

### CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

# December 8, 2022 10:00 AM

# Via Remote Participation via Microsoft Teams Live\*

#### PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

### **Documents**:

- Application Materials associated with:
  - o Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
    - 311 Page Blvd LLC
    - 1620 Labs, LLC
    - Great Barrington Retail, Inc. f/k/a Coastal Cultivars, Inc.
    - Jamaco, LLC
    - The Holistic Concepts, Inc.
  - Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
    - BEWCO, LLC (#DOA100171), Marijuana Courier
    - Cloud 9 Cultivation, LLC (#MCN283761), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Indoor
    - Green Ventures Corp (#MCN282380), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Indoor
    - Greencare Collective, LLC d/b/a Plant (#MRN284476), Retail
    - Meed Cannabis, LLC (#MCN283739), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Indoor
    - Meed Cannabis, LLC (#MXN281410), Transporter with Other ME License
  - Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
    - 27 Broom Street, LLC (#MP281490), Product Manufacturing
    - BeachGrass Topicals, LLC (#MBN281797), Microbusiness
    - Cypress Tree Management Natick, Inc. d/b/a Redi (#MR283773), Retail
    - Mill Town Agriculture, LLC (#MP281832), Product Manufacturing
    - Northeast Select Harvest Corp. (#MR282571), Retail
    - Thrive Cultivation & Dispensary, LLC (#MR283714), Retail
    - TSC Operations, LLC d/b/a Glorious Cannabis (#MP282173), Product Manufacturing
    - Zip Run, Inc. (#MD1260), Marijuana Delivery Operator
  - Staff Recommendations on Renewals
    - 140 Industrial Road, LLC (#MCR140393)
    - 208 Worcester Street, LLC(#MRR206266)
    - bros Inc (#MRR206099)
    - 617 Therapeutic Health Center, Inc. (#MCR140389)



- Apical, Inc. (#MRR206225)
- Apothca, Inc. (#MRR206297)
- Apothca, Inc. (#MRR206296)
- Atlantic Medicinal Partners, Inc. (#MRR206267)
- ATOZ Laboratories, Inc. (#ILR267912)
- BB Botanics LLC (#MRR206273)
- BB Botanics LLC (#MCR140331)
- Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MXR126665)
- Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MPR243881)
- Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MCR140351)
- Berkshire Welco, LLC (#MCR140334)
- Canna Provisions Inc (#MCR140380)
- Canna Provisions, Inc. (#MPR243908)
- Cannabis Connection, Inc (#MRR206271)
- Cannalive Genetics LLC (#MBR169299)
- Cannatech Medicinals Inc. (#MCR140370)
- Caregiver-Patient Connection (#MCR140377)
- Caregiver-Patient Connection LLC (#MCR140386)
- Clovercraft llc (#MDR272541)
- Community Growth Partners Northampton Operations LLC (#MPR243887)
- DB Delivery MA, LLC (#MDR272544)
- Delta 420 LLC (#MRR206247)
- Ember Gardens Delivery LLC (#MDR272543)
- Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MRR206250)
- Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MPR243878)
- Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MCR140344)
- Four Trees Holyoke LLC (#MRR206259)
- Four Trees Holyoke LLC (#MCR140354)
- Green Biz LLC (#MRR206292)
- GreenStar Herbals, Inc. (#MRR206278)
- High Hawk Farm LLC (#MRR206258)
- Holland Brands NA, LLC (#MRR206265)
- KRD Growers, LLC (#MRR206256)
- KRD Growers, LLC (#MCR140361)
- KRD Growers, LLC (#MPR243874)
- Kush Kart LLC (#MDR272537)
- Leaf Lux Group Inc. (#MRR206294)
- LMCC, LLC (#MRR206303)
- LMCC, LLC (#MRR206301)
- Lucky Green Ladies LLC (#MDR272538)
- Mill Town Agriculture, LLC (#MPR243896)
- MMM Transport, Inc. (#MTR263107)
- Nature's Alternative, Inc. (#MRR206272)



- Pepperell Roots, LLC (#MCR140365)
- Reverie 73 Beverly LLC (#MRR206298)
- Reverie 73 Gloucester LLC (#MRR206304)
- Revolutionary Clinics II, Inc. (#MCR140352)
- Revolutionary Clinics II, Inc. (#MPR243882)
- Royal Hemp LLC (#MRR206295)
- Royal Hemp LLC (#MPR243827)
- SafeTiva Labs LLC (#ILR267911)
- Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206262)
- Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MCR140336)
- Sparkboro Wellness Corp. (#MRR206293)
- Sparkboro Wellness NAMA Corp. (#MRR206190)
- The Heritage Club, LLC (#MRR206249)
- Trava, Inc. (#MPR243891)
- Trava, Inc. (#MCR140363)
- Wiseacre Farm Inc. (#MCR140373)
- NS AJO Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Ethos Cannabis (#RMD3535)
- Meeting Packet
- Responsible Vendor Training applications
  - o America Safety Council (#RVN454005)
  - o Green Path Training (#RVR453129)
- Memorandum re: Review of CY 2022 Goals
- Memorandum re: Executive Director Performance Evaluation Tool
- Memorandum re: Topics for Legislative and Executive Branch Outreach
  - o FY 2024 Budget
- Memorandum re: New Job Description: Policy Analyst
- Memorandum re: Neamat's Enforcement Executive Summary, and Stipulated Agreement

# In Attendance:

- Chair Shannon O'Brien
- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

### **Minutes**:

- 1) Call to Order
  - The Chair recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
  - The Chair gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
  - The Chair gave an overview of the agenda.



