Worcester County Board of License Commissioners
Open Meetings Act Minutes
May 20, 2026

Time: 1:00 P.M
Location: Worcester County Governmental Center, Board Room, Room 1102

Attendance:

License Commissioners
R. Charles Nichols
Marty W. Pusey

Staff:
Thomas Coates, Esquire
April R. Payne, Liquor License Administrator
Joseph Pembroke, Liquor License Inspector

I. Call to Order

II. Administrative Matters

The Board of License Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the April 15, 2026, meeting, and a motion was made by Commissioner Pusey seconded by Chairman Nichols and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as submitted.

III. Closed Session - Administrative Matters

Thomas Coates, Esquire, reported that the legislature has adopted the Class "C" Municipal Events to-Go Licenses and temporary to-go permits. These changes authorize Worcester County to issue alcoholic beverage licenses with a temporary to-go permit. He noted that the statute outlines the applicable rules and regulations, which will take effect on July 1, 2026. Chairman Nichols stated that an additional meeting will be scheduled, with all members present, to review the rules and regulations in detail.

IV. Open Session

No administrative matters were discussed during Open Session.

V. Adjournment

WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR EMBERS RESTAURANT & BLU CRABHOUSE – LICENSE #18
MAY 20, 2026

Members Present:	**R. Charles Nichols, Chairman**	**X**	**Marty W. Pusey**	**X**	**Reese Cropper, III**		☐
	Alternate Board Member: William E. Esham, III	☐					
Staff Present:	**April Payne, Administrator**	**X**	**Joe Pembroke, Inspector**				**X**
	Hank Fisher III, Esq., Board Attorney	☐	**Alternate Board Attorney: Name: Thomas Coates, Esq.**				**X**
	Stacey Odell, Administrative	**X**	**Valarie Dawson, Court Reporter**				**X**

License #:	18	**Hearing Date:**	May 20, 2026	**Hearing Start Time:**	1:39 p.m.		
Class:	"B"	**Type:**	B/W/L	**Day:**	7 Day		
For: The Embers Restaurant, Inc.		**T/A:** Embers Restaurant & Crabhouse		**Address:** 2305 Philadelphia Avenue Ocean City, Maryland 21842			
New Application:	☐ **Yes**	**Transfer:**	☐ **Yes**	**Meeting:**	**X Yes**	**Violation:**	☐ **Yes**

Items to be discussed: Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License Request off-sale of liquor from the third-floor area once per week during organized tasting events restricted to the specific alcoholic beverages offered at the event.

Applicants: ☐	**Licensees:** X	**Representative:**
1. Cole Taustin		1. Hugh Cropper, Esquire
2. Jay Taustin		2.
Witnesses:		**Protestants:**
1.		1. Sara Hambury – West O Bottle Shop (Opposed)
2.		2 Sam Ramadan – Village Market Beer, Wine & Liquor (Opposed)
3.		3. Richard Smith – Village Market Beer, Wine & Liquor (Opposed)
4.		4. Jeff Walls – 8th Street Liquors (Opposed)
Exhibits:		**Exhibits:**
1. Applicant's Exhibit #1 – Photo Screens replacing glass door		1.
2. Applicant's Exhibit #2 – Photo – Proposed venue area		2.

