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RESILIENT LOUISIANA COMMISSION
GAMING TASK FORCE MEETING

(Meeting via Zoom)

MAY 19, 2020

1 CHAIRMAN JONES: Good morning and
2 welcome to our regular Tuesday meeting
3 of the RLC Gaming Task Force. Glad to
4 have all of you back. I know we had a
5 busy day yesterday, and we'll -- we'll
6 talk about that shortly. First I want
7 to note that we have certified for lack
8 of quorum a necessity for this
9 Teleconference. We have filed the
10 appropriate notarized statement, and
11 we'll be meeting in this fashion.

12 Do I have a -- a motion to waive
13 reading of the minutes and approve from
14 our meeting of May the 12th?

15 MR. REGULA: So moved.

16 CHAIRMAN JONES: Barry moves. Do I
17 have a second?

18 MR. GUIDROZ: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN JONES: Who was the second?

20 MR. GUIDROZ: Stan.

21 CHAIRMAN JONES: Stan. Thank you,
22 Stan.

23 Any objection? Without objection,
24 the minutes are approved.

25 So yesterday was a big day, guys,

1 and -- and I -- I started monitoring
2 from -- from the time that -- that
3 businesses opened in the morning -- oh,
4 we need -- we need to do the roll. I'm
5 sorry. I'm jumping ahead.

6 Natalie, would you call the roll and
7 make sure we do have a quorum. I just
8 -- I get ahead of myself. I'm sorry.

9 MS. THURMAN: Chairman Jones?

10 CHAIRMAN JONES: Here.

11 MS. THURMAN: Dan Real? [No
12 response.]

13 Arthur Lawson?

14 MR. LAWSON: Here.

15 MS. THURMAN: Barron Fuller?

16 MR. FULLER: Here.

17 MS. THURMAN: Barry Regula?

18 MR. REGULA: Here.

19 MS. THURMAN: Charlie Gardiner? [No
20 response.]

21 Christopher Hebert?

22 MR. HEBERT: Present.

23 MS. THURMAN: Major Chuck McNeal?

24 MAJOR MCNEAL: Here.

25 MS. THURMAN: David Sickey? [No

1 response.]

2 Earl Barbry? [No response.]

3 Mike Legendre? [No response.]

4 Ned White?

5 MR. WHITE: Here.

6 MS. THURMAN: Roseanne Thompson?

7 MS. THOMPSON: I'm here.

8 MS. THURMAN: Stan Guidroz?

9 MR. GUIDROZ: Here.

10 MS. THURMAN: Dr. Thomas LaVeist?

11 [No response.]

12 Trey Tantillo?

13 MR. TANTILLO: Here.

14 MS. THURMAN: Trudy Smith?

15 MS. SMITH: Present.

16 MS. THURMAN: Vincent Schwartz? [No

17 response.]

18 Wade Duty?

19 MR. DUTY: I'm here.

20 MS. THURMAN: We have a quorum.

21 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great, we have a

22 quorum where we can conduct business,

23 and I'll quit trying to get ahead of

24 myself. And I think Vincent's on the

25 call. I think I saw him up earlier. He

1 may be away from the screen, but we
2 should hear from him. There, I see you,
3 Vincent. You're here, right? Okay.
4 You have to -- you didn't unmute, but
5 that's okay.

6 So we also are glad that Don Cursin
7 (phonetic) is joining us this morning.
8 I see Walt Leger from the -- from the
9 governing body of the commission, and
10 Andrew is on with us. Welcome guys.

11 So yesterday was a -- was a pretty
12 good day for us, I think. I -- we -- we
13 had the opportunity to make the
14 recommendation to reopen in Phase I.
15 The Governor approved that, and it looks
16 like we got off to a really good start.
17 I monitored the properties throughout
18 the day in terms of how many people were
19 showing up. That was kind of an unknown
20 for us and reports that I started
21 getting yesterday afternoon and last
22 night were very positive in terms of the
23 -- the hygiene and sanitation efforts
24 and the fact that a lot of the customers
25 were -- were wearing masks. I -- I

1 think that's remarkable.

2 So if -- if you-guys don't mind, I'd
3 kind of like to go around the room
4 and -- and have you update us on -- on
5 your properties, what you saw and if
6 there were any issues.