- 2) Chair's Comments and Updates 00:01:30
  - Commissioner Camargo noted the end of the year and thanked the staff and industry stakeholders. She also thanked former Chief People Officer Erika White (CPO White) for her work and leadership while at the Commission. She noted that she attended the MJbiz conference and that it was an educational and informative experience as she was able to meet with stakeholders in the industry. She also noted that some Commission staff were at the CANRA conference and was glad to see that Commission staff were also participating and attending industry conferences. She also explained that historically the Commission had not held a December meeting and thanked the staff for accommodating the meeting, as Commission meetings impact licensees and the industry. She noted that she was looking forward to next year and the regulatory review process and thanked the Chair and her fellow Commissioners for their work and leadership in the past calendar year.
  - Commissioner Concepcion noted that Britney Grinder was released from a Russian penal colony after being arrested for carrying .7 grams of cannabis oil in a vape cartridge. She stated that the news is bittersweet and noted that if the arrest had occurred ten years ago, there would be no outrage. She also explained that only a few years ago, people were losing their homes, jobs, or public benefits for simple possession charges. She noted the previous impact for cannabis arrest did not disappear with the passage of a state law or would disappear with the eventual passage of a federal law and emphasized the intersection of the regulated cannabis industry and criminal justice reform. She noted the importance of keeping that fact in mind, as many people are still struggling due to the impacts of cannabis convictions or arrests before legalization. She thanked the Chair for scheduling a December meeting and joining the Commission at such a busy time. She also thanked her fellow Commissioners for their work and leadership in the last calendar year.
  - Commissioner Roy echoed Commissioner Concepcion's comments about Britney Grinder's release and noted that it served as a reminder of the incredible freedoms and liberties enjoyed in the United States. She said she attended an event hosted by Elevate Northeast in Worcester last week and noted how wonderful it was to listen to pitches by current and prospective licensees. She pointed out that the state of Rhode Island commenced adult-use sales on December 1st and thanked WPRI in Providence for inviting her to their news hour. She highlighted some of the progress made in the cannabis industry in the last calendar year, including the fact that the industry in the Commonwealth was approaching four billion dollars in gross sales since November of 2018 and that cannabis outpaces alcohol in excise tax revenue. She also noted some challenges faced in the cannabis industry in the Commonwealth and the impact of the passage of recent legislation and the regulatory review and promulgation process the Commission would be tackling in 2023. She explained the importance of input from Commission staff and industry stakeholders on the promulgation process. She thanked AGCs Mike Baker and Allie DeAngelis for their work and leadership on numerous matters. She also thanked the Chair and her fellow Commissioners for their work and leadership and wished everyone a peaceful, safe holiday season.



- Commissioner Stebbins thanked the Chair for her work and leadership while at the Commission and echoed Commissioner Camargo's comments on looking ahead to the following year's work. He also thanked his fellow Commissioners for their work and leadership in the last calendar year and for working collaboratively with each other. He thanked the Commission's renewal team for taking the time for working with him and Commissioner Camargo on renewals. He noted that he recently had the opportunity to visit Major Bloom in Worcester, MA, with Commissioner Concepcion, where they discussed product innovation and successful hiring. He commended President Ulysses Youngblood and his team for their work and leadership at Major Bloom. He stated that he was looking forward to continual site visits in 2023. He echoed Commissioner Roy's comments about the pitch contest hosted by Elevate Northeast, mentioned the energy in the room, and noted that the Commission staff discussed the possibility of tracking the participants through their business and licensing life cycle. He cited that the need for capital in the industry resonated with him and noted the impact and importance of the new Social Equity Fund. He echoed Commissioner Roy's comments on the regulatory review and promulgation process and noted the importance of keeping in mind the cost of compliance with new regulations and the importance of the Small Business Impact Statement. He also thanked former CPO White for her work and leadership while at the Commission.
- The Chair echoed Commissioner Stebbins's comments on the regulatory review process and cost of compliance with new regulations. She also stated that she had the opportunity to meet with the Commission's investigators and noted that the Commission was hiring 11 new investigators. She thanked Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Yaw Gyebi for his leadership in leading the investigation team and Project Coordinator Rebecca Kwakye for coordinating site visits. She also noted the work that still needs to be done in the coming year and her want to improve the Commission's responsiveness and the need to protect and enhance the safety and working conditions of persons working in the industry.
- Commissioner Camargo thanked Executive Assistants Grace O'Day and Kate Flannagan for their work and leadership in keeping Commissioners on track throughout the year.

# 3) Minutes for Approval – 00:21:18

- October 7, 2022
  - The Chair asked if the Commissioners had a chance to review the minutes and whether there were questions or edits.
  - o Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes for the October 7th, 2022, Commission public meeting.
  - o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes



- Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the October 7th, 2022, Commission public meeting.
- October 13, 2022
  - The Chair asked if the Commissioners had a chance to review the minutes and whether there were questions or edits.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the minutes for the October 13th, 2022,
     Commission public meeting.
  - o Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the October 13, 2022, Commission public meeting.
- November 7, 2022
  - The Chair asked if the Commissioners had a chance to review the minutes and whether there were questions or edits.
  - Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes for the November 7, 2022, Commission public meeting.
  - o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the November 7, 2022, Commission public meeting.
- 4) Executive Director's Report 00:23:20
  - The Executive Director gave an overview of licensing data, starting on page 147 of the Meeting Packet.
    - Commissioner Roy asked a clarifying question regarding the Pre-Certification process for the Marijuana Courier and Marijuana Delivery Operator.
      - The Executive Director noted that the Pre-Certification process allowed the license to advance through the next phase in the licensing process and cited what the dashes on the slide signified.
    - Commissioner Roy asked how many Pre-Certified Marijuana Couriers and Marijuana Delivery Operators had commenced operation.