Hearing Minutes: Licensees Cole Taustin and Jay Taustin along with their attorney Hugh Cropper, Esquire appeared before the Board for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License Request off-sale of liquor from the third-floor area once per week during organized tasting events restricted to the specific alcoholic beverages offered at the event. The Licensees were sworn in. Cropper stated that the Licensees previously appeared before the Board on February 18, 2026, seeking expanded off-sale privileges for both the first-floor retail area and year-round sales on the third floor. The application presented today is substantially different and more limited. The request today applies only to the third floor, once weekly, during special tasting events, and only for factory-sealed containers of the alcoholic beverages featured at the event. Cropper provided background on the property, noting the restaurant has operated at this location since 1945, predating zones, Health Department regulations, and the Board itself. The Taustin family has operated the business since the 1960s, maintaining one of the area's longest-standing restaurant operations. Cropper emphasized that the licensees have had no alcohol violations for more than 60 years, including during periods when the establishment operated as a nightclub. The facility has been fully rebuilt in recent years, with the restaurant now located on the third floor. Board Attorney Coates entered (Applicant's Exhibit #1**)**, photograph of the screens replacing glass doors, and (Applicant's Exhibit #2**)**, photograph proposed venue area. Cropper stated this is a fully enclosed event area designed for special events such as wine and liquor tastings and small private functions. Cole Taustin testified that he has been involved in operating Embers for his entire life and is now 40 years old. He received approval from the Ocean City Planning Commission for installation of sliding glass doors on the third floor. The remodeled space was intentionally built as a unique destination venue for downtown Ocean City. C. Taustin described two types of tasting events: Ticketed events requiring advance purchase; and Open-to-the-public events staffed by servers/bartenders who

check identification, pour samples, and educate guests about the products. C. Taustin stated that guests frequently ask to purchase featured products at the event, but the business must currently refer them to local liquor stores, where specialty items are often difficult to locate. At past Board-approved special events, including a bourbon tasting, the product sold out with no incidents. C. Taustin testified that allowing limited off-sale during tasting events would serve customer needs and enhance the overall experience, not compete with Class "A" licensees. C. Taustin confirmed that purchases would be handled only by staff, packaged, and set aside for customer pickup upon departure. Bottles would not be sold outside of an active tasting event, and customers could not enter solely to purchase a bottle. The request is for one event per week. Jay Taustin testified that he has more than 60 years of experience in the food and beverage industry and has held multiple beverage licenses over his career. He has attended the tasting events, described them as successful, and agreed there is a public need for allowing customers to purchase the specialty products featured. He emphasized that the intent is not to compete with to-go licensees but to enhance the restaurant's upscale branding and the customer experience. Several individuals appeared in opposition and were sworn in. Sara Hambury, owner of West O Bottle Shop, stated she believes Embers' request would create competition with existing to-go businesses, particularly given that both restaurants and liquor stores may feature overlapping products at special events. She expressed concern that allowing one restaurant to have off-sale privileges for special events would set a precedent for others. Sam Ramadan, owner of Village Market Beer, Wine & Liquor expressed concerns that the request mirrors the February 18, 2026, application and would ultimately affect the viability of to-go liquor stores. He argued that restaurants should not have the same privileges as Class "A" licensees and feared that granting this request would open the door for similar applications from other restaurants. Ramadan referenced a prior agreement related to the sale of the former county liquor store property; Chairman Nichols clarified that the Board has no connection to such agreements. Richard Smith stated he is opposed to any additional off-sale privileges in the area, expressing concern that restaurants would each request weekly special events, effectively resulting in daily to-go sales county-wide. Jeff Walls, GM of 8th Street Liquors echoed the concerns about negative impacts on the shrinking market for to-go businesses. Commissioner Pusey asked the protestants whether the weekly events could increase interest in specialty products and thus benefit their liquor stores. Ramadan responded that to-go stores already conduct their own tastings and that restaurants entering this space would harm their businesses. Chairman Nichols clarified that this application is significantly different from the February 18th request. He noted that the Board's role is not to regulate distribution, pricing, or market competition, but to evaluate license applications on their merits and ensure public safety and compliance. Chairman Nichols stated the Board has consistently acted to protect the marketplace and that the licensees' testimony reflects substantial changes from the prior application. Commissioner Pusey questioned what happens to the alcohol that is left over from the special events. C. Taustin stated the leftover liquor from events are used in cocktails served on the premises and are not sold for off-premises consumption. He also reiterated that bottles could be taken home only during the special event and only for the products featured.

The Board approved the application for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day license request off-sale of liquor from the third-floor area once per week during organized tasting events restricted to the specific alcoholic beverages offered at the event.

Motion:	1st	Ms. Pusey	2nd	Mr. Nichols	**Approved:**	X	Yes	☐	No

Restrictions: OFF SALE OF LIQUOR FROM THIRD FLOOR AREA ONCE PER WEEK DURING ORGANIZED TASTING DINNER EVENTS RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIFIC ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OFFERED AT THE EVENT.

