

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND
BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of Public Meeting
June 8, 2026

The meeting of the Talbot County Board of Liquor License Commissioners was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 8, 2026. Present were Chairman Jack M. Gottschalk, Commissioner Edward M. Bridges, Jr., Commissioner David Fike and Board Secretary Victoria E. Bradley.

OLD BUSINESS

Upon motion by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2026, were unanimously approved with amendments.

NEW BUSINESS

Piper Enterprises, LLC – Application for new Class F-A alcohol license
(hotels/restaurants – on-sale, beer, wine and liquor)

All those in attendance to testify in the matter were sworn in, (Applicants Madison Reem & Taylor Deighan along with their attorney Craig Snyder).

Mr. Snyder gave opening statements about the application, applicants and the business. Mr. Snyder testified as to the business plan and the applicant's history and background with alcohol sales. Mr. Snyder testified that the applicants have not had violations at the other businesses and is confident they will continue the clean record with the new location.

Commissioner Fike asked if the remaining missing portions of the application had been submitted. Secretary Bradley stated she did not have zoning approval from the Town or the Health Department Certificate.

Mr. Snyder testified that the application was missing the Health Department Permit and that the applicants would be asking for conditional approval pending the missing permit. Mr. Snyder submitted the zoning approval from the town.

Commissioner Bridges asked if the Alcohol Awareness Certificates had been submitted. Mr. Snyder presented the certificates.

Chairman Gottschalk asked if the applicant could describe the menu and business plan. Ms. Reem submitted the menu concept and testified that they would focus on fresh seafood with special cocktails, craft beer and fine wine selection.

Chairman Gottschalk reminded the applicants about the importance of controlling the alcohol served on site in and out of the restaurant and checking ID's before serving and selling alcohol. Chairman Gottschalk further reminded the applicants of the importance of alcohol safety and control in a marina and boating setting. Chairman Gottschalk further explained the responsibilities of following the County Code.

Mr. Deighan testified that their other location has signs stating no alcohol beyond this point to avoid alcohol leaving the location and they will be doing the same for the new location.

Chairman Gottschalk asked what system applicants have for ID checking. Ms. Reem testified that the new business will have the same procedures that have worked for them at their other location. Ms. Reem further testified that each server station and bar will have an ID check book and a mounted blacklight ID scanner.

Chairman Gottschalk asked if the applicants had a more legible Fire Marshal Inspection. Secretary Bradley stated that was the best copy we had on file. Ms. Reem presented the original copy and was able to read that the inspection stated all violations have been corrected and no objections.

The Board reviewed the preliminary Health Department Certificate that stated no issues or pending matters.

Chairman Gottschalk asked the Board members if they had any questions or concerns before public comment. The other members had nothing further, so public comment was opened.

There being no further discussion, the following motion was made:

- Motion made by Commissioner Bridges, seconded by Commissioner Fike that the Board approve the Class F-A alcohol license (hotels/restaurants – on-sale, beer, wine and liquor). Motion passed unanimously.

Raku Sushi, Inc. – Application for new Class F-A alcohol license (hotels/restaurants – on-sale, beer, wine and liquor)

All those in attendance to testify in the matter were sworn in, (Applicant Feng Lin and wife Hui Lin).

The Board reviewed the submitted application and additional attachments. Commissioner Fike asked if the application had any missing parts. Secretary Bradley confirmed the application was completed and no attachments were missing.

Commissioner Bridges reviewed and read aloud the Fire Marshall inspection form stating all violations have been corrected, and the office had no objections.

Chairman Gottschalk asked the applicant to describe the business. Mrs. Lin testified that the business would serve sushi, seafood boil and hibachi.

Chairman Gottschalk asked if the applicant had any experience working in a restaurant with alcohol. Mr. Lin testified that he has worked in restaurants with alcohol for many years and is not new to the business.

Chairman Gottschalk asked how they will be checking IDs for alcohol sales. Ms. Lin testified that they check legal IDs such as drivers license, passport or state issued IDs for each sale. Ms. Lin further testified that they would have regular training to make sure staff are always checking IDs.

Chairman Gottschalk expressed the importance of ID checking for each sale, especially when it is busy. Chairman Gottschalk suggested the applicants look into getting ID scanners and having the 21-year-old calendar at the register to help staff.

Chairman Gottschalk asked the Board members if they had any questions or concerns before public comment. The other members had nothing further, so public comment was opened.

There being no further discussion, the following motion was made:

- Motion made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bridges that the Board approve the Class F-A alcohol license (hotels/restaurants – on-sale, beer, wine and liquor). Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Chairman Gottschalk discussed applications for delivery of alcohol, and the Logbook the Board requires, the Logbook was from the Covid bill in 2020. Chairman Gottschalk asked if the inspector has every had an opportunity to inspect the Logbook.

The Board was introduced to the new Alcohol Inspector Morgan Haller. Inspector Haller testified that she was able to inspect the Logbook at Hair O The Dog and found everything in order. Inspector Haller testified that she has been able to inspect a few of the businesses in the County.

Commissioner Fike stated the importance of keeping track of the delivery licenses and the inspector reviewing the Logbooks as often as possible. Inspector Haller stated she wants to review the logs monthly at least and hopes moving forward the Liquor Board can utilize the OpenGov system her office uses already to keep track more efficiently.

Chairman Gottschalk discussed the possibility of requiring substitute applicants to come in for a hearing instead of administrative approval. The Board agreed moving forward if they receive an application for a substitute licensee who has not been on a license before the Board will have a hearing instead of administrative approval.

Chairman Gottschalk reminded the Board of the work session for the Waterfowl Festival on June 22nd. Secretary Bradley confirmed Ms. Killmon with Waterfowl Festival, the Town of Easton, Easton PD and the County Compliance office, and the Liquor Inspector would all have someone in attendance.

There being no further business to discuss, the Board moved to adjourn.

- Upon motion by Commissioner Bridges, seconded by Commissioner Fike there being no further business to discuss, the Board voted unanimously to close the meeting at 10:45 a.m.