- The Executive Director noted that 9 Pre-Certified Marijuana Couriers and 34 Pre-Certified Marijuana Delivery Operators had commenced operations.
- The Chair added a clarifying comment.
- Operators and Marijuana Courier Pre-Certification.
  - The Executive Director noted that he did not know the exact number but would get the information and circle back.
- The Chair noted the Open Meeting Law implications on the Commission's ability to discuss certain issues, such as market saturation, and stated her want to have the conversation in a future public meeting.
  - The Executive Director noted previous conversation he had with local and national stakeholders and some trends he had noticed.
- Commissioner Roy asked if the Commission could monitor trends in other States related to caps limits on cultivator's licenses.
  - The Executive Director confirmed the Commission monitoring of such trend and noted that other states were taking different approaches related to cultivator's cap limits and noted the implications on equity of certain policy decisions.
- The Executive Director gave a general update on the Commission's work, including METRC Outages, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) – Pesticides updates, and upcoming policy expirations.
  - Commissioner Roy asked if the Executive Director could provide further detail regarding METRC Outages related to system upgrades.
    - The Executive Director noted that he could provide additional insights into the upgrades of the system later in the meeting.
  - The Chair noted that she was hesitant to let upcoming policy expirations lapse and that the Commission had the option of holding an additional public meeting before the end of the year to vote on the policies that were set to expire.
    - Commissioner Stebbins echoed the Chair's comments and noted his preference to hold an additional public meeting in December as it would allow stakeholders to weigh in.
  - Commissioner Stebbins asked the Executive Director to weigh in on whether Virtual Community Outreach Meetings allowed for greater accessibility and participation.
    - The Executive Director confirmed that Virtual Community Outreach Meetings allowed for greater accessibility and participation in the industry.
    - Commissioner Stebbins noted his reasoning for asking his questions and echoed his previous comments on the need for extra time to allow stakeholders to weigh in.



- The Chair noted her want to have an additional short December meeting to extend the policy expiration to a subsequent public meeting to accommodate staff bandwidth and allow stakeholders to weigh in.
- Commissioner Camargo asked a clarifying question related to the expirations of the policies.
  - The Executive Director noted that the policies would expire on December 31, 2022.
- Commissioner Camargo asked if the Commission could vote to extend later in the public meeting.
  - The Chair noted that as the Commission did not include the topic on the public meeting agenda, her preference would be to avoid taking it up the topic later in the meeting.
- o Commissioner Camargo noted her reasoning behind asking her question and asked for the Chair to provide further insights into her preference.
  - The Chair provided further insights and reiterated her proposed plan to hold a subsequent meeting in December.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted her understanding of the Chair's preference.
- The Chair noted a need for three people to constitute a quorum and emphasized the need to work around different schedules and planned vacations.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted the Executive Director's schedule and asked if the Executive Director could appoint someone in his absence if needed.
  - The Chair emphasized that three Commissioners constitute a quorum and asked if Commissioner Camargo had a preference as it related to timing.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted that she would be traveling for the holidays, but could make herself available.
  - The Executive Director noted that Commissioners could communicate through the Executive Assistants to find a preferable date and indicated that it was his understanding that, per legislation, the Executive Director needs to attend the public meetings.
- Commissioner Camargo asked if the Commission could use the New Business the Chair Did Not Anticipate at the Time of Posting section of the meeting to vote to extend the policy expiration date.
  - General Counsel Christine Baily (General Counsel Baily) noted that as the topic was not included in the agenda at the time of posting, it was not ideal to discuss and vote on the extensions. She indicated that she could look into the matter before that section of the meeting and report back to the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Roy noted her willingness to hold a subsequent December meeting and her preference to extend the extension past two weeks to allow for greater feedback and concrete data on the effects of the policies.



- The Chair noted that the Commission needed to figure out if a subsequent December meeting could be had to extend the deadline and when the Commission could hold a substantive discussion on the policies' effect on stakeholders and the industry.
- The Executive Director noted that the policies were meant to accommodate COVID-19 and only become permanent through regulatory change and provided further clarity on what the policies allow. He further stated that the staff would find a mutually convenient date for the subsequent December meeting.
- The Chair noted that she envisioned the subsequent December meeting as a non-substantive meeting to extend the expiration dates.
- Commissioner Stebbins noted the effects MDAR's pesticide update would have on the Commission licensees and asked the Executive Director to elaborate on how the Commission could work with the MDAR to accommodate those changes.
  - The Executive Director noted that the Commission could work with MDAR to accommodate MDAR's new policy's effects on licensees. He also articulated the work of Laboratory and Director of Testing James Kocic and Testing Manager Geneve Hall regarding accommodating the MDARs pesticide update.
- Commissioner Roy asked if the MDAR flow chart had been circulated to Commissioner.
  - The Chair noted that it had been circulated to Commissioners.
- The Chair noted her want to meet with Commissioner John Lebeaux and staff to coordinate around the update and how the update works.
- The Executive Director gave an update on hiring activity at the Commission.
  - o The Chair asked a clarifying question related to the open positions.

Commissioner Camargo moved to take a fifteen-minute recess.

- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved taking a fifteen-minute recess, returning at 11:47 PM (01:46:46)
- 5) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership -
  - Commissioner Roy noted her reasoning behind adding a blanket condition to apply to all Changes of Ownership applications.



- Commissioner Roy requested a condition to apply to all Changes of Ownership applications.
  - Proposed condition: To help ensure compliance with 935 CMR 500.104(5), it is required by new ownership that an update be provided to the Commission within 5 days of any changes, modifications, or implementation issues of prior ownership's Commission approved Diversity Plan and/or Positive Impact Plan, including but not limited to goals, programs, measurements, and accountability.

## 1. 311 Page Blvd LLC

- Licensing Analyst Derek Chamberlin (Licensing Analyst Chamberlin) presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Recused
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission approved the Change of Ownership, by a vote of four in favor to one recusal, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.

### 2. 1620 Labs, LLC

- Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.



- 3. Great Barrington Retail, Inc. f/k/a Coastal Cultivars, Inc.
  - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
  - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - o Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.