Time Hearing Ended: 2:11 p.m.

WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR CYPRESS RIVER INN & SPA – NEW APPLICATION
MAY 20, 2026

Members Present:	**R. Charles Nichols, Chairman**	**X**	**Marty W. Pusey**	**X**	**Reese Cropper, III**	☐
	Alternate Board Member: William E. Esham, III	☐				
Staff Present:	**April Payne, Administrator**	**X**	**Joe Pembroke, Inspector**			**X**
	Hank Fisher III, Esq., Board Attorney	☐	**Alternate Board Attorney: Name: Thomas Coates, Esq.**			**X**
	Stacey Odell, Administrative	**X**	**Valarie Dawson, Court Reporter**			**X**

License #:	NEW	**Hearing Date:**	May 20, 2026	**Hearing Start Time:**	1:05 p.m.
Class:	"B"	**Type:**	B/W/L	**Day:**	7 Day
For: Cypress River Inn & Spa, LLC.		**T/A:** Cypress River Inn & Spa		**Address:** 201 East Market Street Snow Hill Maryland 21863	
New Application:	**X Yes**	**Transfer:**	☐ **Yes**	**Meeting:** ☐ **Yes**	**Violation:** ☐ **Yes**

Items to be discussed: Application for Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License.

Applicants: X	**Licensees:** ☐	**Representative:**
1. Tammie Faille		1. Christopher Woodley, Esquire
2. Jeffrey Faille		2.
3. Darren Casto		3.
Witnesses:		**Protestants:**
1.		1.
Exhibits:		**Exhibits:**
1. Applicant's Exhibit #1 – Arial Site Plan		1.
2. Applicant's Collective Exhibit #2 – Photographs – Front & Back of House, Porch, Gazebo, Bar		2.
3. Applicant's Exhibit #3 – Restaurant Floor Plan		

Hearing Minutes: The applicants Tammie Faille, Jeffrey Faille, and Darren Casto accompanied by their attorney Christopher W. Woodley, Esquire appeared before the Board seeking approval for an Application for Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License for Cypress River Inn & Spa. The applicants were sworn in. Board Attorney Thomas Coates, Esquire, entered (Applicant's Exhibit #1), Aerial Site Plan. Woodley stated for the record that Catherine Casto, a member of the LLC, could not attend due to her obligations as an OBGYN with scheduled patient appointments and requested that she be excused. Woodley stated that the property located at 201 East Main Street, Snow Hill, was purchased in March 2026 by Tammie & Jeffrey Faille and Darren & Catherine Casto. T. Faille described the property layout as follows, the front portion of the main house is the historic George Washington Purnell House built 1853, a rear porch with a two-story porch cover, a pathway leading to the existing swimming pool, which will be converted into a Koi pond, a three-room cottage, a one-room cottage, a two-story cottage near the Pocomoke River with front and back porches, the property is fenced on all sides except the open view toward the river, there is currently a fence around the pool, which will be removed as part of the Koi pond conversion.. T. Faille stated that seating for 32 guests will be arranged around the pond (four guests per table). The bar will be located approximately eight feet from the pond and seat four to five people. She confirmed that liquor will not be stored at the outdoor bar overnight; it will be removed and secured inside the storage room or basement nightly. Woodley stated that the applicants are requesting to license the entire property, including cottages and outdoor areas, so that guests may legally carry beverages throughout the grounds, including to their rooms. They would also like to offer wine or champagne delivery to guest rooms, as is common for similar venues. T. Faille added that they regularly hold weddings at other venues and would like to host weddings onsite at Cypress River Inn & Spa. Woodley asked J. Faille, who will serve as Head Chef, to explain his role. Mr. Faille stated that the restaurant will offer Uber Fine Dining, serving dishes such as rack of lamb, tenderloin, escargot, and other items

