

## **Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**May 25, 2023**

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission met on May 25, 2023, in the RSA Dexter Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Stokes at 1:01 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 April 13, 2023, Commission meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Hatchett, seconded by Dr. Jensen, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

Director John McMillan then recognized a new member of the AMCC staff, Mr. Scott Absher. Mr. McMillan noted that Mr. Absher is responsible for developing post-licensing compliance protocols and discussed his experience at the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries prior to joining the AMCC staff.

Chairman Stokes stated that the Commission would move into executive session. He asked Mr. Justin Aday to explain the items which the Commission will address, and the legal authority to justify the executive session.

Mr. Aday explained that in the executive session the Commission would discuss the application evaluation process, the upcoming votes, and the matter of pending litigation and legal ramifications. He noted that these discussions meet the requirements for executive session under Section 36-25A-7(1) and Section 36-25A-7(3), Code of Alabama 1975.

A motion to recess for executive session was made by Mr. Gamble, seconded by Ms. Skelton, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

The Commission entered executive session at 1:05 P.M.

The Commission reconvened the public meeting at 2:17 P.M.

Chairman Stokes moved to discuss the decision item before the Commission. He explained that a vote is needed to authorize the staff to transmit the Commission-assigned scores to the University of South Alabama to be considered with the other items being scored by the third-party evaluators. A motion to transmit the scores was made by Judge Price, seconded by Ms. Skelton, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

Chairman Stokes then recognized Ms. Brittany Peters for an update on the patient and caregiver registry contract. Ms. Peters notified members that the proposed contract received approval from the Legislative Contract Review Committee and the contract was signed by Governor Kay Ivey.

She noted that the AMCC staff would be working closely with the vendor to develop the system prior to program implementation.

In closing, Chairman Stokes reminded members that at their next meeting scheduled for June 12, 2023, that the Commission would be awarding business licenses. He also emphasized that the rules and regulations do not permit applicants or their representative to contact Commission members or staff concerning the application process.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Jensen, seconded by Ms. Hatchett, and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_