### 4. Jamaco, LLC

- Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- 5. The Holistic Concepts, Inc.
  - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
  - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes



- o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- 6) Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses 01:55:48
  - 1. BEWCO, LLC (#DOA100171), Marijuana Courier
    - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Provisional License.
    - Commissioner Stebbins Requested a condition.
      - Proposed condition: Prior to Application for Final Licensure, review diversity hiring goals and projected number of employees and provide any updates in accordance with 935 CMR § 500.101(1)(c)8k.
    - Commissioner Stebbins noted his reasoning behind adding his condition and stated that he hoped that the licensee would conform with the Commission's marketing regulations.
    - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
    - Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
    - Commissioner Camargo commended the licensees Positive Impact Plan.
    - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:
      - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
      - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
      - Commissioner Roy Yes
      - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
      - o Chair O'Brien Yes
    - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License subject to the condition requested by Commissioners Stebbins.
  - 2. Cloud 9 Cultivation, LLC (#MCN283761), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Indoor
    - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Provisional License.
    - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
    - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
    - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:
      - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
      - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
      - Commissioner Roy Yes
      - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
      - Chair O'Brien Yes



- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- 3. Green Ventures Corp (#MCN282380), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Indoor
  - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Provisional Licenses.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed condition: Prior to final licensure please inform the Commission of your "Additional Operational Plans for Indoor Marijuana Cultivators" as it relates to Quality Control Samples. Licensees that opt to provide Quality Control Samples must include written policies and procedures in accordance with 935 CMR 500.120(12), and 935 CMR 500.120(14).
  - Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
  - Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - o Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- 4. Greencare Collective, LLC d/b/a Plant (#MRN284476), Retail
  - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for Provisional License.
  - Commissioner Roy requested two conditions.
    - o Proposed conditions:
      - Prior to final licensure, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.140 (6) please include the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline on your consumer education.
      - Prior to performing job functions at marijuana establishment, all paid interns as stated in goal number one of your Positive Impact Plan must become Registered Agents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and provide Agent Registration Card to the Commission upon request. Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.030.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Roy.



- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Roy.
- 5. Meed Cannabis, LLC (#MCN283739), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Indoor
  - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the Staff Recommendation for both Meed Cannabis, LLC Provisional Licenses.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License.
  - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - o Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- 6. Meed Cannabis, LLC (#MXN281410), Transporter with Other ME License
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
  - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- 7) Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses 02:07:22
  - The Chair noted that Final Licenses would be considered in 2 rosters (1) 27 Broom Street, LLC (#MP281490), Product Manufacturing (2) Adult-Use Final Licenses roster items numbered 2 through 8, including those subjects to Commissioner Stebbins' individually requested condition.
  - 27 Broom Street, LLC (#MP281490), Product Manufacturing



- The Chair noted that the Renewal roster will consist of item numbered 1, as identified on the agenda.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use Final Licenses.
- o Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- o The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Recused
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission approved the Adult-Use roster of Final Licenses by a vote of four in favor and one recusal.

#### • Adult-Use Roster

- The Chair noted that the adult-use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 2 through though 8 as identified on the agenda.
- o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use Final Licenses, subjects to Commissioner Stebbins' individually requested condition.
- o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Adult-Use roster of Final Licensee, subjects to Commissioner Stebbins' individually requested condition.
- 1. 27 Broom Street, LLC (#MP281490), Product Manufacturing
- 2. BeachGrass Topicals, LLC (#MBN281797), Microbusiness
- 3. Cypress Tree Management Natick, Inc. d/b/a Redi (#MR283773), Retail
- 4. Mill Town Agriculture, LLC (#MP281832), Product Manufacturing
  - o Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
    - Requested conditions: Prior to Commence Operation, identify any hiring goals for individuals with disabilities in accordance with 935 CMR § 500.101(1)(c)8k.
- 5. Northeast Select Harvest Corp. (#MR282571), Retail
- 6. Thrive Cultivation & Dispensary, LLC (#MR283714), Retail
- 7. TSC Operations, LLC d/b/a Glorious Cannabis (#MP282173), Product Manufacturing



- 8. Zip Run, Inc. (#MD1260), Marijuana Delivery Operator
- 8) Staff Recommendations on Renewals 02:10:45
  - Commissioner Stebbins noted that he was impressed with the roster of Renewal applications up for Commission consideration and vote. He stated that he had previously raised an issue related to requests from licensees to host communities for the municipal cost associated with an operation of a marijuana establishment. He noted, that by in large, the roster of Renewal applications did a good job of giving host communities adequate time to respond before their renewal applications. He commended Apical, Inc. for its Diversity and Positive Impact Plans.
  - The Chair noted that Renewals would be considered as one or more rosters; There are two rosters: (1) Adult-use applications, items numbered 1 through 63, as identified on the agenda, 2) Medical-use applications item numbered 64, as identified on the agenda,

### • Adult-Use Roster

- The Chair noted that the adult-use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 1 through 63, as identified on the agenda.
- o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- o Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the roster of adult-use Renewals.
- o Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- o The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- o The Commission unanimously approved the roster of adult-use Renewals.

#### Medical-Use Roster

- The Chair noted that the medical-use Renewal roster will consist of item numbered 64, as identified on the agenda.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the roster of medical-use Renewal.
- o Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- o The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes



- The Commission unanimously approved the roster of medical-use Renewal.
- 1. 140 Industrial Road, LLC (#MCR140393)
- 2. 208 Worcester Street, LLC (#MRR206266)
- 3. 4bros Inc (#MRR206099)
- 4. 617 Therapeutic Health Center, Inc. (#MCR140389)
- 5. Apical, Inc. (#MRR206225)
- 6. Apothca, Inc. (#MRR206297)
- 7. Apothca, Inc. (#MRR206296)
- 8. Atlantic Medicinal Partners, Inc. (#MRR206267)
- 9. ATOZ Laboratories, Inc. (#ILR267912)
- 10. BB Botanics LLC (#MRR206273)
- 11. BB Botanics LLC (#MCR140331)
- 12. Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MXR126665)
- 13. Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MPR243881)
- 14. Berkshire Roots, Inc. (#MCR140351)
- 15. Berkshire Welco, LLC (#MCR140334)
- 16. Canna Provisions Inc (#MCR140380)
- 17. Canna Provisions, Inc. (#MPR243908)
- 18. Cannabis Connection, Inc (#MRR206271)
- 19. Cannalive Genetics LLC (#MBR169299)
- 20. Cannatech Medicinals Inc. (#MCR140370)
- 21. Caregiver-Patient Connection (#MCR140377)
- 22. Caregiver-Patient Connection LLC (#MCR140386)
- 23. Clovercraft llc (#MDR272541)
- 24. Community Growth Partners Northampton Operations LLC (#MPR243887)
- 25. DB Delivery MA, LLC (#MDR272544)
- 26. Delta 420 LLC (#MRR206247)
- 27. Ember Gardens Delivery LLC (#MDR272543)
- 28. Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MRR206250)
- 29. Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MPR243878)
- 30. Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MCR140344)
- 31. Four Trees Holyoke LLC (#MRR206259)
- 32. Four Trees Holyoke LLC (#MCR140354)
- 33. Green Biz LLC (#MRR206292)
- 34. GreenStar Herbals, Inc. (#MRR206278)
- 35. High Hawk Farm LLC (#MRR206258)
- 36. Holland Brands NA, LLC (#MRR206265)
- 37. KRD Growers, LLC (#MRR206256)



