

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

October 1, 2025

10:00 AM

In-Person and Remote via [Microsoft Teams Live\\*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

**Documents:**

- Application Materials associated with:
  - Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
  - Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
- [Meeting Packet](#)
- The Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission Charter

**In Attendance:**

- Chair Shannon O'Brien
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

**Minutes:**

- I. 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.
- II. Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:01:20
  - Chair Shannon O'Brien (Chair) made an opening statement regarding her return as Chair of the Commission. Commissioner Stebbins noted meetings with Chelsea city officials to discuss the Social Consumption (SC) draft regulations, a local equity retailer and the State Auditor's Office (SAO) subsequent to receiving their report. He also noted meetings with Representative Daniel Cahill, Senator John Cronin, town officials from Amherst to discuss the SC draft regulations and the Mayor of West Springfield to discuss rolling out Cannabis Licensees in their community. He added that he appeared on Channel 22's InFocus program, visited with the owners of Diaspora in Cambridge for further discussion after the Public Listening Session and Eric Goodwine, Vice President at North Easton Bank who leads their Cannabis business. He also noted a call with Metrc executives with Chief Technology



Innovation Officer Paul Clark (CTIO Clark) to discuss the managing of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC)'s outstanding accounts receivable platform. Commissioner Roy thanked the New England Traffic Safety Education Association (NETSEA) for inviting her to speak on the Massachusetts Drivers Education Cannabis-Impairment Curriculum, Shifting Gears. She expressed optimism that federal recognition would open doors to new Cannabis research and better quality of life through science-based cannabinoid therapies. She noted meetings with Citizens Bank and Needam Bank to discuss the Cannabis space and loans to Cannabis businesses. She expressed that the bank meetings provided more insight for SC draft regulations to open capital. She welcomed the Chair back to the Commission.

III. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership – 00:08:28

- Licensing Manager Christine Moriarty (Manager Moriarty) presented on behalf of the Licensing department the Staff Recommendations for Changes of Ownership and Renewals.

1. Eagle Eyes Transport Solutions, LLC

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

2. Nova Farms LLC

- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

IV. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses – 00:10:52

- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition for item number 1 on the agenda (Apotho Therapeutics Athol, Inc. (#MCR140948)):
  - Proposed Condition: Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, provide to the CCC Licensing division response and explanation of how Goals were met in their Diversity Plan complying with 935 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 500.101(1)(c)8.k. and 500.103(4)(b).



- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the renewal of item number 1 on the agenda (Apotho Therapeutics Athol, Inc. (#MCR140948)) subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal of item number 1 on the agenda (Apotho Therapeutics Athol, Inc. (#MCR140948)) subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
  
- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition for item number 3 on the agenda (Gan Or LLC (#MCR140947)).
  - Proposed Condition: Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal please report on progress and success toward Goal #1 in their Positive Impact Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 500.101 (1)(a)11. and 500.103(4)(b).
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the renewal of item number 3 on the agenda (Gan Or LLC (#MCR140947)) subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal of item number 3 on the agenda (Gan Or LLC (#MCR140947)) subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
  
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the renewal of items numbered 2 and 4 – 20 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal of items numbered 2 and 4 – 20 as indicated on the agenda.
  
- The Chair stated she was taking the agenda out of order. She noted they would go to Commission Discussion and Votes and then circle back to Enforcement Actions.



V. Commission Discussion and Votes – 00:16:23

1. Three-Day Commence Operations Waiting Period Update

- The Chair noted the topic as a step to relieve businesses in terms of overburdensome regulations. Commissioner Roy expressed her desire to get rid of the requirement as the agency had matured. She added her want to investigate other regulations that no longer had utility. The Executive Director (ED) added context and noted that he had reached out to the Cannabis Advisory Board (CAB) to ensure that the three-day period was not necessary anymore. He stated that there was no pushback on lifting the requirement and that they authorized it. He added that a bulletin was available. Commissioner Stebbins expressed appreciation for the outreach to the CAB.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the policy.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the policy.
  
- The Chair stated they would circle back to Enforcement Actions.

VI. Enforcement Actions – 00:20:24

1. Boston Bud Factory, Inc.

- Enforcement Counsel Timothy Goodin (EC Goodin) introduced the matter to the board. He proposed a Final Order and Stipulated Agreement to resolve an enforcement action related to Boston Bud Factory, Inc. and Mr. Franklyn Dailey. He explained that the matter was initiated through an unannounced inspection conducted on March 18, 2022, and noted that the findings were in the Stipulated Agreement. He stated that they engaged in a pre-hearing process with the Respondents and the parties simultaneously continued to negotiate which resulted in the Stipulated Agreement in front of the board. He gave an overview of the violations at issue and stated through the proposed agreement that the parties had agreed to resolve the matter through imposition of suspensions for the Licensee and Mr. Dailey as well as affirmative relief. He also provided an overview of the terms and conditions of the agreement. He recommended ratification of the agreement as an appropriate resolution of the violations to ensure compliance and represent significant deterrence for future violations. Commissioner Roy asked if the two suspensions ran concurrently or separately and EC noted that once a short-term operation plan was submitted within 10-days and approved, the suspensions would run concurrently. The Chair suggested guidelines to treat Licensees equally and mentioned the SAO report regarding being consistent with how they applied fines and penalties. EC Goodin explained how their goals and practices worked when dealing with Licensees noncompliance and that it was consistent with their prior practices. The Chair asked if there was anything they



