

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 1, 2025

These draft minutes were prepared by staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. They have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting (teleconference) of the Big Game Commercial Services Board was held on October 1, 2025, at 333 Willoughby Avenue, 9th Floor, Juneau, AK.

Date:	October 1, 2025
Time:	9:00 a.m. (9:09 a.m.)
Location:	Online teleconference ran from 333 Willoughby Avenue, 9th Floor, Juneau, AK
Board Members Present:	Aaron Bloomquist, Keegan McCarthy, Martin Boniek, Mike Flores, Dave Lorrington, Larry Kunder, Brianna Hauch, Robert Mumford
Board Members Absent:	Clay Nordlum
Division/SOA Staff Present:	Thomas Bay (Executive Administrator), Janet Brown (Occupational Licensing Examiner), Melissa Dumas (Administrative Operations Manager), Lee Strout (Investigator), Dannie Kerfeld (Investigator)
Present from the Public:	Megan Moody, La Creatia Wilson, Bailey Stuart, Rudy Martinez

1. Review Agenda		
Brief Discussion:	A few board members asked if the board could discuss the process of properly reporting investigative matters at some point during the board meeting. The board amended the agenda to add a discussion regarding investigative matters to the agenda.	
Motion:	Move to amend the agenda by adding a discussion regarding investigative matters to the agenda, to be discussed before scheduling the Spring 2026 meeting (First: Kunder; Second: Boniek).	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	

2. Ethics Review		
Brief Discussion:	There were no ethical disclosures by any board members or staff.	
3. Meeting Minutes		
Brief Discussion:	Mr. Bay informed the board that they had not yet approved of any of their meeting minutes for board meetings held in 2025. Chairman Bloomquist said that he thought they had approved them in previous board meetings or in OnBoard, to which Mr. Bay said that he thought so too, but could not find anything in the recordings, motion sheets, or Onboard confirming so.	
Motion:	Move to approve the meeting minutes for February 19, 2025, March 31, 2025, and July 18, 2025, as written (First: McCarthy; Second: Boniek).	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
4. Online Testing - Pro V		
Brief Discussion:	Melissa Dumas was in attendance to provide an overview of Pro V, a vendor for online testing that the division already uses for other boarded programs, and a possible vendor for the board to use if they still wanted to provide examinations online instead of in-person. She informed the board that Pro V has testing centers around the state that would allow their applicants to test without having to go to one location to test, and that, depending on the exam, it might allow them to test more than the current rotation they are on twice a year. She said that the biggest obstacles for them to go fully online is to figure out what they are going to do with their registered guide-outfitter (RGO) practical in-person exam and the potential lost revenue with having a 3 rd party administer the exams. Chairman Bloomquist said that the board has two separate exams that they are trying to get online, and that right now, they are only looking to get the GMU exams online because already licensed RGOs can take them and should be able to take them throughout the year. He said that the board has an idea of how to get the practical exam incorporated into the RGO written exam, but that it would likely not be ready for their upcoming exams. Mike Flores said that it would be nice to have entry exams for transporters, similar to the RGO exams, which are only administered twice a year, because of their problem with transporters losing their license and being able to get a new license right away under a new entity. Mr. Bay said that, while the intention makes sense, only having exams twice a year for transporter applicants would likely create a barrier to licensure. Ms. Dumas asked the board if they wanted her to reach out to Pro V to find out the possibility of splitting the exam fee with them, so they do not lose all of the exam fees that would normally go to the board, to which they said yes.	
5. Probation Report		

Brief Discussion:	Dannie Kerfeld provided the board’s probation report, which was for the period of July 9, 2025, through September 25, 2025. She informed the board that there were 27 licensees on probation, three of which were out of compliance, and four of which were suspended. One licensee had been released since their last report. Concerning the three non-compliant licensees, Ms. Kerfeld said that one of them had no intention of working in Alaska again and would not be renewing his license, that she would be reaching out to another one of them, to see if they can get him back in compliance, and would be referring the last one for suspension, due to not being able to get in contact with the licensee.	
6. Investigative Report		
Brief Discussion:	The board’s investigator, Lee Strout, provided the board with their investigative report, which was for the period of July 8, 2025, through September 23, 2025. He informed the board that there were 63 open cases and that 11 were closed since their last report. With nothing left to discuss, the board decided to move ahead on the agenda, to discuss the Guide Concession Program (GCP) and Exams, before entering into executive session to discuss investigative matters.	
Motion:	Move to amend the agenda by moving discussions on the Guide Concession Program and exams ahead of entering into executive session to discuss investigative matters (First: Kunder; Second: Boniek).	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorring - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
7. Guide Concession Program		
Brief Discussion:	Dave Lorring, the Board of Game’s (BOG’s) designated BOG member on the BGCSB, informed the board that a BOG proposal to use 19C as the pilot program for the Guide Concession Program was discussed and approved at the last statewide meeting, but denied getting through the Department of Law because it was not properly adopted due to having failed to have consultation with DNR and the BGCSB prior to being adopted. He said that although there was extensive and exhaustive consultation with DNR and the BGCSB prior to the BOG meeting and the proposal being adopted, nothing was put on record at the BOG meeting about those discussions. He said that if the proposal had gone through and the AG’s office was sued, there would be nothing to go back to base their opposition to the lawsuit on. He said that the previous proposal was completely off the board and needed a new proposal to move forward and again get it on the BOG’s next agenda. He said that the easiest way is to have the BGCSB ask the BOG for an agenda change request. After discussion, the board agreed to ask the BOG for an agenda request to have 19C being the pilot program for the GCP. Chairman Bloomquist was tasked with writing the proposal for the board.	
Motion:	Move to request an agenda change to the Board of Game regarding 19C being the pilot program for the Guide Concession Program (First: Kunder; Second: Boniek).	

Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	

8. Exams

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist reminded the board that they had previously discussed exams and that their goal was to get GMU exams online soon and that they were working towards getting the practical exam integrated into the RGO written exam, at which point it would also become an online exam. He said that he was working with Boone & Crockett to get the practical exam portion integrated into the RGO written exam, using a part of their exam. He reminded the board that they would also be adding a few other additions to the RGO exams, however, they require a regulation change, so they were not currently being addressed. Mr. Boniek asked if there is a cost to using parts of someone else's exam, such as Boone & Crockett. Chairman Bloomquist said that it likely depended on the exam they were using, however, he said that Boone & Crockett was excited to help out in any way they could, and that he had not heard anything about a cost from them. Mr. Bay reminded the board that the GMU exams would be updated prior to the upcoming exams and that they would need to be approved via OnBoard before then. Mr. Flores brought up the transporter issue again where transporters can lose their license and get another one under a new LLC the next day and suggested having entry exams for transporters. Chairman Bloomquist said he was not sure that they have statutory authority to create an exam for transporters and suggested getting a determination from the Department of Law to see if they have statutory authority to administer transporter examinations in regulation, to which the board agreed.

Motion:

Move to request a determination from the Department of Law to see if the board has statutory authority to administer transporter exams in regulation (First: Flores; Second: Kunder).

Recorded Votes:

Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
Mumford - Yes	

9. Investigative Matters for Review: Executive Session

Brief Discussion:

The board moved into executive session for discussion of investigative matters.

Motion:

Off Record: 10:39 a.m.

I, Keegan McCarthy, move that the Alaska State Big Game Commercial Services Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the

	reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion; and matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential. Board staff Thomas Bay, Janet Brown, Jenni Summers, Lee Strout, and Dannie Kerfeld to remain during the session (First: McCarthy; Second: Kunder).	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
Brief Discussion: On Record: 11:10 a.m. Off Record: 11:11 a.m.	No action was taken during executive session. The board took a break.	
10. Summary/Motions from Executive Session		
Brief Discussion: On Record: 11:18 a.m.	Back from break, the board provided summaries and motions regarding investigative matters discussed in executive session.	
Case No. 2024-000212		
Motion:	Move to accept the consent agreement for Case No. 2024-000212 (First: McCarthy; Second: Flores).	
Brief Discussion:	The board considered the proposed consent agreement for Case No. 2024-000212: A new registered guide-outfitter guided five clients without registering for any guide use areas. Chairman Bloomquist said the penalties were a little higher in this case than usual because the licensee also had issues with the required language in his contracts and that it appeared he did not read any of the statutes or regulations of the profession before guiding. The reviewing board member (RBM) recommended a fine of \$15,000 (\$10,000 suspended), probation for three years, and a board reprimand.	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
Case No. 2025-000108		
Motion:	Move to accept the consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000108 (First: McCarthy; Second: Flores).	
Brief Discussion:	The board considered the proposed consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000108: An applicant for an assistant guide properly reported numerous violations in his past, including three felonies, with the last one being in 2007. Chairman Bloomquist said that the board reviewed the applicant’s application at their last meeting and was advised that	

	they probably could not prevent the applicant from receiving his license, so they decided to issue a probationary license.	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
Case No. 2025-000621		
Motion:	Move to accept the consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000621 (First: McCarthy; Second: Flores).	
Brief Discussion:	The board considered the proposed consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000621: A long-time registered guide provided services in a GUA that expired the previous year. The licensee had previously been consistent and properly registered in the unit since the mid 90's. There was no other discussion. The RBM recommended a \$500 fine (\$500 suspended), probation for two years, and a board reprimand.	
	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - No
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - No
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	
Case No. 2025-000676		
Motion:	Move to accept the consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000676 (First: Boniek; Second: Flores).	
Brief Discussion:	The board considered the consent agreement for Case No. 2025-000676: A transporter submitted very late transporter activity reports (TARs). The transporter found a batch of TARs that he thought was previously submitted. There was no other discussion. The RBM recommended a fine of \$1,000 (\$500 suspended), probation for two years, and a board reprimand.	
Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	

11. Schedule Spring Meeting

Brief Discussion:	Having finished all previous agenda items, the board scheduled their spring meeting. After discussion, they decided to schedule their spring meeting for March 10-11, 2026. Before finishing the meeting, Chairman Bloomquist asked Mr. Bay if he found out anything about waivers for regulation projects. Mr. Bay informed the board that waivers were only getting approved if a statute change occurred or a threat to public safety would occur if regulations were not changed. Chairman Bloomquist said that he wanted to request a waiver to continue with their regulations project because of how slow the department's regulation process is. There was no other discussion.
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Motion:	Move to request a waiver to work on the board's regulations project that has been in process for at least four years, due to how slow the DCCED regulations process is (First: Bloomquist; Second: Flores).
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Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	

Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist also said that he wanted to request a waiver to work on a repeals package of regulations to bring the board's regulations down by at least 15 percent, per the governor's Administrative Order 360. There was no other discussion.
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Motion:	Move to request a waiver to work on a repeals package of regulations to bring the board's regulations down by at least 15 percent, per the governor's Administrative Order (First: Bloomquist; Second: Flores).
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Recorded Votes:	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Absent
	McCarthy - Yes	Lorrington - Yes
	Flores - Yes	Hauch - Yes
	Mumford - Yes	

Brief Discussion:	With nothing left to discuss, Chairman Bloomquist adjourned the meeting.
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Adjourn:	12:05 p.m.
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Date Final Minutes Approved by the Board:

☐ Meeting ☐ OnBoard