- 38. KRD Growers, LLC (#MCR140361)
- 39. KRD Growers, LLC (#MPR243874)
- 40. Kush Kart LLC (#MDR272537)
- 41. Leaf Lux Group Inc. (#MRR206294)
- 42. LMCC, LLC (#MRR206303)
- 43. LMCC, LLC (#MRR206301)
- 44. Lucky Green Ladies LLC (#MDR272538)
- 45. Mill Town Agriculture, LLC (#MPR243896)
- 46. MMM Transport, Inc. (#MTR263107)
- 47. Nature's Alternative, Inc. (#MRR206272)
- 48. Pepperell Roots, LLC (#MCR140365)
- 49. Reverie 73 Beverly LLC (#MRR206298)
- 50. Reverie 73 Gloucester LLC (#MRR206304)
- 51. Revolutionary Clinics II, Inc. (#MCR140352)
- 52. Revolutionary Clinics II, Inc. (#MPR243882)
- 53. Royal Hemp LLC (#MRR206295)
- 54. Royal Hemp LLC (#MPR243827)
- 55. SafeTiva Labs LLC (#ILR267911)
- 56. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206262)
- 57. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MCR140336)
- 58. Sparkboro Wellness Corp. (#MRR206293)
- 59. Sparkboro Wellness NAMA Corp. (#MRR206190)
- 60. The Heritage Club, LLC (#MRR206249)
- 61. Trava, Inc. (#MPR243891)
- 62. Trava, Inc. (#MCR140363)
- 63. Wiseacre Farm Inc. (#MCR140373)
- 64. NS AJO Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Ethos Cannabis (#RMD3535)
- 9) Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Certification and Renewal 02:14:05
  - i. America Safety Council (#RVN454005)
    - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the applications for Responsible Vendor Training certification.
    - The Chair asked how someone becomes a responsible vendor trainer.
      - Licensing Analyst Chamberlin differed the question and asked Director of Licensing Kyle Potvin (Director Potvin) to weigh in.
      - o The Chair noted her reasoning behind her question.
      - Director Potvin noted that the program was previously run by Director of Research Dr. Julie Johnson and recently transferred to the Licensing and



Enforcement (L&E) Department. He explained the application process for the program, L&E due diligence process, Commission's regulations and FAQs related to the RVT program, and how an entity is certified.

- Commissioner Camargo asked how the Licensing and Enforcement Department audits the RVT renewal applications.
  - The Director of Licensing noted the work of investigators related to checking for certifications of completion of the RVT program when in the field. He said that L&E is working on capturing the data related to compliance with the RVT program and would report to the Commission and the Executive Director once the data was captured.
- Commissioner Roy noted her previous blanket condition, asked a question related to compliance with the RVT regulatory requirement, and asked when L&E could pull data related to compliance with the RVT regulatory mandate.
  - O Director of Licensing noted the work of investigators related to the checking for certifications of completion of the RVT program when in the field and noted that L&E is working on how it could start to capture the data related to the compliance with the RVT program and would report out to the Commission, and the Executive Director once the data is captured.
  - Commissioner Roy asked Director Potvin to circle back once they've captured
    the data, especially if the data shows less than satisfactory levels of
    compliance. She would then bring back her previously requested blanked
    condition related to the RVT program.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the America Safety Council (#RVN454005) Responsible Vendor Training certification.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chairman took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair Kim Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the America Safety Council (#RVN454005) Responsible Vendor Training certification.

### ii. Green Path Training (#RVR453129)

- Licensing Analyst Chamberlin presented the applications for Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve Green Path Training Council (#RVN454005) Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The Chairman took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes



- o Commissioner Roy Yes
- o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- Chair Kim Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Green Path Training Council (#RVN454005) Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.

Commissioner Roy moved to take a thirty-minute lunch-recess.

- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved taking a thirty-minute lunch recess, returning at 1:00 PM (03:01:40)

### 10) Commission Discussion and Votes –

- 1. Annual Review of CY 2022 Goals
  - The Executive Director gave an update and overview of the topic.
  - Commissioner Roy asked a clarifying question related to goal one as it related to the departure of Chief People Officer, Erika White (CPO White).
    - The Executive Director noted that the deliverable of the goal related to the CPO's role was completed before CPO White's departure; thus, the goal would not be delayed.
  - Commissioner Roy asked a question related to goal three on the topic of case management and asked for examples of how it works.
    - The Executive Director provided an overview of the Commission's case management system and noted how case management functions for the licensing department.
  - Commissioner Camargo asked a question related to succession planning of the leadership team.
    - The Executive Director noted the work of professionalizing and maturing the agency in a bureaucratic manner and mentioned the Standard Operating Procedure project and the Commission's Governance work. He said that many of the people who currently hold the position are the first to occupy the role and noted the effort to document the Commission's work and policy decisions.
  - Commissioner Stebbins noted that the Commissioners established the Executive
    Director's goals last calendar year, emphasized the difference between the current
    process, and commended the Executive Director for his presentation of how the goals
    were accomplished. He also offered some input on plans for the following calendar
    year.



