Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting

Minutes

June 11, 2026

The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission met on June 11, 2026. The meeting, both in-person and virtual, was held at the AMCC office located on Dexter Avenue in Montgomery. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sam Blakemore at 1:00 P.M.

Mr. James Harwell led the Commission's invocation.

Chairman Blakemore asked for the attendance roll call to be taken. The roll was taken with a quorum present.

Members Present	**Members Absent**
Chairman Sam Blakemore (in-person)	Dr. Mac Barnes
Dr. William Saliski (virtual)	Mr. Dwight Gamble
Dr. Angela Martin (virtual)	Ms. Loree Skelton
Dr. Eric Jensen (virtual)	
Judge Charles Price (in-person)	
Ms. Taylor Hatchett (virtual)	
Mr. James Harwell (in-person)	
Dr. Jimmy Harvey (virtual)	
Mr. Dillon Turk (virtual)	
Mr. Dion Robinson (virtual)	

Chairman Blakemore presented the minutes from the April 11, 2026, Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission meeting. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Mr. Harwell and seconded by Dr. Saliski. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion received unanimous approval from the Commission members present.

Chairman Blakemore delivered opening remarks and specifically addressed the recent opening of Callie's Apothecary in Montgomery. Chairman Blakemore emphasized the importance of the opening of Alabama's first medical cannabis dispensary and thanked Commission members for their commitment to the program.

Chairman Blakemore asked Mr. Mark Wilkerson to provide a legal update. Mr. Wilkerson stated that there have been few legal developments since the April AMCC meeting. Mr. Wilkerson reminded Commissioners of two previously mentioned developments. First, Mr. Wilkerson mentioned an appeal by dispensary applicant, Capitol Medical in Montgomery County Circuit Court, regarding the denial of a dispensary license. Capitol asked for a

temporary restraining order and the Circuit Court indicated that it did not intend to grant that TRO based on representations made at a March 23 hearing before Judge Anderson.

Mr. Wilkerson added that there is another lawsuit pending in the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals in an action brought by Trulieve, an applicant for an integrated facility license. Trulieve's issue relates to its request in Montgomery County Circuit Court to enjoin a process established by the Administrative Law Judge during the administrative hearings. The Commission's attorneys have defended the ALJ's order. The Circuit Court denied the injunction request and Trulieve immediately appealed to the Court of Civil Appeals. The Court of Civil Appeals stayed the Circuit Court's decision, thus freezing that decision until it had a chance to consider the case on the merits and adopted an accelerated briefing schedule for the parties. Considering these legal developments, the administrative hearings have been continued by the ALJ.

Chairman Blakemore asked Mr. Justin Aday to provide a program update. Mr. Aday updated the Commission on Physician Certifications by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and physician registrations with the AMCC. Mr. Aday stated that certified physicians are beginning to see patients and are making recommendations of medical cannabis to patients. Further, Mr. Aday shared that four cultivators are growing plant material, two processors are processing medical cannabis, two secure transporters have passed pre-commencement inspections, and the licensed testing laboratory is testing product. Three dispensary licenses have been issued, and the licensees are beginning to build out their facilities.

Chairman Blakemore introduced the first of two decision items for today's meeting. The first item before the Commission relates to the need for additional testing laboratories, especially regarding the AMCC rules which require retesting and challenged test results. The proposal for Commission consideration is a proposed license offering for additional state testing laboratories. It is recommended that the license offering remain open on a rolling basis and anyone requesting an application will have a specific timeline for the application process based on the date on which the application is requested.

A motion to approve the proposed state testing laboratory license offering was made by Mr. Harwell and seconded by Judge Price. Following a roll call vote, the motion received unanimous approval by the Commission members present.

The second decision item for the Commission's consideration was for a Permanent Variance submitted by licensee CCS of Alabama, LLC d/b/a Callie's Apothecary. The licensee submitted a permanent variance request seeking a variance of Rule 538-X-4-.17(8)(a), which limits the size of a sign to 16 inches by 18 inches if the sign is not attached to the permanent structure of the licensee's facility. Mr. Aday noted that along with the licensee's submission of the request for a permanent variance, the licensee also submitted a request for a temporary variance seeking the same relief from the rules. The

initial staff decision was to grant the temporary variance for a period of 6 months unless extended by the Commission.

Dr. Jensen asked whether there is anything specific in the statute that addresses this issue. Mr. Aday responded that the statute does not address this issue specifically, but the Commission is authorized to adopt administrative rules to provide direction on these and similar matters.

Mr. Aday reminded the Commissioners that if the Commission approves the permanent variance, then the Commission must also consider whether to amend the rules to provide others similarly situated the same opportunity as has been granted to the requesting party. Thus, Commission staff will prepare a proposed rule change on this matter for the Commission's consideration at a future meeting.

A motion to approve the permanent variance request which seeks a variance of Rule 538-X-4-.17(8)(a) was made by Dr. Jensen and seconded by Judge Price. Following a roll call vote, the motion received unanimous approval from the Commission members present.

There was no old business or new business on the agenda for this meeting.

Chairman Blakemore reminded commission members that the next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2026, at 1:00. Meeting information will be communicated prior to the meeting date.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Judge Price and seconded by Mr. Harwell. The motion received unanimous approval from the Commission members present. The meeting adjourned at 1:29 P.M.