7 Barron, could I start with you?

8 MR. FULLER: Sure. Yeah, hey,
9 congrats to everybody. I think it was a
10 great day in Louisiana yesterday. You
11 know, volume wise I think the volume for
12 us overall for the entire day looked
13 favorable. We -- we had lines at all
14 three casinos -- Lake Charles,
15 Shreveport Baton Rouge -- upon opening.
16 You know, if there was a challenge in
17 the day, it was initially with the
18 security staff getting used to protocol
19 from the questionnaires to the guests,
20 taking of the temperatures, but I think
21 after -- you know, an hour into that,
22 they were -- they expedited the
23 procedures, understand that a little bit
24 better and deal with the lines more
25 expediently.

1 So, you know, a couple systems,
2 hiccups, that were anticipated. You
3 know, you can't go a hundred percent
4 clean on these things, but our IT teams
5 did a great job working through those.
6 Regulators, LSP did a great job
7 assisting us on everything. You know,
8 it was a tight frame getting -- getting
9 our cash into our buildings. LSP did a
10 great job assisting with us, you know,
11 getting that audited and things.

12 So hats off to everybody, you guys.
13 I think it was a great day for
14 Louisiana. You know, everything you
15 picked up from a press standpoint, all
16 eyes were on us.

17 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great.

18 Barry, what did you see on the
19 ground in Bossier City?

20 MR. REGULA: Well, I echo Barron
21 almost word for word. I think we had
22 tremendous enthusiasm and excitement
23 about the reopening. We had a line when
24 we opened the doors, but what struck me
25 the most was -- was the tremendous

1 cooperation of everybody involved,
2 from -- from this body to the Gaming
3 Control Board to the State Police to our
4 team members and to our guests.

5 Everyone recognized that we're all in
6 this together, and we had almost no
7 issues. When -- when you have volumes
8 like we had yesterday, you expect a few
9 problems, but there virtually were none.

10 And so on the technical side, a
11 couple system issues, some phone line
12 connectivity problems and things like
13 that that we expected to clean up, but
14 everyone was very prepared when we
15 opened. We -- we ran tests on the guest
16 experience, how it would feel to come in
17 and, you know, go through the questions,
18 get your temperature taken, use hand
19 sanitizer, be offered a mask, go on to
20 the floor and make sure all the -- all
21 the machines worked as -- as they were
22 supposed to, that your card worked, that
23 you could get your points, that you
24 could do all those things, redeem comps,
25 everything; and -- and all the

1 preparation paid off. It made for a
2 very smooth and exciting reopening day.
3 Again, a great day for Louisiana.

4 CHAIRMAN JONES: That's really good
5 news. About -- about what percentage of
6 the customers were wearing masks, Barry;
7 do you know, have a sense?

8 MR. REGULA: Yeah, I -- I felt, in
9 viewing it, it seemed about half the
10 customers came in with the mask, and of
11 -- of the remainder that didn't bring in
12 a mask, we offered a mask, and about
13 half of those accepted a mask. So I
14 would say we ended up with about three
15 quarters of -- of -- of the guests
16 wearing a mask, as well as more so the
17 employees.

18 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great.
19 Vincent, I know that Boyd is
20 starting today. You -- you-guys are
21 phasing in over the course of the week.
22 Have y'all had any issues in getting to
23 this point?

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: No, sir. We're
25 planning to open tomorrow. I think our

1 press release is kind of midday and no
2 hiccups. We've got the PPE equipment
3 that we were looking for. We've also --
4 it looks like we're going to have the
5 cameras. I'm not sure if we'll have
6 them installed for the go live but the
7 thermal cameras.

8 So -- so we're -- we're ready to go.
9 Probably could have done it sooner, but
10 we -- we wanted to really lay everything
11 out and make sure we had all the Is
12 dotted and Ts crossed, so -- and
13 we're -- we're comfortable with our
14 decision and certainly look forward to
15 tomorrow. I'm a little jealous that I'm
16 a little late to the party, but I think
17 we did the right thing.

18 CHAIRMAN JONES: You're not that
19 late. Two days isn't -- isn't too late.

20 I think -- I think it's really smart
21 that we're taking a somewhat cautious
22 and conservative approach, and I -- and
23 I think it makes customers feel better.
24 It's not just about maintaining a -- a
25 sanitized facility, but they have to

1 feel safe, as do your employees. And
2 we've heard from some casino employees
3 since we made the announcement last
4 week.