- The Chair asked a question related to the vendor developing an equity programming lead generation campaign strategy and gave her reasoning behind the question.
  - The Executive Director noted that the project was ongoing and discussed in goal four. He also emphasized the performance management system and how it relates to staff professional development.
  - The Chair echoed Commissioner Camargo's comments on succession planning and noted the need to understand the Commission's staff role and elevate the role of the Commission.
- Commissioner Roy asked a question related to goal four regarding outreach initiatives related to the Medical-Use program and certified providers.
  - The Executive Director noted that outreach efforts in goal four were specifically related to equity programming and provided insights on outreach the Commission had conducted related to the Medical-Use program.
- Commissioner Roy noted the Elevate Northeast event and asked if the Executive Director envisioned the Commission hosting in-person events in the future.
  - The Executive Director noted that this question was asked last month, restated his yes answer, and stated that it was being planned and budgeted for.
  - The Chair echoed Commissioner Roy's comments, noted the need for community outreach staff, and noted the importance of in-person outreach and events to reach people where they are.
  - The Executive Director echoed last month's presentation on equity programming.
- Commissioner Roy asked a question related to the sixth goal of Open Data platform and the ability to include more information for the Medical-use program on the platform, such as the average price of a gram of medicinal cannabis.
  - The Executive Director noted that the Commission had the information to produce that data point.
- Commissioner Roy asked a clarifying question about the Host Community Agreements (HCA) and incorporating new data related to the HCA process stemming from the passage of new legislation into the Commission's Open Data platform.
  - The Executive Director noted that it would depend on the data the Commission could gather and reproduce efficiently and stated that he hoped the Commission could incorporate data stemming from HCA into its Open Data platform.
- Commissioner Concepcion noted goals five and six and asked if the Commission had thought about creating a catalog that specified products which were produced by Economic Empowerment, Social Equity Program participants, and Disadvantage Business Enterprises and noted her reasoning behind asking her question.
  - The Executive Director noted the Commission's product catalog. He indicated that there was an opportunity for labeling, badging, and QR codes to allow consumers to investigate products before purchase and for businesses to market and share information about their stories.
  - The Chair echoed previous conversations that she has had with Commissioner Roy around QR codes and their utility.



- Commissioner Stebbins noted that based on recent Positive impact plans, licensees are also looking to diversify their supplier base and help Social Equity Applicants. He emphasized the utility of labeling, badging, and QR codes in providing connections between licensees and DBE and SEPs.
- Commissioner Concepcion noted that consumers and customers are looking for the information.
- Commissioner Camargo noted goal seven, asked a question related to CANNRA, and noted her desire to get involved in CANNRA.
- o The Executive Director noted the next steps in his next year's goal planning and the role of staff and Commissioners.
- Commissioner Camargo noted goal seven and asked a question related to CANNRA and noted her want to get involved in CANNRA.
- Commissioner Roy thanked Commissioner Camargo for her comments related to CANNRA, and noted that other states are allocating funds towards the medical program and her want to continue the conversation related to funding for medical research.
  - The Chair thanked Commissioner Roy for her comments and noted meetings she had scheduled with the research community and universities in the Commonwealth.

Commissioner Camargo moved to take a five-minute recess.

- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved taking a five-minute recess, returning at 2:21 PM (04:22:13)
- 2. Executive Director Performance Evaluation Tool
  - Commissioner Stebbins gave an update and overview on the topic.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Concepcion asked if the departure of CPO White would affect the process.
    - Commissioner Stebbins noted that he had discussed the departure with Chief Operations Officer Alisa Stack and CPO White before her departure and stated that they both felt comfortable with including Director of Human Resources Justin Shrader in the process.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted the uniqueness of the Executive Director role as it related to the Commissioners and staff roles and noted that she believed that his leadership team should also be involved in the Executive Director Performance Evaluation process.



- The Chair echoed Commissioner's Camargo comments, noted her agreement to incorporate the leadership team in the process, and noted some difficulties in assessing the Executive Director's performance in a remote environment.
- Commissioner Stebbins noted the impact of receiving feedback from the leadership team; explained that the Commission took a similar approach in the past but noted his willingness to incorporate Leadership team feedback moving forward.
- Commissioner Roy commended Commissioner Stebbins for his work and leadership on the topic.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the new Executive Director's performance evaluation tool as included in the Commissions packet for the December 2022 meeting.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the new Executive Director's performance evaluation tool as included in the Commissions packet for the December 2022 meeting.
- 3. Topics for Legislative and Executive Branch Outreach FY 2024 Budget
  - Commissioner Camargo, Executive Director, and Chief Financial and Accounting Officer Adrianna Nguyen gave an update and overview on the topic.
  - The Chair asked a clarifying question about the Racial Disparity and Exclusivity Feasibility Study.
    - The Executive Director noted the legal implications of having license exclusivity based on race. Noted how other jurisdictions have handled and used such studies and the impact of an exclusivity feasibility study on policy decisions related to exclusivity.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted the Disproportionate Impact Study and the budget cost and asked the Executive Director to elaborate further.
    - The Executive Director noted the following steps, the staff that needs to be involved in the study, and explained that the budget cost could increase.
  - Commissioner Roy asked for further clarity into the scope of the Cannabis Healthcare Study and whether the contract had been awarded.
    - O The Executive Director noted that the contract had not been awarded and that the presentation was a proposal for the next fiscal year and thus wouldn't be effectuated until next July. He provided further insights into the work of the Commission's Research department and their work.



