



**DRAFT MINUTES
Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the
Connecticut Lottery Corporation**

Held on
Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.
at the
Connecticut Lottery Corporation
15 Sterling Drive
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

Board Members Present: Robert Simmelkjaer, Board Chair; Michael Cicchetti; Matthew Daskal (left the meeting at 12:58 p.m.); Steven Ezzes; Ajay Gupta; James Heckman; Jerald Lentini; and Margaret Morton (joined the meeting at 12:12 p.m.) (all via teleconference).

Staff Members Present: Frank Suarez, President & CEO; Lauren Perrotti; Catherine Martorella; Jodi Ganzer; Matthew Pezzulich; Jeevan Vittal; Jared Kotler (via teleconference); Angelica Mack; Frank Rinaldi; Steve Wagner; Annmarie Daigle; and Olga de la Cruz (via teleconference).

I. Welcome:

Chair Simmelkjaer welcomed the Board Members and called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

II. Approval of June 11, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes:

On a motion by Mr. Cicchetti and seconded by Mr. Heckman, the minutes of the June 11, 2026 Board Meeting were approved with Mr. Gupta abstaining as he was not in attendance.

III. Lottery Reports:

a. Financial Report:

Catherine Martorella, CFO, provided a financial update for the year ended June 30, 2026 noting that Total Lottery Sales, including ilottery, were \$1.37 billion, which is \$34.2 million over last fiscal year. Prize expense was \$861.3 million, or 63.1% of total sales. Total cost of sales was \$970 million, \$10.9 million under budget, but \$24.3 million, or 2.6%, higher than last year.

Contributions to the state's General Fund reached \$357 million, \$16 million above budget and \$3.2 million ahead of last year.

Total sports betting handle reached \$620 million for the year. As expected, the majority of activity continues to be online, about 85% of all wagers, compared to 15% in retail locations. Handle is performing very well, coming in about 22% above budget and more than 35% higher than last fiscal year. Hold through June was 9.3%, stronger than the 8.2% budgeted and slightly under last year's performance of 9.7%. Retail and online commissions were each right around \$3.5 million.

Marketing costs and player bonuses totaled \$36.5 million through June, and retail operating costs came in at \$614,000.

Overall, we have transferred a combined \$367 million to the general fund, which is nearly \$16 million over budget and \$5.3 million ahead of last year.

b. Marketing Report:

Frank Rinaldi, Senior Director of Marketing, provided the Marketing report. He noted that fourth quarter instant tickets up from the prior year, \$190.9 million vs \$185.4 million and for the year they are \$725.7 million which is roughly flat, down just 0.2%, First Tuesday tickets launched in August were Lucky 7 Tripler (\$20), \$10 Million Cash Blowout (\$10), Loteria (\$3) and 7-11-21 (\$2). Launching in September will be a Monopoly family of tickets at \$10, \$5, 2, and \$1 and will be promoted through several media channels; broadcast/streaming tv, audio, online video, social media, POS at retail locations. As discussed at the June meeting, there will be a Powerball Xs and Os draw game launching in early September through a licensing agreement between MUSL and the NFL. iLottery performance remains healthy as compared to prior year, including increased sales from the current Powerball jackpot run.

c. President's Report:

Mr. Suarez began his report by providing a strategic planning update, outlining the various actions implemented since launch including the employee engagement survey, new performance review software, launch of Microsoft 365, OneDrive, and Microsoft Teams, standardization of scratch ticket launch cadence to monthly; as well as increasing new tickets launched for 2026 and adding lottery sales to sports betting locations.

He noted that CLC and its vendor has been working on a new ADA-compliant website which should be launching in the next couple of weeks. He asked Jared Kotler, CLC Digital Marketing Manager, to run through a demonstration of the site for the Board to see.

IV. Committee Reports:

a. Audit Committee Report:

Mr. Suarez stated that the Audit Committee met on July 21st to discuss liquidated damages as well as a purchasing justification. No vote4s or actions were taken at the meeting.

b. Personnel Committee Report:

Mr. Heckman noted that the Personnel Committee met on July 29th to review the company's Affirmative Action Plan Report for 2025 as well as updates to the Employee Ethics Policy which will go before the Board for vote later in today's meeting.

V. Executive Session:

On a motion by Mr. Ezzes and seconded by Mr. Heckman, the Board moved to Executive Session at 12:25 p.m. to discuss:

- a. Regulatory Update
- b. Personnel Update

Mr. Suarez, Ms. Ganzer, Mr. Pezzulich, Mr. Vittal, and Ms. Mack remained present for Executive Session item a. Mr. Suarez and Ms. Ganzer remained present for Executive Session item b.

VII. New Business:

a. Discussion and Action, if any, on items discussed during Executive Session:

Upon returning to public session at 1:25 p.m., Chair Simmelkjaer noted that no votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

b. Review and Possible Action: Amendments to Employee Ethics Policy:

On a motion by Mr. Heckman, seconded by Mr. Ezzes and unanimously approved, it was:

Resolved: That after review and due consideration, the Connecticut Lottery Corporation Board of Directors approves and adopts the revisions made CLC's Employee Ethics Policy as presented to become effective immediately.

VIII. Adjournment:

Chair Simmelkjaer thanked everyone for attending the meeting and noted that the next regular meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2026 and that meeting will be his last as Board Chair.

On a motion by Mr. Ezzes, seconded by Mr. Cicchetti, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annmarie Daigle
Acting Secretary
CT Lottery Corporation