California State Lottery Commission
Minutes – September 1, 2026
Sacramento, California

1. **Call to Order**
   Commissioner Chair Anthony Garrison-Engbrecht called the meeting of the California State Lottery Commission to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Chairman Garrison-Engbrecht led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call**
   Chairman Garrison-Engbrecht asked Farida Osman to call the roll.

   Commission Members Present:
   Chairman Anthony Garrison-Engbrecht
   Vice Chair Keetha Mills
   Commissioner Tiffani Alvidrez
   Commissioner Ukau Dungca

   California State Lottery Staff and Presenters:
   Harjinder K. Shergill-Chima, Director
   Fernando Aceves, Chief Counsel
   Farida Osman, Assistant to the Commission
   Rebecca Estrella, Recording Secretary

   California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) Staff and Students:
   Michelle “MJ” Vincent – Lead American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter
   Dr. Nate Dutra – Assistant Professor, Undergraduate Studies
   Cheryl Gailon – ASL Interpreter
   Josh Anderson – ASL Interpreter
   Kevin Way Jr. – Sac State Graduate, Filmmaker, Actor, Alum

   Members of the public who addressed the Commission:
   None

4. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the California State Lottery Commission 2026-2027**

   Chief Counsel Aceves reviewed the election procedures pursuant to the California State Lottery Act.

Commissioner Garrison-Engbrecht was nominated for Chair, and Commissioners Alvidrez and Mills were nominated for Vice Chair. Commissioner Mills withdrew her nomination, and no additional nominations were received.

By unanimous roll call votes (4-0), Commissioner Garrison-Engbrecht was re-elected Chair, and Commissioner Alvidrez was elected Vice Chair.

Vice Chair Alvidrez thanked the Commissioners for their support, and Chair Garrison-Engbrecht thanked Commissioner Mills for her years of service as Vice Chair.

Vice Chair Alvidrez moved to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Dungca seconded the motion.

5. Consider Approval of the Agenda

Chair Garrison-Engbrecht presented the agenda for the current meeting, asked Commissioners if there were any proposed changes, and, hearing none, requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Alvidrez made a motion to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Dungca seconded the motion.

6. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Garrison-Engbrecht asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the June 16, 2026, Commission meeting. Hearing none, Commissioner Dungca made a motion to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Alvidrez seconded the motion.

7. Informational Items

a. Director's Comments

Director Chima reported total sales of $1.3 billion, achieving 100% of goal and reflecting a 2% increase over the prior year. Scratchers sales totaled $972 million, while strong draw game performance helped offset softer Scratchers sales.

Director Chima highlighted the $1 billion Powerball jackpot sequence, which generated $175 million in California sales and an estimated $70 million in contributions to education. She also discussed National Lottery Week activities, participation in the California State and Orange County Fairs, and implementation of the FY 2026–27 Business Plan.

Updates included new game launches, the SuperLotto Plus multiplier promotion, and progress on the debit card payment pilot at approximately 350 vending machine locations, with initial rollout scheduled for September 28.

Director Chima reported that July contributions to education exceeded $150 million, an increase of $34 million over the prior July.

Commissioner Mills commended the Director for emphasizing the Lottery's mission and its contributions to education and the community.

b. Audit Committee Update

Commissioner Mills presented the annual Audit Committee report, highlighting its oversight of internal controls, audit effectiveness, risk management, and compliance.

The Committee held four meetings during the year to review audit activities, findings, and corrective actions. No significant findings required escalation. Areas of focus included strengthening internal controls, improving processes, enhancing documentation, and ensuring compliance.

Commissioner Mills recognized retiring Internal Audit Deputy Director Sara Sheikholislam for her contributions and congratulated Emily Nguyen on her appointment as the new Deputy Director.

She emphasized the Lottery's commitment to continuous improvement, operational efficiency, and collaboration. Chair Garrison-Engbrecht thanked the Audit Committee, Internal Audit leadership, and staff for their efforts in strengthening processes and organizational effectiveness.

c. Education Campaign

Director Chima provided an update on the Mission Education Campaign, which highlights the real-life impact of Lottery funding on public education through stories shared by students and educators. She emphasized how supplemental Lottery funds support educational opportunities, accessibility, inclusion, and community enrichment.

The Director presented videos showcasing two initiatives:

- **CSUS:** Highlighted how Lottery funding supports ASL interpreting services, expanding accessibility and participation in academic and campus activities for deaf students, faculty, and staff. Student Kevin Way Jr., Dr. Nate Dutra, and ASL interpreter MJ Vincent shared firsthand experiences of the program's impact.

- **Alliance Judy Ivey Burton Technology Academy:** Featured a student-created mural promoting unity, diversity, and community pride. The school received approximately $163,000 in Lottery funding during

FY 2024–25, including approximately $1,000 used toward the mural project involving 100 students.

Director Chima emphasized that both initiatives demonstrate how Lottery funding enhances educational experiences beyond traditional classroom instruction. She also highlighted the campaign's broader efforts to increase public awareness of the Lottery's contributions to education through community engagement and firsthand storytelling.

Looking ahead, Director Chima noted opportunities for Commissioners to participate in future school and community events to witness the impact of Lottery funding firsthand.

Commissioners commended the campaign for demonstrating the tangible benefits of Lottery contributions and expressed appreciation to the students, educators, and Lottery staff for their participation and efforts.

d. Lottery 25/26 Accomplishments

Director Chima presented the Lottery's FY 2025–26 accomplishments, highlighting operational improvements, marketing initiatives, employee engagement, and financial performance.

Key accomplishments included the Lottery's 40th anniversary, continued expansion of the Mission Education Campaign, enhanced retail operations, improved inventory management and distribution, facility upgrades, and successful game launches and promotions.

The Director highlighted improvements in employee engagement, which increased to 82%, along with workforce development initiatives, leadership training, and the launch of the Women in Lottery Leadership Mentorship Program.

The Lottery exceeded $9 billion in annual sales for the third year, reflecting 3% growth, and provided more than $2 billion in supplemental funding to public education. This brought cumulative contributions to California public education to over $50 billion since 1985.

Vice Chair Alvidrez commended the positive employee engagement and retention trends, while Chair Garrison-Engbrecht congratulated the Director and staff on their accomplishments.

8. Consent Calendar

There were no items on the consent calendar.

9. **Action Items**
   There were no Action Items on the agenda.

10. **Public Discussion**
    There was no public discussion.

11. **Commissioner General Discussion**
    There was no Commissioner General Discussion.

12. **Scheduling Next Meetings**
    The next Commission Meeting date is tentatively scheduled for November 19, 2026. The meeting will be held in Sacramento.

13. **Adjournment**
    Chairman Garrison-Engbrecht adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.