Kim stated that he will be hosting an event on February 4, 2023, which will be an international amateur show, with teams coming in from Canada and Japan.

Chair Freitas thanked Mr. Jumawan for his report and for his efforts in the boxing community.

Mr. Jumawan returned to an attendee at 10:20 a.m.

Chair Freitas asked for the status on the term dates for the current Commission members, as he wanted to ensure that there is quorum before the legislative session begins.

EO Skizewski stated that Mr. Manangan's term ends on June 30, 2023. Chair Freitas, Mr. Ozaki, and Mr. Kim's terms end on June 30, 2024. The Commission currently has one vacancy and interested applicants can apply directly through the Governor's office.

Chair Freitas asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There were none.

Executive
Officer's Report:

EO Skizewski stated that he took over in January 2022 when EO Taniguchi retired. He asked the Commission members to share with him any available resources that would benefit him as he hopes to learn this new area quickly. He stated that he is looking forward to upcoming events and plans to hold Commission meetings more frequently (quarterly) so that the members can stay active and routinely hear updates from others in the boxing community.

Chair Freitas asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There were none.

Board's Business:

Approval of Boxing Event Card "Fight Night in Honolulu, Hawaii" scheduled for January 21, 2023

EO Skizewski explained that the Commission needs to review the proposed boxing event card for the Fight Night in Honolulu, Hawaii event on January 21, 2023. If the Commission feels that this event is viable, he will send the approval to the event site to issue the event permit.

Lank the King was promoted to a panelist at 10:27 a.m.

Mr. King stated that he is coming to Hawaii to put on a professional boxing event in January. He was previously a licensed promoter in 2019 and put on a smaller event at the Filipino Community Center. He has 3 upcoming dates reserved with the Hawaii Convention Center (January 21, 2023, May 27, 2023, and December 16, 2023). His goal is to spotlight professional boxing in the State of Hawaii. At the January 21, 2023, event, he will have 10 professional bouts with 5 local fighters and 5 mainland fighters and their opponents, with a total of 46 rounds.

Chair Freitas wanted to discuss the proposed boxing event card with the Commission members. He referred to the Light Heavyweight Bout (#7 on the fight card). Chair Freitas expressed concern that the fighter, Keli'i Kanekoa had only 1 previous professional fight, as 6 rounds is a lot for an individual with only 1 previous professional fight. Mr. Manangan

suggested having 4 rounds instead of 6. Mr. Kim agreed and stated that an individual who is making a professional debut would usually start with 4 rounds.

Mr. King explained that he felt that 6 rounds would be suitable since Mr. Kanekoa previously participated in professional MMA fights and normally when an individual crosses over in between MMA to Boxing, the mainland Boxing Commissions will consider the professional fights from both sports.

Mr. Kim asked how many professional MMA fights did Mr. Kanekoa participate in? Mr. King explained that he previously participated in 4 professional MMA fights.

After discussion, the Commission members agreed that they feel more comfortable with 4 rounds instead of 6 rounds, for the safety of the fighters involved.

It was motioned by Chair Freitas, seconded by Mr. Kim, and unanimously approved to approve the fight card as amended.

Lank the King returned to an attendee at 10:36 a.m.

EO Skizewski informed the Commission members that there was an in-person guest wishing to provide oral testimony.

Mr. Verdi, California State Athletic Commission, Department of Consumer Affairs introduced himself. He wanted to extend his gratitude and is in attendance to show California's support and willingness to work together with Hawaii.

Executive Session

At 10:37 a.m. it was moved by Chair Freitas, seconded by Mr. Kim, and unanimously carried to enter into executive session, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(1), to consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional licenses cited in HRS §26-9 and, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4), to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities. (Note: Board members and staff entered into Microsoft Teams):

At 10:45 a.m. it was moved by Chair Freitas, seconded by Mr. Manangan, and unanimously carried to exit executive session and return back to the open session meeting.

Applications:

Ratification list

It was moved by Chair Freitas, seconded by Mr. Kim, and unanimously carried to approve the attached ratification list.

Applications

It was moved by Chair Freitas, seconded by Mr. Managan, and unanimously carried to approve the following applications:

- 1) Boxers
 - i. Jovan Alayon
 - ii. Lawrence Knosp, Jr.
 - iii. Arnel Salaguinto
 - iv. Franklie Lee Soloman, Jr.
 - v. Fatu Tuitasi
 - vi. Xavier Whittaker
- 2) Judges
 - i. Galen Kim
- 3) Seconds
 - i. Luis Rivera-Velez
- 4) Physician
 - i. Brandon Snead

Next Meeting

Date: TBD

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Reviewed and approved by:

/s/ James Skizewski

James Skizewski
Executive Officer

Taken and recorded by:

/s/ Kellie Teraoka

Kellie Teraoka
Secretary

JS:kt
12/7/22

[X] Minutes approved as is.
[] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of _____

HAWAII STATE BOXING COMMISSION 11/22/22 – RATIFICATION LIST

LICENSE NUMBER

LICENSEE

BOXERS

21-01	PE BENITO, JAYBRIO
22-01	HELM, KEALOHANUI
22-02	FEBENITO, JAYBRIO

REFEREES

R22-01	KEOPUHIWA, MICHAEL
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SECONDS

S21-07	MARTINEZ, MARVIN
S22-01	MAUAI, JOSEPH
S22-02	MARTINEZ, MARVIN
S22-03	SILVA, ADRIAN, C.N.
S22-04	TAKATA, DARYL
S22-05	UENO, TOSHITAKE
S22-06	RICHARDSON, ROMAN
S22-07	PEREIRA, FRED
S22-08	FUJITANI, CR
S22-09	KAULI'A, PEDRO TORRES
S22-10	KIM, JOEL
S22-11	KIM, LANDON
S22-12	KEOPUHIWA, MICHAEL