- Commissioner Roy asked a clarifying question related to the Procurement
  Management Team (PMT) and asked if there had been a discussion around forming a
  PMT for the Cannabis Healthcare Study.
- Commissioner Stebbins noted that he had self-identified as a member of the PMT for the healthcare study. He cited the work of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAM) and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (A&F) around a similar racial disparities study as a Commissioner at the Massachusetts Gaming Commission. He noted his willingness to reach out to those agencies. He also stated the new mandates for the public awareness campaigns and asked for the difference between the FY23 and FY24 budgets.
  - CFAO Leon noted that the growth over FY23 campaigns was 15.6% in total and with public awareness 23%, indicating that it was in line with the previous increase from fiscal year to fiscal year.
  - o Commissioner Stebbins noted his reasoning behind asking the question.
- Commissioner Stebbins asked a question related to the new positions and noted his concern about having work for those positions after the ramp-up of work calmed down and expressed his want to review job descriptions before jobs are posted.
  - o CFAO Leon noted the Chief Communications Officer Cedric Sinclair's role in determining the funds needed for the public awareness campaign.
- Commissioner Concepcion thanked CFAO Leon for her work and leadership and asked a question related to the public awareness campaign.
  - CFAO Leon noted the role of the Chief Communications Officer, Cedric Sinclair in determining the funds needed for the public awareness campaign.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked a follow-up question related to the previous funding of the public awareness campaign.
  - CFAO Leon noted that previously the funding was two million dollars in the first year and one million dollars in the following, and the current ask was in the middle at one and a half million dollars.
- Commissioner Roy asked a question related to the Fiscal Year 2024 Public Education Campaigns as they related to Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022.
  - CFAO Leon noted that the budget request includes one and a half million dollars to fulfill the three statutory components of the Public Education Campaigns component of Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022.
  - The Executive Director confirmed CFAO Leon's comments and provided a
    historical overview of how the campaign had worked. He also noted the
    ability to use previously produced content and produce new content with the
    requested budget.
- Commissioner Roy noted that per Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022, the Commission needed to work in consultation with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and asked if DPH would also be funding the campaign.
  - The Executive Director noted that if the Commission successfully secured the line item in the funding, the campaign would be funded by the Commission and provided further information on the relationship and work between DPH and the Commission.



- Commissioner Camargo noted that Commissioners are interested in the public awareness campaign and asked how it would work for Commissioners in terms of engagement if the budget line item were approved.
  - The Executive Director noted that there would be numerous opportunities for Commissioners to engage in the work and get involved and provided examples of how Commissioners could engage in the work.
  - o Commissioner Camargo noted her reasoning behind asking the question.
- Commissioner Camargo asked a follow-up question regarding funding for other Commissioner priorities.
  - The Executive Director clarified how the budget process works and noted his want to understand Commissioner priorities to effectuate those want within the existing budget.
- Commissioner Roy echoed previous comments by the Executive Director about the effectiveness of the Commission's Legislative outreach policy and noted her preference to vote on the Fiscal Year 2024 Public Education Campaign to start outreach to the Legislature around the topic.
  - The Chair asked a clarifying question related to Commissioner Roy's comments.
  - o Commissioner Roy noted a vote on the topic would show the commitment and alignment of Commissioners on the topic and thus effectuate the cause.
- The Chair noted that the Commission was voting on the budget and asked Commissioner Roy to explain her want for a vote.
  - Commissioner Roy noted her preference to vote on legislative outreach for the Public Education Campaign funding.
- Commissioner Concepcion echoed Commissioner Camargo's previous comments on funding for other priorities and asked the Executive Director to clarify his comments on how the priorities would be funded.
  - The Executive Director thanked Commissioner Concepcion for her question. He clarified that the funding for other Commissioner priorities would come from the one and a half million dollars allocated for the public awareness campaign or increase the bottom line.
- Commissioner Camargo asked when the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget request would be submitted to the Legislature.
  - o CFAO, Leon noted that schedule permitting, the request would be submitted before the Christmas holiday.
- Commissioner Camargo asked if enough time existed for a Commissioner to add a
  public awareness priority to the budget request before it was submitted to the
  legislature.
  - The Executive Director noted that if any modification were made to the budget after the Commission voted on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, it would need to be brought up for Commission consideration and vote.
  - o Commissioner Camargo noted her reasoning behind asking her question.
  - The Chair thanked Commissioner Camargo for her comments and provided further insights into her comments.



- Commissioner Roy asked a clarifying question about the appropriateness of a soft budget if additional Commissioner priorities were identified after the Commission voted on the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget request.
  - The Executive Director noted the Commission could and echoed CFAO
     Leon's comments related to the fact that it was not the only opportunity for the
     Commission to conduct outreach to around funding.
- Commissioner Camargo asked her fellow Commissioners to bring such priorities to the public meeting to allow other Commissioners to understand what it is and work collaboratively.
- Commissioner Camargo asked if the Commission would have a quarterly budget in January.
  - CFAO Leon confirmed that the quarterly budget presentation was meant to track and update the fiscal year budget.
- The Chair asked a clarifying question related to the quarterly budget presentation.
  - o CFAO Leon confirmed that the quarterly budget presentation is meant to track and update on the fiscal year budget.
- Commissioner Roy asked if the Commission had ever considered hiring a grant writer and asked if the Commission could consider bringing a grant writer on board.
  - The Executive Director confirmed that discussions around a grant writer were being had at the Commission.
- Commissioner Camargo noted that the Commission had historically not used the total allocated budget, and her want to understand how the budget is related to the work of the various department's bandwidth of those departments. She also mentioned her want to understand the ability of the Commission to use the budget it requested for Fiscal Year 2024.
  - O The Executive Director noted the shift to a two-year budget development cycle. He described the work of COO Stack and CFAO Leon in that shift and the improvement it would bring concerning onboarding new staff in the various departments and managing the FY budget.
- Commissioner Concepcion echoed Commissioner Roy's comments related to a need for a grant writer and thanked Commissioner Roy for her comments and the Executive Director for his update.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the FY24 budget request of \$23.7 million.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the FY24 budget request of \$23.71m.
- 4. Ratification of Enforcement Action



- The Executive Director, Enforcement Counsel Rebecca Lopez (EC Lopez), and Associate Enforcement Counsel Andrew Carter (AEC Carter) gave an update and overview on the topic.
- The Chair thanked the Enforcement staff for their work and leadership on the topic and asked how the Commission could help less sophisticated business owners not violate the Commission's regulations.
  - AEC Carter noted the overarching goal of the Enforcement department that all
    of the Commission's Licensees complied with the Commission's regulations.
    He also stated that the inspection process allowed for touch points between the
    licensees and the enforcement staff.
- Commissioner Roy asked a question related to METRC and whether the affected plants were added to METRC.
  - AEC Carter explained the findings of the investigation and the remedial measure to destroy twenty percent of their canopy under the regulatory cultivation tier limit. Still, he noted that the Commission could not verify using METRC that the plant destruction had occurred to reduce the cultivation tier amount.
- Commissioner Roy asked if the Commission could consider donating healthy plants instead of destroying them as a part of a future stipulated agreement.
  - O EC Lopez provided further insights into evaluating affirmative relief and the role of the Investigators or Compliance Officer in the process. She also noted that there are no limits on what a remedy could look like. She also mentioned her willingness to bring Commissioners Roy's suggestion to the Director of Investigations and Chief of Investigation and Enforcement.
  - o Commissioner Roy noted her reasoning behind her suggestion and question.
  - The Chair noted the many challenges faced by these outdoor cultivators, the
    possible improvement brought on by the updates to MDARs pesticides update
    and her want to support outdoor farmers to alleviate some of these challenges.
  - The Executive Director noted that enforcement actions are negotiated between the Commission and the licensees and emphasized the ability of licensees to offer such suggestions.
- Commissioner Stebbins asked if there was a public posting of the enforcement action after the vote.
  - o AEC Carter confirmed that the enforcement action would be posted.
  - Commissioner Stebbins noted his reasoning behind asking the question and his hope that other outdoor cultivators could use the enforcement action to avoid such actions against them.
  - O The Chair echoed her previous comments on working with farmers to ensure that farmers are aware of the Commission's regulations.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to ratify the stipulated agreement for Neamat, LLC.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes



- Commissioner Roy Yes
- o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved to ratify the stipulated agreement for Neamat, LLC.
- 5. Job Description: Policy Analyst
  - The Executive Director gave an update and overview on the topic.
  - Commissioner Camargo asked if the position was an internal or external posting.
    - The Executive Director noted that given the fact that it was a new position it would be an external posting.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the job description for policy analyst.
  - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - o Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the job description for policy analyst.
- 11) New Business the Chair Did Not Anticipate at the Time of Posting 05:53:42
  - Commissioner Roy asked if next month's meeting would be in person.
    - The Chair noted that she was working with COO Stack on the matter and asked for Commissioner and ED feedback.
    - The Executive Director noted that there were no technological limitations on in-person meetings but noted his want to manage execution as it related to staff implications.
    - o Commissioner Stebbins noted his want to work with everyone in person.
    - o Commissioner Concepcion noted her want to understand public access and the health implications of in-person meetings.
    - The Chair noted that it was her understanding that the January meeting would be a hybrid where Commissioners were in person and then take a couple of months to open it up to the public.
    - o The Executive Director noted his preference to start with a hybrid model.
    - o Commissioner Camargo noted her preference for a hybrid model and increased availability to the public via virtual broadcast.
  - Commissioner Camargo asked if there would still need to be three in person to constitute a quorum.
    - o The Chair confirmed the ability for remote participation.
    - The Executive Director asked for clarity around the hybrid model to limit the public's confusion.



- The Chair noted that the Commission would attend the meeting in person while accommodating any need for remote participation by a commissioner, while public participation would be completely remote while the Commission tackled the logistical issues of having in-person participation of the public.
- The Executive Director noted that a conversation was previously tabled related to upcoming policy expirations and the most conservative approach related to the Open Meeting Law (OML) agenda posting requirements.
  - o General Counsel Baily provided further feedback on the OML agenda posting requirements and the Commission's options.
  - o The Chair asked for further clarity on the matter.
  - O General Counsel Baily noted that the OML encourages public bodies to postpone consideration matters not previously posted on the agenda but noted that the OML did not prohibit a public body from voting on a matter not previously posted on the agenda. Thus, she said that if the Commission wanted to vote on an extension at the meeting, it could.
- The Chair asked the Executive Director to propose motion language.
  - The Executive Director proposed motion language related to upcoming policy expirations.
- Commissioner Stebbins noted that he was reluctant to vote on a matter not previously
  posted on the agenda and stated his preference to hold a subsequent December
  meeting.
  - o The Chair reiterated her understanding of Commissioner Stebbins' comments.
  - Commissioner Stebbins confirmed the Chair's understanding of his preference and noted the reasoning behind his comments.
- The Chair concurred with Commissioner Stebbins and asked other Commissioners to weigh in.
  - Commissioner Roy echoed Commissioner Stebbins' Comments and noted her preference to hold a subsequent December meeting.
  - The Chair noted that the robust discussion would not happen at the subsequent December meeting to allow staff to gather the information. Still, it would allow for the posting of the topic and then a vote to extend a robust discussion later.
- Commissioner Camargo thanked General Counsel Baily and asked what expectations for the subsequent December meeting were.
  - The Chair noted her want to understand from staff when a robust discussion on the matter could be had and how she envisioned the subsequent December meeting.
  - Commissioner Camargo noted her willingness to have a subsequent December Meeting but indicated that they would be kicking the can down the road at the subsequent meeting.
  - The Chair noted the OML implication on voting on a matter not previously posted.
  - Commissioner Concepcion noted her preference to hold a subsequent December meeting.



 Commissioner Camargo reiterated her position and noted that she would be willing to hold a subsequent December meeting.

# 12) Next Meeting Date – 06:21:58

- The Chair noted that the next meeting would be on January 12th, 2023.
- The Chair gave a tentative schedule for the remainder of the calendar year.

# 13) Adjournment – 06:23:58

- Commissioner Concepcion moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.