5 Wade, what's -- what's the view
6 from -- from where you sit?

7 MR. DUTY: Similar, you know, a lot
8 of anticipation and a lot of media
9 inquiries. Reporters were walking the
10 properties yesterday and calling here
11 for feedback and commentary, and, you
12 know, we reiterated the same thing
13 that's been the guiding principle for
14 this Task Force and others, that safety
15 first, so just asking for patience and,
16 you know, cooperation and -- and, you
17 know, we'll all anxiously await, you
18 know, the numbers and see how they lead
19 into the weekend.

20 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great. I was in
21 touch with both Golden Nugget yesterday
22 and the -- and the Caesars property
23 in -- in Bossier City and both were very
24 positive reports. In both cases they
25 said that it did not feel like a -- a

1 Monday crowd, more like a Friday crowd
2 or a Thursday crowd, and it was pretty
3 consistent throughout the day. One of
4 the areas that I think we have to be
5 very aware of is when we reach capacity
6 on our gaming floor, let's make certain
7 that when people are lining to up to get
8 in that -- that we're doing the social
9 distancing. That was an issue before we
10 suspended gaming operations, and -- and
11 we just have to make sure that -- that
12 we don't have an unintended consequence
13 of getting people too close together
14 when they're trying to get to, you know,
15 gaming devices or trying to get in the
16 door, either way.

17 So, Stan, what are you -- what are
18 you hearing from your folks?

19 MR. GUIDROZ: Similar reports.
20 Again, the support was phenomenal. All
21 the games came up as expected. Norman
22 and his team were reaching out just to
23 doublecheck and make sure everything was
24 going well, so much appreciation there.

25 I'm not aware of any -- of any

1 locations, truck stops, that decided not
2 to open yesterday and, likewise, volume
3 was strong. We had several properties
4 where people were lined up waiting to
5 get in in the morning and then
6 throughout the day capacity for players
7 with waiting lines waiting to get in at
8 several properties.

9 We -- we stayed on the phone all
10 weekend, answered as many questions as
11 we could, disseminated all the
12 information that we could. No -- no one
13 who called in didn't get a callback to
14 get their questions answered. And to
15 the point earlier, the screening process
16 is the -- is the newest, most -- more
17 complicated procedure that we're trying
18 to get instituted, and yesterday was as
19 challenging as we -- as expected. We're
20 continuing to work on that throughout
21 today.

22 Regarding masks, I would say it's
23 about the same. About 50 percent of the
24 folks had masks on, a few accepted the
25 masks that we provided, but all in all,

1 I'd say about 50 percent, maybe a little
2 bit less as of yesterday with the
3 properties that I visited throughout the
4 day.

5 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great.

6 Art, what are you seeing down here?

7 MR. LAWSON: Chairman, same thing.

8 We -- everything seemed to go very
9 smooth in opening. We did have some --
10 some crowds during the day, and we
11 opened around 8:00, kind of waited to
12 settle down a little bit; and the -- the
13 crowds were strong. Everything seemed
14 to go real well.

15 As Stan pointed out, you know,
16 getting used to taking the temperatures
17 and getting to understand the equipment
18 was a little bit of a hassle in the
19 beginning, but it worked out throughout
20 the day. But half the people, as said,
21 came in with masks. We've seen a lot
22 more take the masks, though, than --
23 than probably half. So we probably
24 ended up, you know, 80 percent or so of
25 the people in the casino were wearing

1 masks, either ones that they brought or
2 what we gave them. Everybody was
3 practicing social distancing. So it
4 went real well.

5 I mean, the -- you know, the only --
6 the only, I imagine, point that came up
7 is, you know, we had a lot of couples
8 that wanted to sit next to one another
9 sharing a machine and -- and, you know,
10 didn't understand the fact that they got
11 out of the same car but they couldn't be
12 at the same machine. So that was our
13 only, you know, issue, but other than
14 that it worked out pretty good.

15 CHAIRMAN JONES: And I think we sort
16 of anticipated that. We talked about it
17 during the course of one of our recent
18 meetings, and, you know, I -- this is --
19 these are temporary conditions, and
20 hopefully we're not going to have them
21 permanently, so we should be able to
22 work through these -- these initial --
23 initial problems.

