

The Board of License Commissioners of Cecil County met in a regular session at the County Administrative Building, Conference Room, 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elk Room, Elkton, MD on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 9:15 A.M.

PRESENT: Stephen Miller, Chairman
Kristen Ortt, Commissioner
Bernard Chiominto, Commissioner
Lawrence Scott, Board Attorney
Holly Ayers, Risk Manager/Legal Tech
Earl Bradford, Chief Alcoholic Beverage Inspector
Robin S. Trader, Administrative Assistant

At 9:15 AM, Chairman Miller called the Cecil County Board of License Commissioners meeting to order. He asked everyone to rise and say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chairman Miller then called for a moment of silence for the firefighters who perished in a fire in Baltimore City on Monday, January 24, 2022.

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Class "B" BWL No. B-26 – Request received from Feldspar Services LLC and Wayne Leon Reeves, President/Secretary; Rodney Joel VanDerzee, Vice President/Treasurer; Patrick David Dixon, Assistant Secretary; Blue Marlin, Inc., T/A Buck's Restaurant & Tavern, 314 E. Main Street, Rising Sun, MD 21911

The management agreement was presented for approval; Commissioner Chiominto made a motion to approve the management agreement between Feldspar Services LLC and Blue Marling Inc; Commissioner Ortt seconded that motion, and the Board unanimously approved the management agreement between Feldspar Services LLC and Blue Marlin Inc.

UPDATE/REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

Class "B" BWL No. B-15 - Matthew Price Trainer, EMK Investments, LLC, 2360 Pulaski Highway, North East, MD 21901 – (Madison House)

Matthew Trainer appeared before the Board and was duly sworn by the Clerk. Mr. Trainer stated the premises is currently under contract; this company plans to tear the existing building down and rebuild; they would

very much like to keep the license active. He continued that they go before Land Use & Development on February 15; he asked for an extension for all of this to continue. There was a discussion regarding the time line and length of time the Board could extend at this time. With no further questions or discussion from the Board; Chairman Miller called for a motion. Commissioner Chiominto made a motion to approve the extension through August 1, 2022, therefore, Mr. Trainer will need to update the Board at the July 2022 meeting; Commissioner Ortt seconded that motion, and the Board unanimously approved the extension through August 1, 2022 with an update in July 2022.

APPLICATIONS

NEW LICENSE - continued

Application received from Robert Palsgrove, Member; Richard Biddle, Member; Willow & Oak Catering Co. LLC, T/A Willow & Oak Catering Co, 1316 Singerly Road, Elkton, Maryland 21921 for a new Class "B" Beer, Wine & Liquor Alcoholic Beverage License

Attorney David Mister appeared before the Board with Chrissy Timlin, Matthew Biddle, and Alicia Fox; they were duly sworn by the Clerk.

Mr. Mister stated, "when we were last here, I think Mr. Scott brought up an issue questioning about whether or not under the Board's regulations, we would fit the criteria for a Class B liquor license. He and I have had a chance to discuss this off the record, and I would proffer to the Board that we will be a full-service restaurant available to the public and will regularly be presenting meals to the public and will in fact be operating 30 or more than 30 days on a regular basis with full-service meals. If the Board recalls when we were here, we presented testimony to indicate that this is an event facility that has been in business since October of 2018. It has regularly been accommodating the public, up till now they've been doing it by using outside off-premises catering services for food and alcohol. They desire, the ability to be able to sell their own alcohol, they're under a retail license adding further to the tax base, hopefully. Some of you, I think, maybe personally familiar with the facility it's a really beautiful facility with lots of amenities, and I think it really will accommodate the public and be an asset to Cecil County. And we're happy to take any questions from the Board, if there's anything further, by the way, we have a series of different

menus and things that we have I have more copies here for you today that's this packet."

Right, let me ask in the current application has anything changed that which you provided to the Board; the applicants stated nothing has changed. Mr. Scott continued, "I just want to be clear for the record, you will be open for 30 days, and as such, I'm satisfied Commissioners that they meet the minimum requirements that are our regulations call for Class be licensed." Mr. Scott asked if there was anyone present who like to speak for or in opposition of this application hearing none, Chairman Miller called for a motion.

