



**Debbs Potts Oregon State Lottery Commission Building**

500 Airport Road SE  
Salem, OR 97301

## **OREGON STATE LOTTERY COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 28, 2025**

**Lottery Commission:** Marty Ramirez, chair  
Charlie Conrad  
Jennifer Geller  
Jeff Weller  
Julie Wilcox

**Director:** Mike Wells

Chair Ramirez called the March 28, 2025, Oregon State Lottery Commission meeting to order and stated for the record that the commissioners are attending the meeting via a web meeting, and a quorum of commissioners is present.

Commissioners present at roll call: Commissioners Conrad, Geller, Weller, Wilcox, and Chair Ramirez.

### **A. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Ramirez stated that members of the public had the opportunity to provide written public comment and confirmed with the clerk that no public comment was received.

### **B. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Presenter: Mike Wells, director

#### **Lottery news**

Director Wells welcomed Commissioner Jennifer Geller and highlighted her extensive experience in public service.

Director Wells reminded the Commission that March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month, and the Lottery is collaborating to promote prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The theme this year is "Seeking Understanding," which focuses on increasing awareness of problem gambling as a serious but often misunderstood mental health condition. Lottery has released new responsible gaming training for video lottery retailers and is working to normalize safer play in its marketing outreach. Lottery also released the annual Responsible Gaming Impacts Report which includes goals, program metrics and key accomplishments. Director Wells shared that staff will provide more information during next month's meeting.

As part of Lottery's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging strategic goals, a cross-departmental team identified critical documents to be translated into the top languages spoken in Oregon for retailers and players. Lottery now has winner claim forms and 27 critical retailer-facing documents available in Spanish,

Vietnamese, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Russian and Korean. The assessment of additional documents to be translated will be ongoing into FY26.

Lottery recently earned two awards from the Public Relations Society of America for the media relations efforts around the \$1.3 billion Powerball win and the Oregon's Teacher of the Year video. The annual Awards of Distinction and Spotlight Awards event is dedicated to recognizing the contributions of public relations and communication professionals in Oregon and Southwest Washington. Director Wells congratulated the communications and marketing staff.

### **Lottery Commission and Director duties, Exhibit 1**

Lottery has experienced some significant change in executive leadership and commissioners in the last few years and Director Wells shared that he thought it was a good time to review the laws and rules that govern the Lottery, along with the duties and responsibilities that have been delegated to the director.

Kris Skaro worked with the Department of Justice to gather and review the information in the meeting materials which serves as documentation that Lottery will continue to carry out the duties outlined on behalf of the Commission, subject to the Commission's guidance and oversight.

### **Legislative update, Exhibit 3**

Two Lottery-related bills have moved forward in recent weeks and are in the other chamber awaiting additional hearings and discussion. More information was provided in the memo that was included in the meeting materials.

Director Wells added that earlier this week, Lottery's Controller Karl Strauss presented an overview of Lottery's operations, finances and game portfolio to the Ways and Means Subcommittee.

- Commissioner Weller applauded the legislature's efforts to prohibit the sale or purchase of winning lottery tickets and the deduction of the purchase price from Oregon income taxes under HB 3115.

### **Draft financial statements, Exhibit 2**

The draft February financial statements were included in the meeting materials and will be presented for approval in April.

### **Monthly sales**

- Overall sales were down about two percent from last year.
- Scratch-it sales were up nearly 11 percent compared to last year.
  - The top ticket continues to be the \$30, Lottery Anniversary themed Scratch-it.
  - The \$20 Scratch-it price point is up 36 percent, year-over-year.
- Powerball sales were down from last year by nearly 50 percent due to a \$1.75 billion jackpot in October 2023 and an \$842 million jackpot in January 2024. Powerball has had eight consecutive jackpots below \$500 million since May 2024.
- Mega Millions sales were down by two percent due to the jackpot cycle in comparison to last year.
- Video Lottery sales were trending closely to last year, down by .2 percent.
- Sports betting is seeing strong growth with wager amounts up by almost 19 percent over last year.

### **Winners** – Director Wells shared stories about the following winners:

- Nicole C. of Eugene won \$15,623.90 playing Big City 5's Diamond Video Lottery.
- Desiree M. of Yamhill won \$40,000 playing a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary Scratch-it.
- Charles I. of Salem won \$67,996.70 playing 8-spot Keno.

