

# **Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting**

## **Minutes**

**December 12, 2024**

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission met virtually on December 12, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Vaughn at 1:02 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, Vice Chairman Sam Blakemore, Dr. William Saliski, Mr. Dwight Gamble, Dr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Loree Skelton, Judge Charles Price, Mr. James Harwell, Dr. Mac Barnes, and Mr. Dion Robinson. Dr. Angela Martin and Ms. Taylor Hatchett were absent from the meeting. Dr. Jimmie Harvey was not present for the roll call at the opening of the meeting; however, he arrived prior to the consideration of decision items and was present from that point forward.

Chairman Vaughn presented the minutes from the November 14, 2024, Commission meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Harwell, seconded by Judge Price, and received approval from the Commission. Ms. Skelton abstained.

Chairman Vaughn recognized Mr. Mark Wilkerson to provide a legal update. Mr. Wilkerson discussed pending litigation, including ongoing proceedings in the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals and Montgomery Circuit Court. He also updated members on the mediation session ordered by Judge James Anderson. Ms. Skelton expressed optimism in a possible resolution.

There being no new requests from licensees, Chairman Vaughn moved to discuss old business. He noted that the Commission at its meeting on November 14, 2024, discussed and tabled a request from several cultivator licensees that renewal application and related fees be deferred or pro-rated. Chairman Vaughn then asked if there was a motion that consideration of the request be removed from the table. A motion to remove the item from the table was made by Dr. Jensen and seconded by Dr. Saliski. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion received approval of the Commission.

Chairman Vaughn moved to discuss the consideration of adjusting the Commission's fee schedule. Dr. Jensen discussed a one-time adjustment to lower the annual license fee by 66% for all licenses subject to renewal by December 29, 2024. After discussion, a motion to lower the annual license fee by 66% was made by Judge Price and seconded by Ms. Skelton. The motion failed with Chairman Vaughn, Vice Chairman Blakemore, Mr. Gamble, Mr. Harwell, and Dr. Harvey voting against the motion.

Following the failed motion, Dr. Jensen and Commissioners discussed adjusting the annual license fee by a lesser percentage. Dr. Jensen made a motion to reduce the annual license fee by 25% for all licenses subject to renewal by December 29, 2024. Additionally, after the December 29, 2024, renewal period, all annual license fees revert to the amounts established by the Commission on August 11, 2022. The motion was seconded by Ms. Skelton and received approval from the Commission. Mr. Gamble voted against the motion.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Harwell, seconded by Ms. Skelton, and approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 1:36 P.M.