

**FREDERICK COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD**  
***Public Meeting Minutes***  
***Monday December 1, 2025***

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Those Present: Ms. Joan Aquilino, Chair  
Mrs. Debbie Burrell, Board Member  
Mr. Christopher Glass, Board Member  
Ms. Jennifer Keefer, Deputy County Attorney  
Mrs. Dawn Shugars, Director  
Mrs. Ashley Kneessi-Gay, Administrative Coordinator  
Mr. Clifton “Ronnie” Harrison, Alcoholic Beverage Inspector  
Mrs. Candace Sier, Administrative Specialist II  
Mrs. Tabitha Vanleeuwen, Administrative Specialist II  
Mrs. Trisha Lawson, Administrative Specialist II

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A Public Meeting was held in person and called to order at 8:30am by the Chair, Joan Aquilino. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Glass. Ashley Kneessi-Gay swore in all participants for today’s hearing.

1. Adopt November 3, 2025, Hearing Minutes

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion to adopt November 3, 2025, hearing minutes.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous ***Ayes 3, Nay-0***  
***(Motion passed)***

2. VIOLATION

a. Mi Pueblo International Market

Sales to Minor/3<sup>rd</sup> offense No Alcohol Awareness on Site  
Miguel Delcid  
For the use of Mi Pueblo International Market, LLC

- Attendees: Miguel Delcid
- October 16, 2025, at approximately 5:58 p.m., a minor entered Mi Pueblo International Market. The minor, who was 18 years old at the time, attempted to purchase a can of Smirnoff Pink Lemonade. The minor reported that the clerk did request identification which was provided to them. The clerk looked at the ID and then sold the alcoholic beverage to the minor. Shortly thereafter, Frederick County Liquor Board Inspectors entered the establishment and cited the clerk, later identified as Alejandrina De Leon Marroquin, for the violation and noted that no employees inside of the establishment were Alcohol Awareness certified.
- Plea: Admit both charges

- Violation History: December 13, 2021 Unauthorized Alcohol 4 Day Suspension-April 28, 2022 Failing to have any certified Alcohol Awareness person(s) on-duty. Written Warning-October 11, 2023 Failing to have any certified Alcohol Awareness person(s) on-duty. No Contest Letter \$500 Fine, \$100 Admin Fee-November 27, 2023 Sales to Minor \$500 fine, suspended for 1 year probation. If another violation occurs during probation the \$500 fine is reinstated.
- **Timeline for NO Alcohol Awareness:**
- 4/28/2022 No Alcohol Awareness on this date 9/29/2023 Failed Sales to Minor Compliance Check, No Alcohol Awareness on this date 10/11/2023 Delivered Hearing letter for incident on 9/29/2023 No Alcohol Awareness on this date 10/12/2023 Delivered No Contest Letter for No AA on 10/11/2023 No Alcohol Awareness on this date

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for a **Fine: \$1500** (increased due to being a second offense).

- **Administrative Fee: \$250**, payable within 24 hours of this hearing.
- **Mandatory Training:** All employees in the service of alcohol license holders must complete the Violation Prevention Class.
  - **Class Fee: \$200.**
  - **Class Schedule:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>
  - **Completion Deadline:** April 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Registration for one of these classes must occur within 7 days of the hearing. Failure to complete training will result in a return to the Board for a hearing.
- **Probation: 2 years with the following conditions:**
  - If any new violations occur during this probationary period:
    - A **1-week suspension** will be imposed, with **no buy-back option**, but held in abeyance during probation.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for a **Fine: \$500 fine payable within 24 hours** of this hearing

- **As an added probationary condition if the establishment is found to be out of compliance with the AA certified staff there will be 3-day suspension imposed immediately, and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board**

**If any further violation occurs during probation:** If another infraction occurs during the probationary period, the suspension will be enforced immediately, and additional penalties may also apply.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motions.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** Director Shugars explained staff's reasoning for recommending a \$1,000 fine for the failure to have alcohol awareness training on site.

Commissioner Burrell explained her reasoning for supporting a reduced fine for the absence of alcohol awareness training on site.

Chair Aquilino stated that she would not support the motion due to the reduced fine and reaffirmed her agreement with staff's recommendation of a \$1,000 fine

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell –Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Nay

The vote was ***Ayes 2, Nay-1***  
***(Motion passed)***

b. Ruby Tuesday

Sales to Minor  
Christopher Watson, Laura Ferguson, and Michael Stultz  
For the use of Ruby Tuesday of Frederick, INC

- Attendees: Christopher Watson, Laura Ferguson, Michael Stultz, Leeann Schregangost
- On October 30, 2025, at approximately 5:07 p.m., a minor entered Ruby Tuesday. The minor, who was 18 years old at the time, attempted to purchase a Bud Light. The minor reported that the server did request identification, which was provided to them. The server proceeded with the sale. Shortly thereafter, Frederick County Liquor Board Inspectors entered the establishment and cited the server, later identified as Danielle Fox, for the violation. Ms. Fox stated she did not possess a valid Alcohol Awareness certification for the State of Maryland. She explained that she is from Pennsylvania and was assisting the establishment due to low staffing, and that she only holds Alcohol Awareness certification in Pennsylvania.
- Plea: Admit
- Violation History: September 11, 2012 Not having a rule and regulation book on site during inspection Written Warning April 22, 2022 Sales to Minor \$500 Fine November 18, 2024 No Alcohol Awareness on site Written Warning, Compliance Check-Did not sell to a Minor October 9, 2024

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for a **Fine: \$1500** (increased due to being a second offense).

