

Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting

Minutes

August 31, 2023

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission met on August 31, 2023, at the Alabama State House, room 200. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Vaughn at 2:01 P.M.

Vice Chairman Sam Blakemore led the Commission's invocation. The roll was taken with a quorum present. Commission members present for the meeting were Chairman Rex Vaughn, Dr. William Saliski, Dr. Sam Blakemore, Mr. Dwight Gamble, Dr. Angela Martin, Dr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Loree Skelton, Judge Charles Price, Ms. Taylor Hatchett, Mr. James Harwell, and Mr. Dion Robinson. Dr. Jerzy Szaflarski was absent from the meeting.

Chairman Vaughn presented the minutes from the August 10, 2023, Commission meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Harwell, seconded by Ms. Hatchett, and received unanimous approval by the Commission.

Director John McMillan introduced Mr. William Webster to introduce the new members of the AMCC legal team and to discuss other legal issues. Mr. Webster introduced Mr. Scott Speagle, Mr. Michael Jackson, and Mr. Mark Wilkerson. Mr. Webster explained the purpose of the meeting and decision item on the Commission's agenda. He explained that the Commission has authority to issue a stay of the licensing process pursuant to Rule 538-X-3-.18 of the Commission's administrative rules.

Chairman Vaughn moved to discuss the one decision item before the Commission. He explained that the Commission is considering a stay on all proceedings related to the current offering of medical cannabis business licenses. He noted the legal team's explanation that if the stay is imposed, it will allow all parties the time to meet and attempt to resolve issues prior to resuming the licensing process. Chairman Vaughn noted that if the stay is issued, it would impact the following procedural requirements of the program:

- Applicants who were awarded a license on August 10, 2023, will have no current obligation to pay the license fee.
- Applicants who were denied award of license on August 10, 2023, will have no current obligation to submit a request for investigative hearing.
- Licenses that were awarded on August 10, 2023, will not issue on September 7, 2023.

Chairman Vaughn concluded by stating that the stay will remain in effect until lifted by the Commission.

After a question from Judge Price, Dr. Jensen made a motion to stay all proceedings related to the current offering of medical cannabis business licenses. A second was made by Vice Chairman Blakemore and received unanimous approval from the Commission.

Chairman Vaughn moved to discuss a matter of old business. He explained the Commission's enabling statute requires 30 days' notice for meetings and that, due to the lengthy notice

requirement, the Commission would be scheduling future meeting dates that are subject to change. In closing, Chairman Vaughn thanked members for their attendance and noted that the staff would update members on judicial proceedings.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Blakemore, seconded by Mr. Gamble, and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M.