24 Ned, what do you see in northeast
25 Louisiana?

1 MR. WHITE: Everything was
2 favorable. It was kind of echoing what
3 everybody else said. You know, the
4 people were just kind of confused on
5 that they had to stay 6 feet apart and
6 go through all the questioning and
7 everything, but the clientele was
8 upbeat. We were pleased with our
9 capacity. We were pretty full most of
10 the day and just, you know, looking
11 forward to getting along through these
12 next couple of weeks, and hopefully we
13 can get into Phase II. But we had no
14 complaints at all.

15 Most of the people -- we had about
16 95 percent had masks so that was good to
17 see, but there again, nobody was, you
18 know, scared acting or anything else.
19 Everybody was just, you know, upbeat and
20 enjoyed being back in there so we were
21 pleased.

22 CHAIRMAN JONES: Great.

23 Trey, what about across the lake?

24 MR. TANTILLO: Really not a lot to
25 add to that. We pretty much had the

1 same experience, 50/50 on masks in most
2 places. Surprisingly I didn't know
3 how -- how much catch back we would
4 get, but our customers were really
5 receptive to the practices. They
6 were -- they were open to being
7 screened. They were open to, you know,
8 accepting, you know, the sanitizer on
9 their hands. It was -- it was really an
10 easy experience, and all the reports
11 we're getting back this morning, they're
12 all good. I'm very, very surprised and
13 I'm very pleased.

14 CHAIRMAN JONES: That's good news,
15 glad to hear that.

16 Michael Legendre, did you join us?
17 Did you make it on? All right, so we
18 won't --

19 MS. THURMAN: Chairman --

20 CHAIRMAN JONES: Yeah, he's on.

21 MS. THURMAN: -- he's listening.
22 He's not able to speak.

23 CHAIRMAN JONES: Okay. I was just
24 going to ask for a report from his side,
25 but -- but I'm okay with that.

1 Natalie, Mr. Gardiner has joined the
2 meeting, if you'll show him as being
3 present.

4 Just -- just a couple of quick
5 comments, just so there's no
6 misunderstanding, you know we said last
7 week that -- that you could certainly
8 use acrylic or Plexiglas panels at your
9 properties that you see fit. They just
10 not -- they just cannot be used for the
11 purpose of social distancing. You
12 actually have to have the distancing
13 there.

14 I had a couple of inquiries saying
15 we've already ordered them. There's no
16 prohibition of you using them now or in
17 the future if you think that it will
18 make your customers feel more safe at
19 the devices, and -- and it will, in
20 fact, reduce some -- some of the spread
21 of the virus, I think. But we're not at
22 the point in our phase yet where they
23 can serve the same purposes of social
24 distancing.

25 The other observation I think I just

1 need to share with you is with respect
2 to employees. The Board has received a
3 number of emails, and I've tried to
4 reply to each one. There's -- there is
5 some anxiety on the part of some of your
6 employees, and I would just ask that you
7 be sensitive when they approach, you
8 know, the owners or HR. We're not going
9 to be able to resolve every employee
10 complaint. I understand that. But
11 they're part of the overall equation,
12 and -- and, you know, when you consider
13 there's, what, 14,000 employees out
14 there, Wade? I mean, these are -- you
15 know, this is a small number, but I -- I
16 -- you know, I was able to assuage some
17 concerns of most of them. I got a
18 couple of snarly replies back, but
19 that's okay. It comes with the
20 territory, and -- and they felt like
21 they were being put in an environment
22 that was going to put them at risk.

23 So, you know, we -- we can't
24 eliminate every risk on the gaming
25 floor, but I think we've done a really

1 good job, and I -- and I say "we." The
2 industry came up with the -- with the
3 requirements and the restrictions,
4 and -- and I think you anticipated what
5 needed to be done to reduce that risk.
6 And I was glad to see, I think, in the
7 Advocate this morning where they were,
8 you know, sanitizing the dice after
9 every throw. So all of that is good
10 news. I think it shows good faith of
11 you as a group to try and create a safe
12 environment both for your employees and
13 your customers, and -- and I thank you
14 for that.

15 Is there any further discussion
16 on -- on the roll out and how things are
17 going there?

18 Major McNeal, I want -- I'm sorry.
19 I wanted you to check in as well. What
20 do -- what do you see from the
21 regulatory side?

22 MAJOR MCNEAL: No issues that we
23 saw -- Chairman, sorry. The guys worked
24 all weekend getting the machines on for
25 video poker and did a real good job with

1 that, and thankfully, you know, there
2 was no glitches that we know of, nothing
3 major. I'm sure there were some one
4 offs (phonetic) and stuff like that but
5 that's expected with the system. The
6 guys in the field didn't report any
7 issues on the casino side. The only
8 thing is, I think we have two properties
9 not open at this time, and other than
10 that, everything else seems to be going
11 well.

12 CHAIRMAN JONES: That's good news.
13 Okay.

14 MR. LEGENDRE: Chairman Jones.

15 CHAIRMAN JONES: Yes, sir.

16 MR. LEGENDRE: This -- this is
17 Michael Legendre.

18 CHAIRMAN JONES: I can hear you now.
19 That's all right. What are you seeing
20 on your side?

21 MR. LEGENDRE: We had about two
22 dozen locations that are going to be
23 opening either yesterday or through the
24 rest of this week and about 80 or so
25 that are looking to either wait a few

1 days or wait a week or even wait until
2 Phase II. But for the most part,
3 echoing everybody -- what everybody else
4 said, about 70, 75 percent compliance
5 with the masks, had some issues with the
6 social distancing. The bingo players
7 just didn't understand why they had to
8 be separated at the -- at some of the
9 locations, but for the most part, it
10 went pretty smoothly.

11 CHAIRMAN JONES: That's good. I'm
12 glad to -- I'm glad to hear that.

13 So one quick footnote before we get
14 into a Phase II discussion -- Phase II
15 of our -- our resiliency efforts here.
16 Chairman William LaBar, who's chairing
17 the Information Technology and
18 Communications Task Force, reached out
19 to me last night. He believes there may
20 be some overlap between what we do in
21 Gaming and his Task Force, and he wanted
22 the opportunity to -- to interview three
23 or four of our Task Force. What I've
24 recommended, if it's agreeable, is that
25 we make Wade available and Stan

1 available, Major McNeal available. Dan
2 Real will serve -- represent me as
3 Vice-Chair. He had a family issue today
4 and couldn't be with us. And if I can
5 pass along the contact information for
6 those people to him, he'll be in touch
7 to just touch on some of the issues
8 related to Gaming and Technology and
9 Communication.

10 I think -- I think it's wise on
11 their part to include you guys, and I'm
12 not being exclusive with -- with
13 recommending those contacts. If anybody
14 else wants to be a part of that, please
15 let me know either now or by email, and
16 I'll provide your contact information as
17 well. I just -- I'm sensitive to the
18 fact that many of you are in the process
19 of overseeing the resumption of gaming
20 activities, and -- and we're all really
21 busy, so I'm trying not to be intrusive
22 with respect to your time. But if
23 anybody else aside from that group wants
24 to participate, you can just send me an
25 email or a text, and I'll make sure they

1 get your contact information as well.

2 So as -- as you recall, when the RLC
3 was -- was created, your overall body
4 created 15 task forces. We've got our
5 task force, and I think -- I think we've
6 done some great work as a group in Phase
7 I. Phase II was really designed to
8 create that vision for where this
9 industry wants to be in the future, you
10 know, ten years, twenty years from now,
11 and how do we get there. And we don't
12 have very long to figure that out. We
13 actually have the opportunity for three
14 more teleconferences before we have to
15 submit a final set of recommendations,
16 and -- and how I would like to approach
17 this is -- is this way. And I'm open to
18 your input and your comment.

19 You know, I think we need to look at
20 industry at the macro level not just
21 casinos or slots at tracks or, you know,
22 truck stops or three machine locations.
23 I -- I think unless and until we take
24 sort of a holistic view of this
25 industry, you know, sector by sector,

1 it's just going to be incremental if
2 there's any gains at all. I would just
3 encourage you to think bigger than that,
4 and -- and I'm not lecturing you, and
5 I'm not scolding you; but -- but I know
6 that there are plenty of little field
7 battles between video poker and casinos
8 and casinos and horsemen. I mean, it
9 seems like we're all way too often in a
10 circular firing squad, and I would just
11 ask as we start to try and develop
12 something positive for the industry as a
13 whole, that you think a little bit
14 bigger than that. You know, and if it
15 comes up that we have a half dozen or a
16 dozen public policy recommendations that
17 require legislation, you know, you'll
18 have the opportunity to voice concerns
19 about that.

