



MARYLAND  
**MMCC**

Natalie M. LaPrade  
Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission

**Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
July 5, 2017  
1:00 pm**

Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Ave, Room 100  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

**Commissioners Present:**

John Gontrum  
Jeanie Marshall  
Tina Paul  
Harry (Buddy) Robshaw (Vice-Chairman)  
Eric Sterling  
Jon Traunfeld  
Sandy Washington

**Commissioners Present By Telephone:**

Dario Broccolino  
Paul Davies (Chairman)  
Michael Horberg  
Robert Lavin  
James Pyles  
Nancy Rosen-Cohen

**Staff Present:**

Patrick Jameson, Executive Director  
Mary-jo Mather, Director of Administration  
Myesha McQueen, Administrative Specialist  
Precious Wells, Administrative Specialist  
Fakiza Rahman, Quality Assurance Manager  
Heather Nelson, Assistant Attorney General  
David Kloos Director, Bureau of Enforcement and Compliance  
Garrett Keene, Senior Investigator  
Mark Rodeheaver, Senior Investigator  
Nicole Felder, Director of Program Analytics  
Lori Dodson, Director of Compliance for Independent Testing Laboratories

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Robshaw called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and welcomed the attendees.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Robshaw asked if Commissioners had time to review the draft minutes of the June 26, 2017 meeting. He then asked for a Motion to Approve the Minutes, which was offered by Commissioner Gontrum and seconded by Commissioner Marshall. The June 26, 2017 minutes were approved unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Patrick Jameson began by stating that in spite of challenges of creating a new state agency and controversy, a tremendous amount of progress is being made. He advised that the Commission will be meeting more frequently to move through the license approval process. Mr. Jameson was informed by the Bureau of Enforcement staff that all Stage Two applications have been received from the Growers and Processors. All Grower and Processor pre-approvals were granted on August 15, 2016, and per COMAR the Commission *may* revoke pre-approval if a Grower and Processor are not operational by August 15, 2017. Mr. Jameson then summarized the licensing process, first the Bureau of Enforcement and Compliance performs due diligence on the Stage Two applicants and submits its report to the Final Review Subcommittee; that Subcommittee reviews the report and then submits their recommendations to the full Commission for voting on licensure.

Mr. Jameson then spoke on the new law that went into effect on June 1, 2017 allowing additional providers to register to issue recommendations for Medical Cannabis. The four new provider categories include: Dentists, Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives, and Podiatrists. At the time of the meeting, there are 298 physicians registered and there is not a complete count on the number of new providers registered, but this number will be available at the next meeting. To date in the Patient Registry there are 6,213 patients registered and a couple of thousand applications still pending, totaling nearly 9,000 potential patients; 220 caregivers are registered with many still pending; and there are 35 hospice patients registered. The Patient Registry staff has handled 2,337 calls regarding the Registry within the last couple of months.

Mr. Jameson mentioned that the Commission, with the help of a scientific workgroup, has established a technical authority guide that has now been finalized to serve as a reference for independent testing labs to follow when analyzing Medical Cannabis. This technical authority provides the list of contaminants and the associated tolerances that the Independent Testing Labs are required to report as stated in COMAR. The technical authority booklet will provide some of the best practices for sample collection by Independent Testing Labs. Mr. Jameson reiterated that the Commission is committed to evidence-based decision making when implementing the technical guidance for the registering of Independent Testing Labs. A copy of this technical manual is listed on the website. Currently, labs are still validating their methods, and to date it appears two Independent Testing Labs will be ready for inspection in late July or August.

Mr. Jameson concluded that he is looking forward to getting this process going and is looking forward to continuing the partnership the Commission is building with industry.

## **VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT and CLOSING OF THE MEETING TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE AND TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION**

At 1:05 pm, Vice Chairman Robshaw stated that the Commission would be closing the public meeting to receive legal advice and an update on the pending litigation. Prior to the Motion to Close the meeting Commissioner Broccolino questioned how many of the Growers and Processors have put in for final approval. Mr. Jameson advised that all of the Growers and Processors have submitted their Stage Two applications, and only 2 have requested their final inspection, but he anticipates the rest will be requested soon. Commissioner Rosen-Cohen offered a Motion to Close the Meeting to receive legal advice and an update on the litigation, and Commissioner Paul seconded the Motion. The vote to close the meeting was unanimous. The members of the Commission moved into closed session at 1:22 pm and reconvened at 1:47 pm.

At 1:47 pm Vice Chairman Robshaw stated that the closed session of the meeting was for the purpose of receiving legal advice following the sub-committee report and to discuss pending litigation.

Vice Chairman Robshaw stated that he is aware the Policy Committee has not been able to meet for a number of reasons and is encouraging the Policy Committee to meet as soon as possible to resolve some important issues, one of which is the out-of- state patient registration process. Commissioner Sterling (Chairman of Subcommittee) is aware this meeting needs to take place and will be moving forward with this as soon as possible.

Vice Chairman Robshaw reported the Commission was meeting to vote on licensure issues, one of which involved Curio Wellness. The Final Review Subcommittee has requested additional information concerning the grower application and there will be no vote at this meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Final Review Subcommittee Report: Commissioner Eric Sterling**

Commissioner Sterling reported that the Final Review Subcommittee had met on July 3, 2017 to consider the June 16, 2017 report provided by Senior Investigator Rodeheaver regarding the Stage Two application of The Wellness Institute of Maryland for a Dispensary license in Frederick County. The Final Review Subcommittee, by a vote of 5-0, determined the applicant has met the requirements and recommends that the Commission issue a Dispensary license to The Wellness Institute of Maryland. Commissioner Sterling offered a Motion to accept the recommendation of the Final Review Subcommittee, and also a Motion to issue a Dispensary license to The Wellness Institute of Maryland. Commissioner Rosen-Cohen seconded the motions. The Commission voted unanimously to 1) accept the recommendation of the Final Review Subcommittee, and 2) to convert Wellness Institute of Maryland's pre-approval to a final license.

## **New Business**

Vice Chairman Robshaw asked those attending if they had any new business to discuss. Hearing none, he asked for a Motion to Adjourn.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Broccolino offered a Motion to Adjourn, which was appropriately seconded by Commissioner Horberg. The Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:54pm.