could do to make sure employees that were not involved stayed protected. EC Goodin explained that even though they would be suspended, it did not necessarily mean that every employee needed to go home and that Mr. Dailey was the only person being suspended in accordance with the agreement. Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Nomxolisi Jones (Chief Jones) stated they would be able to determine if Mr. Dailey would continue to be paid when they received their short-term operation plan and could report back. Commissioner Roy asked about aggravating and mitigating circumstances, and Chief Jones responded that they would not be able to get into those details. Commissioner Roy noted similar concerns around employees being out of work and asked if they could remand the issue to work on it more. GC Chattopadhyay stated it was entirely an agreement between the parties and if it was not approved by the board, the parties could go back and renew their discussions. Commissioner Roy asked about rejection and if Boston Bud Factory, Inc. would still be able to operate and it was confirmed they would. She explained that she believed the agreement needed to be reworked to arrive at a resolution that worked for everyone. Commissioner Stebbins asked if Commissioners could review the short-term operational plan. Chief Jones noted that it would be inconsistent with other enforcement actions or investigations they had done in the past and sharing those materials would not be in the best interest. General Counsel Kajal Chattopadhyay (GC Chattopadhyay) noted G.L. c. 30A and cautioned when it came to sharing more information than what the board had before them. Commissioner Stebbins suggested that the Commission consider establishing a process for notifying a Host Community (HC) about any actions or steps the Commission may or may not be taking. EC Goodin noted they historically did not notify each HC when they resolved an action, but in terms of processes, they could take it under consideration. He mentioned that the agreements were public records. Commissioner Stebbins expressed that it would be a helpful tool for collaboration with municipalities. Commissioner Roy noted how important due process was and concerns around the ability to pay being a mitigating circumstance.

- Commissioner Roy moved to reject the agreement as it is currently drafted.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Roy – Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
  - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously rejected the agreement as it is currently drafted.

## VII. Commission Discussion and Votes (Continued) – 00:56:50

### 2. Delegation of Acting Commission Chair

- The Chair provided background on the topic. She noted she was putting together a standing letter delegating the authority to Commissioner Roy to serve as Acting Chair (AC) in the event of her absence. She expressed concerns around not having an appropriately delegated AC for the past two years and votes not being valid. She



mentioned that the only person under the statute that could delegate AC authority was the Chair. GC Chattopadhyay referenced relative language from the statute and noted the Commission's Governance Charter. The Chair stated she would incorporate language from the Governance Charter into her delegation letter. Commissioner Roy cited the relevant language from the Governance Charter for the public. The Chair emphasized the desire to provide clarity and consistency.

### 3. Ch. 10 Sec. 76 (i) Designation

- The Chair read the relative language from the statute. She designated Associate General Counsel Steven Laduzinski (AGC Laduzinski) to investigate certain policies and procedures that she would like to be examined and to provide a report. She noted that because this employee shall have all the powers conferred upon a Commissioner, he would act as if he reported to the Chair. She clarified he was still a part of GC Chattopadhyay's Legal department. Commissioner Roy concurred.

### 4. Updates on 2025 Executive Director Goals

- The ED gave an overview and provided updates on the twelve goals voted on in April 2025 by the Commissioners. The Chair asked when the Delivery Exclusivity deadline was, and The ED confirmed it was April 1, 2026. Commissioner Roy noted issues with data collection and her desire for no more extensions. The ED mentioned where the Commission had been affected by the budget. Commissioner Roy asked for more robust open data around testing and noted Connecticut. The Chair highlighted the need for more transparency around data. The ED mentioned upgraded Information Technology (IT) systems would allow them to significantly increase capacity on what they added to the open data platform. The ED highlighted regulation modernization suggestions from departments and a modernization process to benefit the industry and staff. The Chair expressed a desire for an ongoing streamlined process reviewing regulations and she recognized over regulation. Commissioner Roy asked about the tip-line position and the ED pointed out budget issues.

### 5. Working Group Sponsor Updates

- The ED provided a general overview and background of working group sponsor updates. He named all the current working groups, when they were created, who led them, sponsoring Commissioners and their purpose. The Chair requested to be included in the legislative review working group and recommended reappointing Commissioner Roy to be the lead sponsor on the secret shopper working group. The Chair also sought to add herself to the Independent Testing Lab (ITL) listening sessions working group and wanted to appoint herself and Commissioner Roy to the audit review working group. Commissioner Stebbins outlined ethics concerns and overlapping responsibilities around external outreach.

### 6. Social Equity Program Period Extension

- The ED gave an update on the Social Equity Program (SEP) application period extension and noted that the period closed on September 30<sup>th</sup>. He noted they had 192



submissions by the deadline. He stated that October would be dedicated to reviewing the applications and he would anticipate providing an update in November. The Chair asked how many people the Commission could support in the program. The ED shared they had 401 submissions last time and he could provide her with the number that was approved. The Chair asked how many SEP participants or Economic Empowerment Priority Applicants (EEAs) with Provisional Licensees were in the queue. The ED stated he would provide that information to Chair. The Chair asked how many Licenses are owned by SEP participants, EEAs, or People of color that were running businesses in commence operations. The ED said he would provide the information at a later date.

VIII. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 01:49:05

- The Chair stated that there was business which was not anticipated at the time of posting. She noted that she was going to ask the previous Secretary to potentially serve in an interim role to assist with meeting minutes. Commissioner Stebbins agreed to serve as the interim Secretary of the Commission. The ED suggested taking the vote at the October 9<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting.

IX. Next Meeting Date – 01:51:16

- The Chair stated that the next meeting was scheduled for October 9, 2025.

X. Adjournment – 01:53:00

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

