

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

November 14, 2024

10:00 AM

In-Person with Remote Access via [Microsoft Teams Live*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:

- Application Materials associated with:
 - Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
 - Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training
- [Meeting Packet](#)
- David O'Brien's November 14, 2024, email to Commissioners

In Attendance:

- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Acting Chair Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

1) Call to Order

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

2) Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:01:58

- Commissioner Camargo reminded Licensees that the new regulations were not yet in effect and that a bulletin would go out when they did. She said that during the December 5th public meeting, a framework for social consumption regulations would be unveiled. Commissioner Roy discussed a recent fireside chat with the Massachusetts Cannabis Coalition. She thanked speakers for providing feedback during the recent listening session regarding ITLs and celebrated a recent bulletin which formally identified ground cannabis dust as a workplace hazard. The AC



discussed the Massachusetts disability tax credit and encouraged Licensees to use it as a resource while building a diverse workforce. He announced that the next listening session would be centered on the medical program.

3) Minutes for Approval – 00:13:19

- August 22, 2024
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the August 22, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the August 22, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes.

- September 12, 2024
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the September 12, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- Commissioner Concepcion experienced technical issues and had to briefly leave the Public Meeting.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the September 12, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Absent
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission approved the September 12, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes by a vote of three in favor and one absence.

- September 27, 2024
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the September 27, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Absent
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes



- The Commission approved the September 27, 2024, Commission public meeting minutes by a vote of three in favor and one absence.

4) Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report – 00:20:20

1. Operational Updates

- The AC stated that Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek (AED Hilton-Creek) was not available, and they would skip her discussion items. Constituent Services Manager Kate Fiske (Manager Fiske) explained that during the December 12th Public Meeting, the Constituent Services Department would be offering an in-person registration event to assist qualifying patients who had received a certification from a healthcare provider complete their registration with the Medical Use of Marijuana Program. Commissioners discussed their intent to hold more of these events and how to make them as accessible as possible. Commissioner Roy suggested that the Commission consider advocating for reciprocity for other state’s medical programs in their Legislative outreach.

2. Equity Programming and Community Outreach Annual Update

- Director of Equity Programming and Community Outreach Silea Williams (Director Williams) presented an update on her department. She described their objective to promote the inclusion of communities disproportionately harmed by Marijuana prohibition in the Cannabis industry through community outreach, strategic partnerships, recruitment and equity programming. She provided an overview of the Social Equity Program (SEP) which offered tailored programming for participants with the intent to build sustainable pathways into the industry. Continuing, she provided a breakdown of the demographics of program participants as well as geographic location. Commissioner Camargo asked her colleagues to consider ways to get SEP participants through to licensure such as a moratorium. Director Williams described the different program tracks which were available to SEP participants dedicated to people who planned to become entrepreneurs, registered agents and those who plan to provide ancillary services to the industry.
- The AC requested a recess.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 1:40:17.)
- Director Williams continued her presentation and discussed the pathways that SEP provided technical assistance on as well as the benefits such as waived licensing application fees and exclusive access to certain License types. She asked Commissioners to establish a working group to determine ways that benefits could be expanded to better serve participants. Commissioners discussed what the focus of the working group should be, and the AC encouraged Director Williams to develop a Charter. Director Williams continued and discussed the community outreach strategies used to increase awareness of the SEP such as the Faces of Equity Campaign, application clinics and rack card resources. She informed Commissioners of the launch of the Premier Virtual Platform to act as a virtual hub for networking, career engagement and provided an update on the benefits available for Social Equity



Businesses (SEBs). She completed her presentation by updating the Commission on the ongoing initiatives in her department such as the SEB application buildout, the delivery exclusivity workgroup initiative, equity content for the website and rack card campaign. Commissioner Camargo read an email from David O'Brien into the record requesting input with the delivery exclusivity working group and suggested that Director Williams seek out guest speakers.

- The AC asked to take the agenda out of order and vote on Final Licenses before lunch as a Licensee was present and there were no objections.

3. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses

1. Bask, Inc. (#MR282819), Marijuana Retailer
2. Curaleaf Processing, Inc. (#RE281303), Marijuana Research Facility
3. dba EMJ LLC (#MC282135), Marijuana Cultivation, Tier 1 / Indoor
4. Green River Cannabis Company, Inc. (#MR283094), Marijuana Retailer
5. High Hawk Farm, LLC (#MR283968), Marijuana Retailer
6. KUR Retailers, LLC (#MR284652), Marijuana Retailer
7. Primus, LLC (#MR284441), Marijuana Retailer
8. Safe-Lyfe, LLC (#DO100173), Marijuana Courier
9. Sama Productions, LLC (#MP281686), Marijuana Product Manufacturer

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Final License roster from one through nine as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Final License roster from one through nine as indicated on the agenda.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 3:27:41.)

4. Regulatory Implementation Update

- Acting Deputy General Counsel Michael Baker (ADGC Baker) provided an update on the latest round of regulatory amendments. He stated that they were filed on November 6th with the Secretary of State's office and would become effective on November 22nd.

5. Licensing Data and Updates

- Director of Licensing Olivia Koval (Director Koval) presented highlights from licensing data and active Licenses by type.

5) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership – 03:41:08



- Licensing Analyst Jamie Wakefield (Analyst Wakefield) presented on behalf of the Licensing department the Staff Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Provisionals, Final Licenses and Responsible Vendor Training.

1. GTE Brockton LLC d/b/a Botera.

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

2. GTE Franklin LLC d/b/a Botera.

- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

3. GTE Taunton LLC d/b/a Botera.

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

4. Holistic Industries, Inc.

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.



