

## **Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**October 26, 2023**

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission met on October 26, 2023, at the Alabama State House, room 200. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Vaughn at 2:00 P.M.

Mr. James Harwell 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, Vice Chairman Sam Blakemore, Mr. Dwight Gamble, Dr. Angela Martin, Dr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Loree Skelton, Judge Charles Price, Mr. James Harwell, Dr. Jerzy Szaflarski and Mr. Dion Robinson. Ms. Taylor Hatchett was absent from the meeting.

Chairman Vaughn presented the minutes from the October 12, 2023, Commission meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Harwell, seconded by Dr. Blakemore, and received approval by the Commission.

Chairman Vaughn recognized the Commission's legal counsel Mr. Mark Wilkerson to discuss recent court proceedings and to address the decision items before the Commission.

Mr. Wilkerson broadly discussed pending litigation matters, including modification of the existing Temporary Restraining Order. He explained that this modification allows the Commission to consider lifting its previously imposed administrative stay and to rescind the licensing decisions made by the Commission at its August 10, 2023, meeting.

The Commission considered lifting the administrative stay imposed by the Commission on August 31, 2023. A motion to lift the administrative stay was made by Judge Price, seconded by Mr. Gamble and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Chairman Vaughn presented for consideration the rescission of license award and denial decisions, pertaining to all license categories, made by the Commission on August 10, 2023. He clarified that if approved, all ninety (90) applicants would be subject to an award of a license and those applicants could avail themselves of the new procedures adopted by the Commission. A motion to rescind the license award and denial decisions of August 10, 2023, was made by Judge Price, seconded by Mr. Harwell, and received unanimous approval from the Commission.

Chairman Vaughn noted that an administrative timeline corresponding to Rule 538-X-3-.20ER had been developed based on the new procedures adopted and actions taken by the Commission at the meeting. He noted that the timeline would be available on the AMCC website and that staff would be communicating with applicants concerning the new procedures.

Chairman Vaughn, in a prepared statement, shared his thoughts about the process adopted by the Commission at its previous meeting. He discussed the opportunity for applicants to make written and oral presentations in support of their application. He also reiterated the Commission's rule stating that the Commission has full discretion as to license award decisions and that he had

confidence in the qualifications and ability of each Commission member in executing the mandates of the law. He concluded by discussing the requirement of inspecting facilities once a licenses are awarded.

Following Chairman Vaughn's statement, Mr. Wilkerson addressed questions from Commissioners concerning the new procedures.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Harwell, seconded by Vice Chairman Blakemore, and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 2:21 P.M.

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

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