- **Administrative Fee: \$250**, payable within 24 hours of this hearing.
- **Mandatory Training:** All employees in the service of alcohol license holders must complete the Violation Prevention Class.
  - **Class Fee: \$200.**
  - **Class Schedule:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>
  - **Completion Deadline:** 6 months
  - Registration for one of these classes must occur within 7 days of the hearing. Failure to complete training will result in a return to the Board for a hearing.
- **Probation: 2 years with the following conditions:**
  - If any new violations occur during this probationary period:
    - A **1-week suspension** will be imposed, with a **buy-back option**, but held in abeyance during probation.

**If any further violation occurs during probation:** If another infraction occurs during the probationary period, the suspension will be enforced immediately, and additional penalties may also apply.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

3. NEW

c. Application #262218

Lima Soul  
Grisel Barrueto  
For the use of A&A Poggi Group, LLC

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for conditional approval for Lima Soul until March 31, 2026. Pending updated hours and entertainment sheet, all regulations and laws of the State, County, municipalities, and Liquor Board are met.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

4. Transfer Application

d. Application #262217

A-1 Choice  
Tika Bhusal and Shes Paudel  
For the use of PB Brothers, LLC

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for conditional approval for A-1 Choice until April 13, 2026. Pending all rules, regulations and laws of the State, County, municipalities, and Liquor Board are met.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye

Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-o**  
**(Motion passed)**

e. Application #262224

Morgan's American Grill  
Angelika Iapicca and Richard Iapicca  
For the use of Iapicca Hospitality Partners, LLC

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for conditional approval for Morgans American Grill until February 28, 2026. Pending all rules, regulations and laws of the State, County, municipalities, and Liquor Board are met.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-o**  
**(Motion passed)**

#### 4. Conversion Applications

f. Application #260730

Rockwell Brewery  
Matthew Thrasher and Paul Tenney  
For the use of Beerwell, LLC

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for conditional approval for Rockwell Brewery until February 28, 2026. Pending all rules, regulations and laws of the State, County, municipalities, and Liquor Board are met.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-o**  
**(Motion passed)**

#### 6. Upgrade Applications

g. Application #260405

The Garage

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burrell made a motion for conditional approval for The Garage until January 31, 2026. Pending all rules, regulations and laws of the State, County, municipalities, and Liquor Board are met.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT-None

5. STAFF MEETING

h. Monthly Violation Report Review

- i. Director Shugars reviewed the monthly violation report with the Board and presented a summary of the civil citations.
- i. Discussion and Possible Vote on Violation Guidelines
  - i. Director Shugars presented and distributed the proposed updates to the violation guidelines and explained to the Board the rationale for the proposed changes.
  - ii. Commissioner Burrell requested clarification on several items, and Director Shugars provided the requested clarification.
  - iii. Chair Aquilino agreed with the proposed changes and stated that, upon a third offense, the licensee should be required to appear before the Board.
  - iv. Commissioner Burrell raised a question regarding how staff would handle a third offense that occurs over a long period of time.
  - v. Ms. Keefer stated that a clear standard should be applied requiring any third offense to come before the Board, regardless of the length of time between violations. She noted that the Board would then determine the appropriate penalty, taking into consideration the time elapsed between violations.
  - vi. Commissioners Glass and Burrell asked whether the guidelines are published in the regulation book and available online. Director Shugars confirmed that the guidelines are public and published in the regulation book.

**MOTION:** Chair Aquilino made a motion to approve the violation guidelines as presented by Director Shugars.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

- j. Discussion and Possible Vote on §6.20 Record, Purchases and Sales
- i. Director Shugars presented the proposed regulatory updates to the Board.
  - ii. Commissioner Glass asked whether there had been any pushback from licensees regarding the regulation.
  - iii. Director Shugars explained that the updates are intended to more closely align with state law and to assist inspectors in the field.

**MOTION:** Chair Aquilino made a motion to approve the change to the regulation as presented by Director Shugars.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Glass second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Commissioner Glass – Aye  
Chair Aquilino – Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

ADJOURN

**MOTION:** Commissioner Glass made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**SECOND:** Chair Aquilino second the motion.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION:** There was no further discussion.

**VOTE:** Chair Aquilino –Aye  
Commissioner Glass- Aye  
Commissioner Burrell - Aye

The vote was unanimous **Ayes 3, Nay-0**  
**(Motion passed)**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 10:31am

Respectfully submitted,  
Trisha Lawson, Administrative Specialist II  
FREDERICK COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD