

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Florida Beer Wholesalers Association

Hyatt Regency – Coconut Point

December 5, 2021

Attendance:

Ken Daley, President, Tri-Eagle Sales

Matt Sokolowski, Vice President, Great Bay Distributors

David Bear, Secretary/Treasurer, The Lewis Bear Company

Brookes Burkhardt, Member at Large, Burkhardt Sales & Service

George Halper, Member at Large, Eagle Brands Sales

Gentry Pelham, Member at Large, North Florida Sales

Gerrit Topp, Southern Eagle Distributing

Kent Birckhead, City Beverages

David Gonzalez, City Beverages

Mitch Rubin, FBWA

Jan Sykes, FBWA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Daley. President Daley asked Mr. David Bear to review the Minutes of the previous Board Meetings. Mr. Bear reviewed the Minutes of the December 1, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting. President Daley asked for comments or changes to the Minutes. With no questions, the motion was made by Mr. Matt Sokolowski to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brookes Burkhardt and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Mr. Bear reviewed the Minutes of the December 2, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting. President Daley asked for comments or changes to the Minutes. With no questions, the motion was made by Mr. Sokolowski to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burkhardt and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

President Daley called on Mr. Bear to review the amendments to the Constitution & By-laws. Mr. Bear asked the members to refer to page 67 of the Meeting Book. He explained that most of the changes were housekeeping issues, with the significant change being that of the officers of the Association. He stated that the President would change to Chair, the Vice-President to Vice-Chair and that the Secretary and Treasurer may be a single officer. President Daley asked for a motion to accept the changes to the By-laws and Constitution as presented. Mr. Matt Sokolowski made the motion to accept the changes to the By-laws and Constitution as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gentry Pelham and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

Legislative & Regulatory

Mr. Mitch Rubin stated that self-distribution, in-store servicing of spirits, vendor to vendor sales and theme parks were the primary legislative issues but were not likely to be heard this session.

Mr. Rubin continued his discussion on regulatory issues and reported that work continues to resolve the outstanding matters concerning excise tax credits. He ended his discussion with a review of a wine distributor's challenge to excise tax rule stating that the FBWA would not intervene, Winn-Dixie's seeking of reimbursement costs of handling recalled product where the FBWA had intervened and several revised rules by DABT concerning electronic filing requirements.

Public Relations

Mr. Rubin reviewed the number of videos that had been produced in 2021 and discussed the newer videos being produced that included a video with Senator Simpson.

Campaigns & Elections

Mr. Mitch Rubin discussed the 2022 elections and the efforts being made by the FBWA in supporting candidates.

Treasurer's Report

President Daley called on Treasurer David Bear to give the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Bear began with a review of the 2020 Audit and reported it received an unqualified opinion. Mr. Bear reviewed the expenses of the Association and the amount of cash on hand. Mr. Bear said that the Audit was straight forward and the financial statements were in good health. With no questions from the Board, the motion was made by Mr. George Halper to accept the Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burkhardt and unanimously approved the Board of Directors.

Mr. Bear continued his report reviewing the difference in the 2021 projection and the 2022 proposed expenses. Mr. Bear reviewed the 2022 proposals which were higher due to the addition of a new Vice President and the expansion of the office space. Without further review of the Budget, Mr. Rubin reported that Mr. Jared Ross had been hired as a Vice-President and that he would be starting on January 6th and would be shadowing Mr. Rubin. Mr. Rubin reviewed Mr. Ross's background. Mr. Rubin then reported on the selection of the new replacement for Ms. Jan Sykes. After a long explanation of who he had hired, Mr. Rubin surprised the Board and Ms. Sykes with the announcement that his selection was Ms. Jordan Wheeler, the daughter of Ms. Sykes. President Daley called on Mr. Bear to continue the discussion of the 2022 Budget. Mr. Bear reported that the Budget included enough funds for a 5% cost of living increase for Mr. Rubin and Ms. Sykes and the new employees. Mr. Bear reported that the dues would be calculated at .0085 for 2022 to cover the Budget requirements. Mr. Bear asked for questions. With no questions from the Board, President Daley asked for a motion to accept the budget as presented. The motion was made by Mr. Pelham, seconded by Mr. Sokolowski and approved unanimously by the Board of Directors.

Legislative Meeting & Annual Meeting

Mr. Rubin reported that the 2022 Legislative Meeting would be January 26 and 27, 2022 and that the Annual Meeting would be June 5 – 7, at the Hutchinson Island Resort & Spa Hutchinson Island.

With no further business, President Daley adjourned the meeting.