20 But that's sort of how I would like
21 to approach this, just a little bit
22 larger effort than -- than narrow. But
23 I think for discussion purposes and for
24 efficiency purposes, what I'd like to do
25 is ask that casino come -- casinos come

1 in with recommendations on one week,
2 video poker come in with recommendations
3 on another week and perhaps charitable
4 gaming. And that -- that spreads us
5 over three weeks. We can put a final
6 report together and send it up to the
7 RLC governing body.

8 I'd like to have your ideas on that.
9 Anyone?

10 MR. DUTY: Mr. Chairman, for --

11 CHAIRMAN JONES: Yes.

12 MR. DUTY: -- the casino industry, I
13 think that certainly works for us. We
14 had already begun identifying some
15 issues that we would seek to have
16 addressed prior to the formation of even
17 the RLC, so -- and some of those are --
18 in fact, are carryover from the task
19 force that Senator Johnson assembled and
20 yourself, what, two years now. So we --
21 we -- we would welcome that opportunity.

22 CHAIRMAN JONES: Okay. Stan, what
23 about you-guys?

24 MR. GUIDROZ: Same here, Chairman,
25 fine with the recommendation. I think

1 it's a great plan, and -- and we've --
2 like -- like Wade, we've been
3 preparing -- you know, every year we
4 prepare for the legislature and we do
5 our own SWOT analysis, so we'd be happy
6 to present that at anytime you're ready.

7 CHAIRMAN JONES: You know, part of
8 my proselytizing that I've done in this
9 role -- not as Chairman of the Gaming
10 Control Board -- but in this role of the
11 Task Force -- I've tried to help some of
12 our policymakers understand that you --
13 you are taxed at a higher rate than any
14 other industry in the state. You have
15 more restrictions and conditions under
16 which you have to operate than any other
17 industry in the state. And you're one
18 of the largest producers of revenue for
19 the state. And you get no incentives
20 and you get no tax breaks.

21 You know, and -- and -- and I
22 realize that some of those things may be
23 part of your recommendations, and I
24 think it's great to put them on the
25 table. But I'm trying to use this

1 opportunity in this role to help educate
2 people, this is a bonafide industry.
3 You know, let's don't hold it back.
4 Let's think of how we can -- how we can
5 promote economic development. The only
6 reason we have gambling -- gaming today
7 is because that was authorized in 1992
8 to promote economic development, both on
9 the video poker side and casino side, so
10 that -- that should be a core element
11 in -- in defining what recommendations
12 you want to bring back to the group.

13 So which one of you wants to be
14 available -- start next week?

15 MR. GUIDROZ: I vote for Wade.

16 CHAIRMAN JONES: I'll second it.

17 So -- so -- so what we'd like to do,
18 Wade, is just -- I -- I know in your
19 cover letter that you submitted early
20 on, there were a number of ideas that
21 you promoted in there. What I would
22 like to do is compartmentalize them,
23 have a recommendation and then give us
24 the context, the rationale on how this
25 is going to promote the industry and,

1 you know, provide growth and economic
2 development, and if we can do that with
3 each recommendation, I think we can get
4 it to the -- your co-members on the Task
5 Force; and we can discuss them and adopt
6 what we need to next week. And then the
7 following week, we'll have video poker
8 come back with theirs and then
9 charitable gaming.

10 Is everyone in agreement that
11 that's -- that's a process that's gonna
12 -- that's going to work for us?

13 MR. DUTY: Yes, sir.

14 MR. GUIDROZ: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN JONES: Okay, good.

16 Don, are you still on with us, or
17 have you slipped away?

18 MR. PIERSON: I'm here, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN JONES: Do you want to
20 offer anything?

21 MR. PIERSON: I'd just say that a
22 great appreciation to the work that's
23 gone into this. It's no small feat to
24 get the casinos reopened, and certainly
25 there's a lot of benefits to the state

1 from that activity, so greatly
2 appreciate that.

3 As your Chairman has outlined, the
4 next leg of our journey is to have all
5 Task Force report in to the Resilient
6 Louisiana Commission by 12 June where we
7 will then take and aggregate all the
8 reports and look for merging themes,
9 things that can continue to build
10 resilience in our state and look over
11 the horizon a bit.

12 So -- and this won't be the end, but
13 it will be another very significant
14 milestone as we try to move towards
15 publishing this next document by the end
16 of the month of June.