reflective of his formal Culinary School training. He explained that guests enjoying a filet or tenderloin typically expect a quality wine or cocktail pairing, not water or soda, which demonstrates the importance of the liquor license for proper fine-dining service. Woodley stated the applicants have already invested approximately $500,000 in property improvements and renovations, with all applicants actively involved in the work. T. Faille stated they plan to keep weddings intimate, with approximately 100 guests, and would use a 16' x 60' tent with enough staff to ensure effective supervision. Board Attorney Coates entered (Applicant's Collective Exhibit #2), photographs of the front & back of the home, porch, and planned gazebo/bar location. The Board. Administrator April Payne asked about alcohol service on the back porch. T. Faille stated there will be no alcohol served on the back porch, as it is part of the kitchen area and reserved for employees only. Chairman Nichols recommended including the porch in the licensed premises to avoid confusion. T. Faille agreed. Board Attorney Coates entered (Applicant's Exhibit #3), restaurant floor plan; which notes seating for 58 guests, covered porch seating for 12 guests, and the second-floor layout with four updated bedrooms. Chairman Nichols noted that the parcel is 2.13 acres and appears fully fenced. T. Faille confirmed it is fenced on all sides except where it meets the woods, and that the front has an iron fence. T. Faille stated she will serve as General Manager, and is TIPS/TAM certified, and will ensure all staff are also certified. She noted that they currently handle food service at Burley Beer in Berlin using two food trucks. Hours of operation will begin at **7**:00 a.m. or 8:00 a.m**.** daily, closing at 9:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m. for weddings. Woodley stated that the applicants are not requesting any entertainment, either indoors or outdoors. Only soft background music will be used, with two exterior speakers. A music technician will be used for weddings only. Woodley confirmed he provided the applicants with the Liquor Board's rules and regulations, and they understand that violations or future changes to the premises will require them to reappear before the Board. T. Faille confirmed she is the Resident Agent and obtained all required signatures for the license application. Commissioner Pusey asked about music lasting until 9:00 p.m. T. Faille stated the music will be soft, "elevator-style" background music, not loud. Commissioner Pusey asked whether she had spoken with neighboring residents. T. Faille stated they have only one close neighbor and she has spoken with them and others in the area, all of whom expressed excitement for the project. Chairman Nichols noted that a parking lot is adjacent to the property and there were no protestants present. Chairman Nichols asked whether the koi pond would be completed soon and confirmed it will not be used as a swimming pool. Casto stated it will not be used as a swimming pool, the cover will remain on until construction begins, and there is currently no water in the pool. Commissioner Pusey asked whether the applicants were requesting off-sale alcohol. Mrs. Faille replied "No."

The Board tentatively approved the application for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License for Cypress River Inn & Spa, pending all required documentation.

Motion:	1st	Ms. Pusey	2nd	Mr. Nichols	**Approved:**	X	Yes	☐	No

Restrictions: NO LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INSIDE OR OUTSIDE, NO DISC JOCKEY ALLOWED, BACKGROUND MUSIC ALLOWED INSIDE PROPERTY, MUSIC TECHNICIAN ALLOWED FOR WEDDINGS UNTIL 10 P.M. IN BACK YARD AREA, TWO OUTSIDE SPEAKERS ALLOWED IN OUTSIDE BAR AREA UNTIL 10 P.M., NO GAMES ALLOWED, NO POOL TABLES ALLOWED, NO OFF SALE, ENTIRE PREMISES LICENSED.

Time Hearing Ended: 1:25 p.m.

WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR VIEW – LICENSE #954
MAY 20, 2026

Members Present:	**R. Charles Nichols, Chairman**	**X**	**Marty W. Pusey**	**X**	**Reese Cropper, III**	☐
	Alternate Board Member: William E. Esham, III	☐				
Staff Present:	**April Payne, Administrator**	**X**	**Joe Pembroke, Inspector**			**X**
	Hank Fisher III, Esq., Board Attorney	☐	**Alternate Board Attorney: Name: Thomas Coates, Esq.**			**X**
	Stacey Odell, Administrative	**X**	**Valarie Dawson, Court Reporter**			**X**

