

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, September 24, 2025, at 9:15 A.M.

PRESENT: Stephen Miller, Chairman
Bernard Chiominto, Commissioner
Keith Baynes, County Attorney
Earl Bradford, Chief Alcoholic Beverage Inspector
Sandra Cumm, Administrative Assistant
Rita Buckland, Paralegal

Absent: Kristen Ortt

Chairman Miller: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to welcome you all and call to order, The Cecil County Board of Licensed Commissioners. Today is Wednesday, September 24, 2025. Would you all stand for the pledge of allegiance?

Chairman Miller: Asked for everyone that was to testify at today's hearing to stand, raise their right hand and be sworn in.

Administrative Assistant: Sworn in Earl Bradford and audience members who were going to testify today.

Chairman Miller: Thank you, you can be seated. Our first case is an update progress report, Class "B" BWL No. B-199, Approved February 2025, Jessica Carrillo, ERBC, LLC, T/A **Elk River Brewing at the Ford House**, 16-18 South Main Street, North East, MD 21901, Would you please come forward?

Brad Carrillo: Thanks for meeting us. I'm Brad Carrillo, and this is Jessica Carrillo. We're here to give you the update. First of all, we'd like to apologize for not making last month's meeting. We didn't get the notice, and I talked to Earl, so we apologize for not making it

last month, so... I'll do a little bit of the update, and you can fill in when you want. If you don't have anything to fill in, so...

Chief Bradford: Can I make one request before we get... Yeah, sure. Since Kristen's not here today, Commissioner Ortt, should we make an announcement if nobody Wants to, proceed today, since we don't have a full board? They have that option.

Chairman Miller: Good idea. We have a commissioner that was excused today, so... We don't have the full board, but we do have a quorum. So, if you want to proceed today, it's fine. If you'd rather get your case postponed till next month when we have a full board, you can do that. Just let us know. Do you want to proceed?

Brad Carrillo: Yeah, we'll proceed. Yeah. Okay. Absolutely. We're here to kind of give the status update. I think initially our, approval was for 6 months, and I... I guess I didn't think that 6 months has passed, so, we are in the process of building the taproom, or the restaurant and bar area. We had a... about a 3-month delay in the permitting process. Once we got the liquor... once we went through this and were able to move through to the next step, we needed to have architectural drawings drawn up in order to get through the fire marshal... And, approval. That was about a 3-month process. So, we got our permits about a, I don't know, maybe 60 days ago, and we're in the process now. We've got all the... we've gotten our first plumbing, inspection passed, so, framing will begin in the next week or so. And we hope to have the establishment open by the end of the year. So, I think what we're asking for is an extension of 6 months to, to, get it finished, and That's really about where we're at since we spoke last time.

Chairman Miller: Okay. Jessica?

Jessica Carrillo: That's... yeah, we're, ready to go. Looking forward to opening up by... if not by the end of the year, January is, definitely grand opening time, so... get through the holidays and start off when the North East is a little less crowded with tourists, and get ourselves going, so...

Brad Carrillo: I think just another thing; our plan is to have soft opening until the season picks up. We'll do a grand opening sometime later in the year, so... We will open, but we're going to try to work out the kinks before tourist season happens next year in North East.

Chairman Miller: I think the first weekend in North East in December is the Christmas parade.

Brad Carillo: Yep, that'll be we'll try to probably steer clear of that weekend. We might do the next weekend. We're well aware of that weekend.

Chairman Miller: I'd be greedy, I'd go for the Christmas break.

Brad Carillo: You don't want to make them mad the first time they come in. It packs them in, buddy.

Chairman Miller: I agree. Okay, Mr. Chiominto, do you have any questions?

Commissioner Chiominto: No.

Chairman Miller: Mr. Bradford?

Chief Bradford: I'm good.

Chairman Miller: Okay, anybody in the audience here would like to testify about this motion that we're about ready to make? Hearing no one, I'll entertain a motion.