5. I & I Rose Garden, LLC.
 - Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
 - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

6. Richard’s Flowers LLC.
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
 - Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

7. Smithers AMS, LLC.
 - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
 - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

- 6) Staff Recommendations on Renewals – 3:50:10
 - The AC requested three conditions.
 - Proposed condition for No. 17, Green Stratus Corp (#MRR206852): Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, contact CCC Licensing Division and clarify Goals #2 and #3 and consider updating licensee’s Positive Impact Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(a)1.1. and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)(b).
 - Proposed condition for No. 26, Massachusetts Green Retail, Inc. (#MRR207031): within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, contact CCC Licensing Division for an update to report any totals for veterans, residents with disabilities and LGBTQ+ residents under



licensee's Diversity Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(c)8.k. and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)(b).

- Proposed condition for No. 30, New Green LLC (#MRR207014): within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, contact CCC Licensing Division and report on Program #3 within licensee's Positive Impact Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(a)1.1. and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)(b).
- Commissioner Camargo made a motion to approve items numbered 1-50 as indicated on the agenda subject to the conditions requested by the AC.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal roster of items numbered 1-50 on the agenda.

7) Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses – 3:55:44

1. Altai Alternative Care, Inc. (#MRN285075), Marijuana Retailer

- The AC requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider revision to Positive Impact Plan Goal #2 and consider identifying the Disproportionately Impacted Area designated communities where applicant plans to hire in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(a)1.1. and provide an update to CCC Licensing Division.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by the AC.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by the AC.

2. Lucky Green Ladies 408, LLC (#MRN285151), Marijuana Retailer

- Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Prior to Final Licensure, please ensure full compliance with all consumer education material requirements in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.140 (6) (a-j) including the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline.



- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
 - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
3. Maruti Wellness, LLC (#MRN285001), Marijuana Retailer
- Commissioner Roy requested a condition:
 - Proposed condition: prior to Final Licensure, in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.140 (6)(g) please include the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline on your consumer education.
 - The AC requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, contact CCC Licensing Division with an update to confirm your training and recruitment partners and eligibility to support your activities in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(c)8.k.
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and the AC.
 - Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and the AC.
4. Red Barn Growers, LLC (#MBN282429), Marijuana Microbusiness
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
5. Webster Cannabis, LLC (#MRN285091), Marijuana Retailer
- Commissioner Roy requested a condition:



- Proposed condition: prior to Final Licensure, please ensure full compliance with all consumer education material requirements in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.140 (6) (a-j) including the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.

8) Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training – 4:06:01

1. Seed Talent (#RVN454244)
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training.
 - Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training.

9) Commission Discussion and Votes – 4:08:39

1. Calendar Year 2025 Public Meeting Schedule Discussion
 - The AC suggested that the first listening session of 2025 should be dedicated to the Medical-use Program. Commissioner Roy asked if one could address issues with Third-party Transporters and suggested meeting with the Cannabis Advisory Board (CAB). The AC suggested dedicating meetings to policy updates and Commissioner Camargo cautioned that listening sessions require a lot of staff resources and suggested thinking about strategically planning towards priorities. Commissioners discussed their priorities, and the AC stated that this topic would be on the agenda for the December meeting.
2. Legislative Strategy Working Group Discussion
 - The AC stated that he and Commissioner Roy were developing a working group dedicated to legislative outreach to lobby on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Roy noted that Senator Donahue had reached out to her regarding ownership and control limits, so that may be a topic to address. The AC clarified that



this was intended to build off of the Executive Branch outreach process to address the legislature in a more efficient way. Commissioner Camargo noted that she did not fully understand the purpose and asked the AC to bring the finalized Charter back to the full Commission. Commissioner Concepcion expressed some concern with running afoul of Open Meeting Law (OML) and that this approach did not seem to offer any benefit. The AC acknowledged their concerns and stated that he would bring the Charter to Commissioners for their approval. Commissioners discussed and the AC stated that the working group Charter would be available for the December meeting.

- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 5:06:40.)

3. Lab Shopping Discussion

- Laboratory and Testing Manager Geneive Hall (Manager Hall) described how lab shopping affects consumers and patients and how the policy before the Commission was the result of cooperation with Licensees and internal teams. She said that currently Licensees were allowed to conduct a la carte testing where they could send the same products to multiple ITLs. This practice created inconsistency with Certificates of Analysis (COAs), allowed Licensees to handpick test dates and test results and limited the Commission's ability to conduct audits. Manager Hall proposed that the Commission adopt a policy to require Licensees to use one ITL which would conduct all required test panels, upload results in Metrc and issue the state-required COA. Manager Hall explained how this approach would eliminate the ability to cherry pick favorable results, allow for better regulatory oversight, improve consistency and support further operational efficiencies. Commissioner Roy requested information on testing audits at a future meeting and asked if Manager Hall's proposal would require regulatory changes. Enforcement Counsel Timothy Goodin (EC Goodin) stated that this would be a first step and regulatory changes could be considered down the line. EC Goodin discussed how the proposal would make the Investigations and Enforcement department more effective in prosecuting enforcement matters and confirmed for Commissioners that it did not conflict with any existing regulations. Chief of Investigations and Enforcement (Chief Khumalo) stated that interviews were underway for the Director of Testing position and explained that the Director of Enforcement Training and Investigations Manager Armond Enos (Manager Enos) had been conducting quarterly meetings with ITLs.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to direct staff to develop an administrative order consistent with the Commission's discussion today for the Commission's consideration at the December 12, 2024, Public Meeting.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.



10) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 6:39:13

- The AC stated that there was no new business which was not anticipated at the time of posting.

11) Next Meeting Date – 6:39:23

- The AC stated that the next meeting would be held on December 5, 2024, to discuss social consumption.

12) Adjournment – 6:39:58

- Commissioner Concepcion moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.

