
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DIVISION COMMISSION MEETING — AUGUST 2019

Meetings. The Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD) Commission met on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at the Alcoholic Beverages Division headquarters in Ankeny.

Listing Appeal Hearings. The Commission held two listing appeal hearings for SLRRRP and Heroes Vodka. SLRRRP was initially denied a listing opportunity by the Division due to the packaging and presentation of the product, which were determined by the Division to be in conflict with the Division's standards for social responsibility, as they apply to advertising and marketing alcohol in a responsible manner. The Commission tabled the decision to uphold or refuse the Division's determination and will review the appeal at a future meeting.

Heroes Vodka was offered a 90-day temporary listing by the Division due to category saturation by size. The Heroes Vodka product is 750 milliliters in volume, and several well-performing alcoholic products are of the same size and the same alcohol type. The Commission voted in favor of affirming the decision to offer a 90-day temporary listing, after which the product's sales figures will be reviewed and a determination will be made as to whether the product will be listed in the future.

The Alcoholic Beverages Division listing manual can be found [here](#).

Commissioner's Report. Business Operations Manager Herb Sutton delivered the Commissioner's Report to the Commission, indicating that 150 stores selling ABD-regulated products opened during FY 2019 alone. The Division's Regulatory Department also issued 18,000 permits and licenses in FY 2019, which is an increase of 2,000 licenses and permits compared to FY 2018.

Warehouse Expansion and Hiring Update. The \$4.0 million Ruan warehouse expansion is slated for completion by November 2019 and will result in \$4.0 million less being reverted to the State General Fund, with the final reversion to the General Fund being completed by September 15, 2019. Additionally, the Division hired 3.0 full-time equivalent employees for IT positions.

Audit and Annual Report. An audit report for FY 2018 will be released during the fall of 2019, and the FY 2019 Annual Report will be released in December 2019.

Next Meeting. The next Commission meeting will be held on October 8, 2019.

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