Commissioner Chiominto: I make a motion that we approve the 6-month extension for Class "B" BWL No. B-199, Approved February 2025, Jessica Carillo, ERBC, LLC, T/A **Elk River Brewing at the Ford House**, 16-18 South Main Street, North East, MD 21901.

Chief Bradford: This is, what, September? That'll take them to renewal.

Chairman Miller: Yes. Having a motion made by Mr. Chiominto, do I hear a second?

Chairman Miller: Second.

Chairman Miller: All in favor say aye.

Board unanimously approved 6-month extension

Chairman Miller: Opposed? Hearing no opposition, motion carries. Good luck. Thank you.

Chairman Miller: Second item on the agenda is the application for re-classification received from Melinda Palmeri, John Milburn, Jr, David Milburn, **Milburn Orchards, Inc.** 1495 Appleton Road, Elkton, MD 21921, for issuance of reclassification of Class “B-204” Beer-Wine-Liquor, Alcoholic Beverage License with catering and On/Off Premise.

Attorney Birney: Okay. Good morning, Mr. Chairman. For the record, Gregory Burney on behalf of Milburn's Orchards. As I think we told you last month, or I told you last month, I know of no better cheerleader than the Milburn family themselves for their operation. Their reputation, I think you said, precedes them, and we're here today hoping that the board will approve for off-premises, the reclassification for off-premise so that they can sell hard cider, among other potential products, outside of their farmer's market.

Chairman Miller: Anybody else want to speak?

Chief Bradford: Just wanted to add, the reason this wasn't done last month was we didn't have the zoning certificate. We do have a copy of the special exception. That was signed Monday night.

Chairman Miller: Thank you, sir. Okay. Is there anybody in the room who wishes to testify in this matter? Hearing nobody. I'll entertain a motion.

Commissioner Chiominto: I make a motion that we accept the application received from Melinda Palmeri, John Milburn, Jr, David Milburn, **Milburn Orchards, Inc.** 1495 Appleton Road, Elkton, MD 21921, for issuance of reclassification of Class “B-204” Beer-Wine-

Liquor, Alcoholic Beverage License with catering and On/Off Premise.

Chairman Miller: Second.

Chairman Miller: Hearing motion by Mr. Chiominto and a second by Mr. Miller. All in favor say aye.

Board unanimously approved the reclassification of B-204 Milburn Orchard.

Chairman Miller: Opposed? Hearing no opposition, Congratulations.

Chairman Miller: We come to questions and public comment? Hearing none, we move on to general business. I'll entertain a motion to approve last month.

Commissioner Chiominto: I make a motion that we accept the minutes from August 27th, 2025.

Chairman Miller: I second the motion.

Chairman Miller: Having a first by Mr. Chiominto and a second by Mr. Miller. All in favor say aye.

Board unanimously approved the Minutes from August 27, 2025.

Chairman Miller: Opposed? Motion carries. Specials? Mr. Bradford.

Chief Bradford: We have a special for the Trauma Survivors Foundation for a seafood festival in Chesapeake City on 9-13 and 9-14, and we have an event for the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce, a business by the bonfire on 10-9-25.

Chairman Miller: Okay. Old business. No old business. New Business Discussion.

Chief Bradford: Now, the only, probably, possible new business item is the request we're going... we postponed at this meeting for the Elkton Music Hall. That will be heard at the October meeting. So,

we'll add those to next month's meeting agenda and packet. So, the board will have those during that discussion.

Chairman Miller: And that's it. Okay, thank you. Next month's meeting will be October 29th at 915 at this location.

Chairman Miller: And with that, I'll ask for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Chiominto: Motion to adjourn

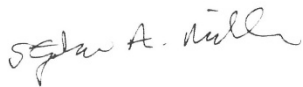
Chairman Miller: Second.

Chairman Miller: All in favor. Say, aye.

Board: Aye,

Chairman Miller: Meeting is Adjourned 9:28 am.

BY:



Stephen Miller, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra L. Cumm, Administrative Assistant