**Follow-up from the Feb. 28, 2025, OSL Commission meeting, Exhibit 4**

There were no follow-up items from the Feb. 28, 2025.

**C. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING, Exhibit 4**

Presenter: Marty Ramirez, chair

The Commission reviewed the draft Feb. 28, 2025, Oregon State Lottery Commission meeting minutes, which were circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no recommended changes.

Chair Ramirez called for a motion.

Commissioner Wilcox moved that the minutes of the Feb. 28, 2025, Oregon State Lottery Commission meeting be approved as final, as presented today. Commissioner Weller seconded the motion.

Commissioner Geller noted for the record that she was not a member of the Commission in February but watched the meeting online and voted to approve the minutes.

*The motion passed by a 5-0 quorum vote, with Commissioners Conrad, Geller, Weller, Wilcox, and Chair Ramirez voting aye.*

**D. RULEMAKING: OAR 177-098, MEGA MILLIONS, Exhibit 6**

Presenter: Kris Skaro, rules and policy analyst

Skaro reminded the Commission that during the January meeting, she reported that the Multi-State Lottery Association is changing the Mega Millions game effective for all tickets sold on or after April 5. The game changes are intended to respond to player demand for bigger and more frequent jackpots, higher non-jackpot prizes and improved odds of winning a jackpot prize. As a member of the Multi-State Lottery Association, Oregon Lottery needs to amend its rules to reflect the game changes. The proposed rule changes increase the ticket price from \$2 to \$5, provide a multiplier at no additional cost, update the game matrix and odds of winning, and repeal previous promotions that are replaced by the permanent game changes.

Skaro reported that the public rulemaking process was completed, and no public comments were received.

Chair Ramirez called for a motion.

Commissioner Wilcox moved that OAR 177-098 be amended and repealed, as presented in the meeting materials. Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion.

*The motion passed by a 5-0 quorum vote, with Commissioners Conrad, Geller, Weller, Wilcox, and Chair Ramirez voting aye.*

**E. MAJOR PROCUREMENT: IGT, Exhibit 6**

Presenter: Mike Wells, director

Director Wells requested approval to enter into a major procurement with International Game Technologies (IGT) to acquire term-based fixed pricing on the purchase of new video lottery terminal hardware, software and associated services. This new Master Service Agreement will replace the current contract and will afford the video product team the controls to evaluate and purchase more than one video lottery terminal model.

- Discussion ensued about how increased tariffs will affect this agreement, and Director Wells reported that the price will be locked in for the term of the contract, which is still being negotiated.

Chair Ramirez called for a motion.

Commissioner Weller moved that the Oregon State Lottery Commission authorize the director to enter into a major procurement with IGT to acquire term based fixed pricing on the purchase of video lottery terminal hardware, software and associated services, as presented today. Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion.

*The motion passed by a 5-0 quorum vote, with Commissioners Conrad, Geller, Weller, Wilcox, and Chair Ramirez voting aye.*

#### **F. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

**Audit Committee update** - Commissioner Weller reported that the Lottery's Audit Committee met and was briefed on the internal audit department's strategic plan, the results of Internal Audit's 2024 Performance Measurement Scorecard, management's progress in addressing high-risk audit recommendations made by Deloitte in last year's assessment of the finance and accounting's key business cycle controls, and an update on two audit engagements currently in progress. Commissioner Weller commended the internal audit department for their excellent work in helping improve organizational processes.

Chair Ramirez stated that the next monthly commission meeting is scheduled on April 25, 2025, and adjourned the meeting.

The Oregon State Lottery Commission approved these minutes on April 25, 2025.

*Alisa Zavala*

Alisa Zavala (Apr 25, 2025 12:25 PDT)

Alisa Zavala, Senior Executive Assistant  
Lottery Director's Office

Approved by:

*Martin Ramirez*

Martin Ramirez (Apr 25, 2025 13:05 PDT)

Commissioner Marty Ramirez, Chair  
Oregon State Lottery Commission

OSL Commission meeting exhibits are available for one year on the [Oregon Lottery's website](#).