

NORTH CAROLINA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2026
400 East Tryon Road, Raleigh, North Carolina
Hearing Room 101

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (“Commission”) held its regular monthly meeting on February 11, 2026. Chairman Hank Bauer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed attendees, and introduced Commissioner La’Tanta McCrimmon (L.T.), Commissioner David Sherlin, and Deputy Commissioner Mike DeSilva. Assistant General Counsels Renee Metz and Kirstin Greene attended on behalf of General Counsel Stacey Carter-Coley. Members of the Commission’s legal staff were also present.

Chairman Bauer took a point of personal privilege to recognize Commissioner La’Tanta McCrimmon (L.T.) with the Trailblazer Award in honor of Black History Month. He noted that she was the first African American woman to serve as Legislative Director for a North Carolina governor, under Governor Roy Cooper, and the first African American woman appointed to the Commission. Commissioner McCrimmon accepted the award and expressed her appreciation.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In compliance with N.C.G.S. §138A-35, each Commission member confirmed that they had reviewed the meeting agenda and identified no actual or potential conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2026, AGENDA

Assistant General Counsel Renee Metz reported that there were no requests to make changes to the agenda.

- Chairman Bauer moved to adopt the agenda as presented.
- Commissioner McCrimmon seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 14, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

Commission members confirmed that they had reviewed the minutes from the January 14, 2026, meeting.

- Commissioner McCrimmon moved to waive the reading of the minutes.
- Commissioner Sherlin seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

- Commissioner Sherlin then moved to approve the minutes as presented.
- Commissioner McCrimmon seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

I. HEARING CASES AND OFFERS IN COMPROMISE – 90

Assistant General Counsel Kirstin Greene presented 90 offers in compromise for the Commission's consideration and recommended ratification of all 90 cases. She asked whether anyone present wished to be heard on behalf of any of the cases. No one came forward.

- Commissioner Sherlin moved to ratify the 90 offers in compromise.
- Commissioner McCrimmon seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

II. EXEMPTION REQUEST PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §18B-1116(b) – UNITED BEVERAGES OF NORTH CAROLINA, LLC T/A UNITED BEVERAGES OF NORTH CAROLINA; HICKORY ENTERTAINMENT, INC.; CHAN AND PAM LOR T/A STEAK AND SUSHI HOUSE; ELIZABETH P. GAITHER; AND H. DEAN PROCTOR

Assistant General Counsel Metz presented an exemption request based on ownership interests by Elizabeth Gaither and Dean Proctor in both the commercial entity United Beverages and in Hickory Entertainment, the landlord for the retail location to be named Steak and Sushi House. Ms. Metz recognized Paul Powell as counsel for the petitioners but noted that he was not present; however, the NC Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association's Executive Director and attorney, Kris Gardner, was present in his stead and available to answer any questions.

Ms. Metz stated that staff recommended granting the exemption with the following conditions:

- The retailer, Steak and Sushi House, should have no obligation to purchase any products sold by United Beverages.
 - If the retailer elects to purchase products from United Beverages, the amount purchased should not exceed United Beverages' reasonable market share and the retailer should offer a reasonable selection of comparable other alcoholic beverage products competitive with those sold by United Beverages.
 - Elizabeth Gaither should not use her salesperson permit to provide services of any kind to the retailer.
 - Other standard conditions.
-
- Chairman Bauer moved to approve the exemption request.
 - Commissioner Sherlin seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously.

III. MERGER APPROVAL REQUEST PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §18B-703(a) – CITY OF GREENSBORO ABC BOARD /TOWN OF PLEASANT GARDEN ABC BOARD

Pricing and Products Director Greg Stallings presented this request for a merger between the Greensboro ABC Board, formed by Chapter 291 of 1951 Session Law, and the Town of Pleasant Garden, which conducted a referendum election on November 5, 2024, permitting the operation of ABC stores within its limits. Both entities entered into an agreement that would become effective immediately upon Commission approval. The entities would jointly evaluate potential locations for new ABC stores; however, final decisions would be made by the Greensboro ABC Board. The Greensboro ABC Board would retain 50% of the profits and the remaining amount would be distributed to the Town of Pleasant Garden. Mr. Stallings stated that a consolidated system would generate greater revenue for each participating municipality as well as Guilford County. He stated there would be considerable savings achieved through combined managerial, administrative, financial, warehousing, and law enforcement functions. He stated that the Pleasant Garden Town Council would appoint one member to the Greensboro ABC Board to serve a three-year term as a non-voting member.

Mr. Stallings recognized Nigel Sullivan, General Manager for the Greensboro ABC Board, who was present and commented that he was grateful for the Commission’s support regarding this initiative in Guilford County to better serve the citizens. Mr. Stallings then recommended the Commission consider the information shared.

- Commissioner McCrimmon moved to approve the merger request.
- Chairman Bauer seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Bauer announced that the online payment portal for registration and renewal was now open and reminded permittees that the deadline for registration is April 30 each year. He further noted that permits not renewed by April 30 will incur a 25% late fee. For questions regarding the renewal and registration process, permittees may contact the Permits Section by phone at 919-948-7941 or by email at permits@abc.nc.gov.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bauer announced that the next Commission meeting would be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Bauer adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

/S/ Hank Bauer

Hank Bauer, Chairman
North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ Jennifer Temple

Jennifer Temple, for the Legal Section

**Approved at the March 11, 2026, Commission meeting.*