Commissioner Ortt stated "I move to approve the new license application received from Robert polls grove Member Richard Biddle Member Willow & Oak Catering Company LLC trading as Willow and Oak Catering Company, 1316 Singularly Road, Elkton, Maryland 21921 for a new Class B beer, wine and liquor alcoholic beverage license; Commissioner Chiominto seconded that motion and the Board unanimously approved

TRANSFER

Application received from Thomas Pennell II, President; Raheem Taylor, Vice President; Forge Restaurant Group Inc., T/A Forge, 472 Mauldin Avenue, North East, Maryland 21901 for transfer of Class "B" Beer, Wine & Liquor Alcoholic Beverage License No. B-99 from Johnny Bragg, SRJV, Inc. T/A Unwined, 472 N. Mauldin Avenue, North East, MD 21901

Thomas Pennell II and Raheem Taylor appeared before the Board; they were duly sworn by the Clerk. The fully executed application packet with proper fees included: signatures of 10 registered voters and property owners in District 5. Mr. Lawrence asked if the information in the application as submitted had changed since submitting; the applicants stated no. Chairman Miller asked the applicants, "could you tell us about what you're planning to do?" Mr. Pennell stated, "we're a full-service southern comfort food restaurant, so we want to have craft cocktails, craft beers, local beers, and we're going to do southern comfort menu, fried chicken and waffles, shrimp, and grits." The Board asked what the hours would be; Mr. Pennell stated Wednesday through Saturday 9 AM till 10 PM

and Sunday 10 AM – 2. The Board asked what their opening date is; Mr. Pennell stated they would like to open next week.

Mr. Scott asked if there was anyone present who like to speak for or in opposition of this application hearing none, Chairman Miller called for a motion. Commissioner Chiominto made a motion to approve the application received from Thomas Pannell, President, Raheem Taylor Vice President, Forge Restaurant Group Incorporated T/A Forge 472 N. Mauldin Avenue, North East, Maryland 21901 for transfer of Class “B” beer, wine, and liquor alcohol beverage license B-99 from Johnny Bragg SRJV, Inc. T/A Unwined, 472 N. Mauldin Avenue, North East, MD 21901

Application received from Bradford Peterson, Owner; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, Maryland for transfer of Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor Alcoholic Beverage License No. B-164 from Ali Afghanhi, President; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, MD 21903

Bradford Peterson appeared before the Board; he was duly sworn by the Clerk. The fully executed application packet with proper fees included: signatures of 10 registered voters and property owners in District 7. Mr. Lawrence asked if the information in the application as submitted had changed since submitting; the applicants stated no. Chairman Miller asked what Mr. Peterson’s plans were for the business; Mr. Peterson stated his plan is a neighborhood bar; he’s spoken with several Perryville residents, and they aren’t pleased with having a sports bar in the neighborhood, but they were interested in a neighborhood bar. He stated he plans to have handcrafted/hand cut, not frozen meat. With no further questions, Mr. Scott asked if there was anyone present who like to speak for or in opposition of this application hearing none, Chairman Miller called for a motion.

Commissioner Ortt made a motion to approve the application received from Bradford Peterson, Owner; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, Maryland for transfer of Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor Alcoholic Beverage License No. B-164 from Ali Afghanhi, President; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, MD 21903; Commissioner Chiominto seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the application received from Bradford Peterson, Owner; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, Maryland

for transfer of Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor Alcoholic Beverage License No. B-164 from Ali Afghani, President; Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, LLC, T/A Perryville Sport Bar & Grille, 648 Broad Street, Perryville, MD 21903.

Questions/Public Comment

General Business

- **Approve Minutes**
- **Specials**

Old Business

- **Rules & Regulations** – Chief Bradford stated the R&R are almost ready and they will schedule a meeting with Mr. Scott for review when they are complete.
- **Tobacco Policy** – Mr. Scott stated they have paused the tobacco policy at this time.

New Business

Mr. Scott asked Michael Durrell in the audience if he had business with the Liquor Board; Mr. Durrell stated he would like clarification from the last time he was here. Mr. Scott asked if he was on the agenda; he continued “though we empathize with you, if you are not on the agenda, we would not be able to hear you”, if he has questions, he can either ask Chief Bradford or himself. Mr. Durrell stated he wants to be put on the agenda.

At 9:53 AM - Commissioner Chiominto made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Chairman Miller seconded that motion and the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

BY:

Stephen Miller, Chairman

ATTEST:

Robin S. Trader, Administrative Assistant