

Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting

Minutes

March 9, 2023

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission (AMCC) met virtually on March 9, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Stokes at 1:00 P.M.

Dr. Sam Blakemore led the Commission's invocation. The roll was taken with a quorum present. Commission members present for the meeting were Dr. Steven Stokes, Mr. Rex Vaughn, Dr. Sam Blakemore, Mr. Dwight Gamble, Dr. Angela Martin, Dr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Loree Skelton, Judge Charles Price, Ms. Taylor Hatchett, Mr. James Harwell, Dr. Jerzy P. Szaflarski, and Mr. Dion Robinson. No members were absent from the meeting.

Chairman Stokes presented the minutes from the January 12, 2023, Commission meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Skelton, seconded by Ms. Hatchett, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

Chairman Stokes noted that the meeting would be abbreviated as the business license application process was ongoing.

The Commission moved into staff reports. Director McMillan complimented the staff for their efforts in reviewing all applications for deficiencies. He also reminded members that the financial report was provided via email to Commission members.

Director McMillan then recognized Mr. Daniel Autrey to provide an administrative update. Mr. Autrey updated members about the application evaluation efforts being provided by the University of South Alabama. He also stated that in the coming months the Commission will add additional staff to prepare for program implementation.

Mr. Justin Aday and Ms. Brittany Peters were then recognized to provide a status update on the application process. Mr. Aday explained that responses to the notices of deficiency were due on March 3, 2023. He also noted that applicants who requested additional time based on extraordinary circumstances or filed petitions for amendment would have until March 24, 2023, to file their applications.

Ms. Peters discussed the upcoming application review sessions scheduled with Commission members. She explained that during these sessions members would have the opportunity to review the ins-and-outs of the application portal.

Attorney Will Webster discussed the application evaluation timeline. Mr. Webster reviewed the various votes that will be taken at the April 13, 2023, Commission meeting. He explained the various decision items needed to reach the slate of applications that will be deemed submitted and move into the evaluation and scoring process.

With the conclusion of staff reports, Chairman Stokes moved to discuss new business. He explained that the Commission issued a request for proposal (RFP) on November 23, 2022, for the Alabama Medical Cannabis Patient and Caregiver Registry. In the issued solicitation, AMCC requested that vendors provide proposals for the electronic patient/caregiver registry solution, customer and call center services, and card printing and distribution services. He stated that upon the completion of a thorough evaluation, the evaluation team and staff recommend moving forward with contract negotiations with the vendor NIC as Alabama's Patient and Caregiver Registry provider. A motion to move forward with contract negotiations was made by Mr. Vaughn, seconded by Mr. Harwell, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Harwell, and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 1:26 P.M.