License #:	954	**Hearing Date:**	May 20, 2026	**Hearing Start Time:**	2:11 p.m.
Class:	"B"	**Type:**	B/W/L	**Day:**	7 Day
For: Cambria Liquor, LLC.		**T/A:** View		**Address:** 13 Saint Louis Avenue Ocean City, Maryland 21842	

New Application:	☐ **Yes**	**Transfer:**	☐ **Yes**	**Meeting:**	**X Yes**	**Violation:**	☐ **Yes**

Items to be discussed: Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License request for live entertainment with a maximum of four pieces from 4 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. seven days per week**.**

Applicants: ☐	**Licensees:** X	**Representative:**
1. Anjeeb Shrestha		1. Joseph Moore, Esquire
2.		
Witnesses:		**Protestants:**
1. Tauhid Islam		1.
Exhibits:		**Exhibits:**
1. Applicant's Collective Exhibit #1 – Photos of 1st floor Dining Area, and Bar area		1.
2. Applicant's Exhibit #2 – Photo - Music Location		2.
3. Applicant's Exhibit #3 – Photos – Revision for entertainment area		3.

Hearing Minutes: Anjeeb Shrestha, and Tauhid Islam along with attorney Joseph Moore, Esquire appeared before the Board for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day license request for live entertainment with a maximum of four pieces from 4 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. seven days per week**.** The licensee was sworn in along with witness Tauhid Islam. Moore explained that the request concerns the bar and light dining area located on the first floor of the Cambria Hotel. Board Attorney Thomas Coates entered (Applicant's Collective Exhibit #1), Photographs of 1st floor, dining and bar area. The applicant is seeking approval for four-piece live entertainment in this space. Moore noted that this area is separate from other hotel venues and situated far enough away so as not to interfere with other hotel operations. Moore stated that Islam is a Managing Member of the LLC and confirmed that all information presented in the application is accurate. Islam agreed and confirmed that live entertainment in this designated space would not intrude into other areas of the hotel. Moore explained that the dance floor used for special events such as weddings is located on the far side of the hotel, and any use of entertainment in that area would require a separate request. Islam acknowledged this requirement. Chairman Nichols asked whether simultaneous entertainment or events would occur in multiple areas of the hotel at once. Islam stated "No," simultaneous events would not take place. Administrator April Payne asked for clarification on whether the live entertainment would be located behind the partition shown in the photographs. Moore stated "Yes," the entertainment would be behind the partition, although the original photo did not reflect this correctly. Chairman Nichols requested that the exhibits be corrected to show the proper entertainment location. Board Attorney

Coates then entered (Applicant's Exhibit #2**)**, a photograph showing the corrected music location. Moore submitted additional revised photos, which Board Attorney Coates entered as (Applicant's Exhibit #3), demonstrating that the entertainment area is located on the opposite side of the hotel venue. Moore stated the requested entertainment hours are 4:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Islam explained that the music will be soft background music, intended to enhance the lobby environment. Guests may enjoy a glass of wine while listening. He also noted that the hotel setting requires that music not be too loud in consideration of overnight guests. Commissioner Pusey asked whether guests would be permitted to sit in the lobby area and listen to the music. Moore and Islam agreed that guests may sit in the lobby while music is playing. Chairman Nichols clarified that the request is for a four-piece group only and no disc jockey (DJ).

The Board approved the request for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License for live entertainment with a maximum of four pieces from 4 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. seven days per week**.**

Motion:	1st	Ms. Pusey	2nd	Mr. Nichols	**Approved:**	X	Yes	☐ No

Restrictions: LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED INSIDE WITH A MAXIMUM OF FOUR PIECES FROM 4 P.M. UNTIL 10:30 P.M., SEVEN DAYS PER WEEK IN THE RESTAURANT AND BAR AREA AS WELL AS THE EVENT ROOM AREA BUT NOT AT THE SAME TIME, DANCE FLOOR IS ALLOWED IN THE EVENT ROOM AREA ONLY, NO DISC JOCKEY ALLOWED.

Time Hearing Ended: 2:26 p.m.

WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR TIDE TO TABLE – NEW APPLICATION
MAY 20, 2026

Members Present:	**R. Charles Nichols, Chairman**	**X**	**Marty W. Pusey**	**X**	**Reese Cropper, III**	☐
	Alternate Board Member: William E. Esham, III	☐				
Staff Present:	**April Payne, Administrator**	**X**	**Joe Pembroke, Inspector**			**X**
	Hank Fisher III, Esq., Board Attorney	☐	**Alternate Board Attorney: Name: Thomas Coates, Esq.**			**X**
	Stacey Odell, Administrative	**X**	**Valarie Dawson, Court Reporter**			**X**

License #:	NEW	**Hearing Date:**	May 20, 2026	**Hearing Start Time:**	1:25 p.m.
Class:	"B"	**Type:**	B/W/L	**Day:**	7 Day
For: Wisewell Ct., LLC.		**T/A:** Tide to Table		**Address:** 7805 Coastal Highway Ocean City, Maryland 21842	
New Application:	**X Yes**	**Transfer:**	☐ **Yes**	**Meeting:** ☐ **Yes**	**Violation:** ☐ **Yes**

Items to be discussed: Application for Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License.

Applicants: X	**Licensees:** ☐	**Representative:**
1. Kevin Decker		1. Mark Spencer Cropper, Esquire
2. Jason Elliott		2.
3. Michael Wroten		3.
Witnesses:		**Protestants:**
1. Robert Bassitt		1.
Exhibits:		**Exhibits:**
1. Applicant's Exhibit #1 – Renderings 1st & 2nd Floor seating		1.
2. Applicant's Exhibit #2 –Robert Bassitt's Resume		2.

Hearing Minutes: The applicants Kevin Decker, Jason Elliott and Michael Wroten accompanied by their attorney Mark S. Cropper, Esquire appeared before the Board seeking approval for an Application for Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day License. The applicants were sworn in, along with Robert Bassitt (witness). Cropper stated the application before the Board is for the premises formerly known as Mother's Cantina. He confirmed that Decker is the Resident Agent, and asked Decker whether he completed the application accurately and obtained all required signatures and affidavits. Decker agreed. Cropper asked members Elliott and Wroten the same, both agreed. Cropper explains that the license applicants operate under Wisewell Ct., LLC, and the restaurant will be called Tide to Table. Board Attorney Thomas Coates submitted (Applicant's Exhibit #1) renderings of seating of 1st & 2nd floor. Cropper explained that the renderings also include notations showing small, flush-mounted speakers on both floors. He stated the applicants request permission to play background music only, controlled by the manager or person on duty. Cropper entered (Applicant's Exhibit #2**)**, Robert Bassitt's resume; Cropper stated that Bassitt has extensive professional and educational experience in bar and restaurant management and has agreed to serve as the General Manager (GM) of Tide to Table, overseeing hiring, firing, staffing, and operations. Bassitt confirmed his role. Cropper noted that, based on Bassitt's experience, all employees will be required to be TIPS/TAM certified. Bassitt stated he intends to begin restaurant operations by June 1, 2026, beginning with employee training and bringing in a trainer to work with the management team. Cropper reviewed the proposed seating, first floor: 70 inside, 18 outside, second floor: 53 inside, 82 outside. He confirmed the applicants are not requesting any live entertainment, pool tables, or games, and intends for the business to operate strictly as a restaurant/bar for patrons. Cropper noted that Resident Agent Decker has served in the same role at multiple licensed establishments, including The Angler Restaurant, Tipsy Taco, OC Eateries, Mother's Cantina, and Lazy Lizard, with only one prior violation. Decker confirmed he will be spending regular time at the location. The applicants stated they will be offering a seafood focused menu. Cropper asked Elliott

and Wroten how frequently they plan to be present at the location; both estimated twice per month or as needed, with Bassitt serving as the GM full-time. Chairman Nichols asked whether the applicants had previously held licenses and confirmed the lease is in good order. Decker responded "Yes." Commissioner Pusey confirmed with the applicants that they plan to offer background music only, and they agreed. Chairman Nichols asked how many employees they expect to hire. Bassitt stated they will have approximately 8–12 kitchen staff and 20 front-of-house staff, with the total number subject to change depending on part-time and full-time needs. The business will operate year-round. Board Attorney Coates asked whether the settlement on the property had been completed. Decker confirmed it had. Chairman Nichols informed the applicants that they must post a sign at the gate to the parking lot stating, "No alcoholic beverages past this point."

