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Shane DeWore
Signature of Agency Liaison

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2024**

The Arkansas Tobacco Control Board met on Thursday, July 11, 2024, for its monthly meeting in the Main Street Mall Building, located at 101 E. Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Suite 119. There were five (5) Board members present.

- **Board Members Present:** Chairman Gary Proffitt, Dr. Patricia Knott, David Hendrix, Jr., Mr. Brent Summerhill, and Dr. Shabbir Dharamsey.

CALL TO ORDER.

- Chairman Gary Proffitt called the ATC Board meeting to order and opened the meeting welcoming the guests and staff.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Gary Proffitt requested a motion to approve the board meeting minutes from June 06, 2024. A motion was made by Dr. Shabbir Dharamsey and seconded by Mr. David Hendrix, Jr. to approve the June 06, 2024, minutes. It passed with five (5) yes votes and zero (0) opposing votes.

WHOLESALE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Chairman Proffitt presented seven (7) new Wholesale Tobacco and Vapor product Permit applications to the Board for approval.

- ❖ Alpha Brands, LLC. - Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- ❖ Smoke Palace, LLC. dba M & A Wholesale - Little Rock, AR
- ❖ Cigar Bros USA, Inc. - El Cajon, CA
- ❖ HW Wellness Texas, LLC. - Frisco, TX
- ❖ Wholesale Hub, Inc. - Jonesboro, AR
- ❖ Fadi Kharraz dba Leens Wholesale - White Hall, AR
- ❖ Fumo Novelties, Inc. dba Fumo Novelties - Houston, TX

- A motion was made by Mr. Brent Summerhill to approve the wholesale applications and seconded by Mr. David Hendrix, Jr. The motion passed with five (5) yes votes and zero (0) opposing votes.

NEW RETAIL PERMITS ISSUED

- Director Christy Bjornson requested the Board members to review and approve the list of seventy-two (72) new permits (those permits other than wholesale permits) issued from June 1 2024 through June 30 2024
- A motion was made to accept and approve the list of seventy two (72) new permits issued by Mr David Hendrix Jr and seconded by Dr Shabbir Dharamsey The motion passed with five (5) yes votes and zero (0) opposing votes

ACCEPTED OFFERS OF SETTLEMENT

- Director Christy Bjornson requested the Board members to review and approve the list of Accepted Offers of Settlement for the month of June 2024 A motion was made to accept the Accepted Offers of Settlement by Mr Brent Summerhull and seconded by Dr Shabbir Dharamsey The motion passed with five (5) yes votes and zero (0) opposing votes

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

- CID Director David Potter reported for following results for compliance checks

April FY 24 - 29 / 341 = 8 50 %

May FY 24 - 20 / 410 = 4 89 %

June FY 24 - 24 / 374 = 6 42 %

FY 2024 - 355 / 4,787 = 7 50 %

Results for Inspections for the month of June 2024 with 65 inspections totaled 37 violations = 30 8 %

FDA ACTIVITY

Deputy Director Ray Owens reported for the month of June 2024 FDA Agents completed 209 routine inspections with 5 potential violations resulting in a 2 39 % violation FDA Agents completed 64 follow-up Inspections with 0 potential violations resulting in a 0 % violation rate for the month of May 2024

LEGAL UPDATE

ATC Attorney Cameron Coker updated the board on the first month's results of the new default policy in sending out notices of hearings Fifteen defaults have been closed since the June meeting This policy will continue, perhaps with some slight adjustments that the Board will be updated on

He is also in the process of reviewing the agency's rules and in the early stages of preparing them for Legislative Review. One rule proposal will be to allow the Director to indefinitely suspend permits for failure to complete board ordered merchant education training or failure to comply with any order of the board.

OPEN FORUM

- Chairman Gary Proffitt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board members. There were no questions or comments made at that time.

ADJOURNMENT

In closing, Chairman Gary Proffitt stated that the next ATC Board meeting is scheduled for August 01, 2024. A motion was made by Chairman Gary Proffitt and seconded by Mr. Brent Summerhill to adjourn. It was approved with five (5) yes votes and zero (0) opposing votes. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

Sharee Devore

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Dated: July 11, 2024