17 So, again, thank you for the
18 thoughtful work that you'll participate
19 in. This Friday, May 22nd, we intend to
20 adopt a framework that we will then
21 provide to the Task Force, sort of a
22 template to drive information into sort
23 of to assist you in -- in guidance.

24 Now, look, all of the 15 Task Force
25 are completely different. Your lane is

1 unique, so if the template isn't a
2 perfect fit for Sentorella (phonetic),
3 then, you know, modifications are
4 authorized, but it's the idea for us to
5 manage the amount of data that we'll get
6 back from all participating Task Force
7 will help us a lot if we -- we do fall
8 into this template.

9 Happy to answer and questions you
10 have and, again, thank you for your
11 participation.

12 CHAIRMAN JONES: Thanks for your
13 support, Don. I -- I knew a template
14 would be coming. I didn't know what it
15 was going to look like, and we will
16 attempt to shoehorn our information and
17 recommendations into that.

18 And -- and I appreciate the fact
19 that there's some recognition that
20 gaming is different. We all know that.
21 We don't want to be an exception to
22 every rule, but some of the information
23 that -- that you and Andrew put together
24 in the original tasking for the groups I
25 was looking at going, well, this really

1 doesn't fit us very well. We're going
2 to do the best we can to offer the kinds
3 of recommendations in the format you
4 want so your fellow commission members
5 can -- can make a determination as to
6 whether or not it's in the best interest
7 of the state to adopt those, so we'll --
8 we'll look forward to that.

9 Walt, did you want to weigh in on
10 anything?

11 MR. LEGER: No. Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman, I -- I appreciate the format
13 that you've laid out. I think it
14 provides opportunity for productive
15 discussions, and, you know, I'm
16 fortunate to have been able to
17 participate in the Task Force that --
18 that you've been operating and economic
19 development for gaming establishments in
20 the last couple of years. And so I
21 think that a lot of the work has been
22 done, and I look forward to hearing more
23 about any updates that -- that each
24 group has, so thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN JONES: Thank you for

1 joining us this morning.

2 At this time, I would like to open
3 it up if there's any public comment to
4 the Board -- to the Task Force's
5 discussion and deliberations this
6 morning. You're welcome to -- to join
7 us.

8 I didn't see anything in the chat
9 box except from one of our members, so
10 that's -- that's empty.

11 Did you have something, Andrew?

12 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, I just -- I just
13 wanted to quickly let y'all know that in
14 the context of everybody else's work,
15 your work has really accelerated the
16 process so deeply by being the model
17 from -- from the very first meeting, and
18 I want to thank y'all for that because
19 you had in many ways the most difficult
20 task, and you set a very high bar for
21 the rest of the -- the task forces and
22 have been -- have been a model for
23 everybody else, so thank you for that.

24 CHAIRMAN JONES: Thanks so much,
25 Andrew. We appreciate your -- your

1 leadership and your role as well.

2 There being no public comment
3 apparently, I will entertain a motion to
4 adjourn this session.

5 MR. GUIDROZ: I'll move to adjourn.

6 CHAIRMAN JONES: That was Stan, I
7 believe.

8 Do I have a second?

9 MR. HEBERT: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN JONES: Who was the second?

11 MR. HEBERT: Chris.

12 CHAIRMAN JONES: Very good.

13 With -- any objection? [No
14 response.]

15 Without objection, we will stand
16 adjourned. Thank you very much. I will
17 see you next Tuesday.

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1 REPORTER'S PAGE

2
3 I, SHELLEY PAROLA, Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the
5 officer before whom this sworn testimony was
6 taken, do hereby state:

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15 That any words and/or names which could not
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25 Certified Court Reporter #96001
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1 STATE OF LOUISIANA

2 PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

3 I, Shelley G. Parola, Certified Court
4 Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter, do
5 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
6 correct transcript of the proceedings on May 19,
7 2020, as taken by me in Stenographic machine
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9 recording, and thereafter reduced to transcript,
10 to the best of my ability and understanding, using
11 Computer-Aided Transcription.

12 I further certify that I am not an
13 attorney or counsel for any of the parties, that I
14 am neither related to nor employed by any attorney
15 or counsel connected with this action, and that I
16 have no financial interest in the outcome of this
17 action.

18 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 18th day of
19 June, 2020.

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22 SHELLEY G. PAROLA, CCR, RPR
23 CERTIFICATE NO. 96001.
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25