The Board tentatively approved the application for Tide to Table for a Class "B" B/W/L 7 Day license, pending all required documentation.

Motion:	1st	Ms. Pusey	2nd	Mr. Nichols	**Approved:**	X	Yes	☐	No

Restrictions: NO LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, NO DISC JOCKEY ALLOWED, NO GAMES ALLOWED, NO POOL TABLES ALLOWED, BACKGROUND MUSIC ALLOWED INSIDE AND ON OUTSIDE DECK AREAS, NO OFF SALE.

Time Hearing Ended: 1:38 p.m.

WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR BURLEY OAK BREWERY – LICENSE #770
MAY 20, 2026

Members Present:	**R. Charles Nichols, Chairman**	**X**	**Marty W. Pusey**	**X**	**Reese Cropper, III**		☐
	Alternate Board Member: William E. Esham, III	☐					
Staff Present:	**April Payne, Administrator**	**X**	**Joe Pembroke, Inspector**				**X**
	Hank Fisher III, Esq., Board Attorney	☐	**Alternate Board Attorney: Name: Thomas Coates, Esq.**				**X**
	Stacey Odell, Administrative	**X**	**Valarie Dawson, Court Reporter**				**X**

License #:	770	**Hearing Date:**	May 20, 2026	**Hearing Start Time:**	2:27 p.m.
Class:	"D"	**Type:**	B/W/L	**Day:**	7 Day
For: Burley Oak, LLC.		**T/A:** Burley Oak Brewery		**Address:** 10016 Old Ocean City Boulevard Berlin, Maryland 21811	

New Application:	☐ **Yes**	**Transfer:**	☐ **Yes**	**Meeting:**	**X Yes**	**Violation:**	☐ **Yes**

Items to be discussed: Class "D" B/W/L 7 Day License request for four games**.**

Applicants: ☐	**Licensees:** X	**Representative:**	
1. Bryan Brushmiller		1.	
Witnesses:		**Protestants:**	
1.		1.	
Exhibits:		**Exhibits:**	
1. Applicant's Exhibit #1 – Photo Location for Games		1.	

Hearing Minutes: Licensee Bryan Brushmiller appeared before the Board for a Class "D" B/W/L 7 Day License request for four games**.** The licensee was sworn in. Brushmiller appeared before the Board requesting approval to install four arcade games at his licensed premises. He stated the games include two claw machines, one Golden Tee Golf game, and one Jurassic Park pinball machine. He explained that these additions are intended to improve customer experience, particularly for families, noting that children frequently use claw machines and that both children and adults enjoy pinball games. Board Attorney Thomas Coates entered (Applicant's Exhibit #1), photograph location for games. Commissioner Nichols confirmed that the claw machine shown in the photograph is one of the requested games. Brushmiller agreed and stated there will be two claw machines of the same type. He added that Golden Tee Golf is popular with the many golfers who visit the establishment, and pinball is currently a popular option for both adults and children. Commissioner Pusey clarified that the Brushmiller is requesting four total machines, consisting of three types of games, with two machines being identical claw machines. Brushmiller confirmed "Yes." Chairman Nichols stated that Applicant's Exhibit #1 must be updated to accurately show two claw machines.

The Board approved the request for a Class "D" B/W/L 7 Day License request for four (4) arcade games**.**

Motion:	1st	Ms. Pusey	2nd	Mr. Nichols	**Approved:**	X	Yes	☐ No

Restrictions: ONE GOLDEN TEE MACHINE ALLOWED, TWO CLAW MACHINES ALLOWED, ONE PIN BALL MACHINE ALLOWED.

Time Hearing Ended: 2:31 p.m.