

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

**February 12, 2026
10:00 AM**

**In-Person at Cannabis Control Commission, Second Floor Public Meeting Room,
Worcester Union Station, 2 Washington Square, Worcester and 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 Renewals
- [Meeting Packet](#)

In Attendance:

- Chair Shannon O'Brien
- Commissioner Carrie Benedon
- 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 – 00:01:49
 - Commissioners Benedon and Roy deferred. Commissioner Stebbins noted positive experiences visiting Licensees Green Meadows and Caroline's Cannabis, and meetings with groups in Springfield. He added that all outside parties have supported the Commission's Social Consumption (SC) working group's efforts.
- III. Minutes – 00:04:57



- January 14, 2026
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the January 14, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the January 14, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.

- January 15, 2026
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the January 15, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the January 15, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.

IV. Executive Director and Commission Staff Report – 00:06:05

1. Medical Program Updates

- The Executive Director (ED) turned the discussion over to Director of Digital and Creative Services AnnMarie Burt (Director Burt) and Constituent Services Manager Kate Fiske (Manager Fiske). A technical issue arose and the Commission took a brief recess.

- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 10:25 AM.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 00:17:11.)



- Director Burt and Manager Fiske continued their presentation by introducing public education materials on the medical use of Marijuana program. They explained how the public may access medical Marijuana providers and noted that the Commission could not publicize Caregivers' names on the Commission's website. Commissioner Roy mentioned that the historical underpinnings for the policy emanated from the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Commission might consider putting some Caregiver information on the Commission's website, with a possible opt-in for providers. She suggested that workforce safety be addressed at a Public Hearing and expressed the need for a tip line to be set up and reviewed the Commission's Guide for Caregivers and what information is contained therein. A viewing of the Commission's video on accessing medical use Marijuana ensued. Director Burt and Manager Fiske detailed how the information is available in a number of languages. Manager Fiske presented on behalf of the Constituent Services department, focusing on their support of the public, both on medical use and more globally, and how they keep communications with the public available at all times. She introduced data regarding how their seven-member team responded to thousands of queries in 2025. In addition, Manager Fiske enumerated the number of Caregivers and patients in 2025. She stated that in 2025 there were approximately 79,000 patients and she broke down where Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MTCs) are located, noting there is only one treatment on Cape Cod, in Sandwich. She then moved the presentation to her department's outreach of providers in 2025 and listed the phone numbers and email addresses wherefrom the public can contact the Commission.

2. Social Consumption Working Group Updates

- The ED presented an overview of the working group's four sub-groups: Implementation, Local Advisory, Public Awareness, and Responsible Vendor Training (RVT). He noted specifically the Commissioners' roles and responsibilities in the sub-groups. He then showed the group how they hew to the requirements of the Open Meeting Law (OML) in their operational efforts. Using the Chapter 180 experience, the ED reviewed the schematics for how the work is currently delegated in a centralized manner.

3. Cannabis Revenue Flow Webpage

- Manager of Government Affairs and Policy Jessica Porter (Manager Porter) presented on Cannabis fees and tax revenue flows in the Commonwealth and in a color-coded bar chart, she set forth revenue, funds which are statutorily set and mandated, and spending data. Of note, approximately 85% of tax revenue is allocated by the legislature to support a variety of state and local programs and initiatives, and about 15% goes to the Social Equity Trust Fund.

4. Host Community Municipal Equity (HCME) Update

- Director of Enforcement Training and Co-Interim Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Armond Enos (Director and Co-Interim CIE Enos) on Host Community municipal equity (HCME) updates detailing how many HCMEs were accepted and



how many are under review and how many are outstanding. He noted that 107 municipalities in the category are no-towns. The ED pointed out that the increased responsibility of reviewing Host Community Agreements (HCAs) was not accompanied by increased funding from the legislature.

5. Licensing Update

- Director of Licensing Olivia Koval (Director Koval) presented on the status of licensing applications as of February 12, 2026. She explained the reason why some applications had not gone forward and also identified the alterations in tier numbers. She detailed active and expired Cultivators and noted a reduction in total canopy. She reviewed the status on HCAs and detailed how many were being reviewed currently.
- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 11:45 AM.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 01:40:15.)

V. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership

- Licensing Manager Tsuko Defoe (Manager Defoe) presented on behalf of the Licensing department its Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Provisionals, Final Licenses and Responsible Vendor Training Renewal Licenses.

1. Deep Roots, Inc – add four individuals and one entity.

- Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner seconded the motion.
- The Chair Stebbins took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy queried about how the Change of Ownership process is handled and expressed her hope that the process will be expedited through the removal of red tape. Commissioner Roy noted that some jurisdictions don’t scrutinize the seller, only the buyer, which could expedite review.

VI. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses – 01:43:26



- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the renewal of items numbered 1 – 24 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal of items numbered 1 – 24 as indicated on the agenda.

VII. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses – 01:44:25

- In reply to a question from the Chair, Manager DeFoe stated that with the Provisional Licenses, there were four Social Equity Program (SEP) applicants and one Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant (EEA).
1. Burn Bright, LLC (#MPN282368), Marijuana Product Manufacturer
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
 2. Chispa Tres LLC (#MBN282528), Marijuana Microbusiness (Cultivation and Product Manufacturing)
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
 3. Diablo Man, LLC (#MBN282525), Marijuana Microbusiness (Cultivation and Product Manufacturing)
 - Commissioner Benedon pointed out that there were no delivery endorsements and the Chair suggested determining why the type of License was not being pursued.



- Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
4. Elevation, Inc (#MRN285306), Marijuana Retailer
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
5. G&S Management Services, LLC (#MBN282519), Marijuana Microbusiness (Product Manufacturing Only)
- Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
6. John Williams Street Investments, LLC (#MRN285438), Marijuana Retailer
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
7. The Heritage Club, LLC (#DOA100185), Marijuana Courier
- Commissioner Stebbins inquired when this Licensee first applied for this type of License and Manager DeFoe replied that it was on May 15, 2025.



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

8. Wonderland Dispensary & Delivery, Inc. (#MRN285154), Marijuana Retailer

- Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Benedon noted how many Provisionals were SEP applicants and EEAs.

VIII. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 02:00:18

1. KG Collective, LLC (#MR284224), Marijuana Retailer
2. Mainely Productions, LLC (#MP281751), Marijuana Product Manufacturer

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Final Licenses numbered 1 – 2 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Final Licenses numbered 1 – 2 as indicated on the agenda.

IX. Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals – 02:00:42

1. Green Flower Inc (#RVR453163)
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.



- Commissioner Benedon seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.

2. Marijuana Handlers (#RVR453165)

- Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.
- Commissioner Roy cited the lack of sensitivity regarding RVT for people with disabilities and asked why waivers are not granted. The Chair opined that motion language could be formulated to guide the Licensing department in making the process more equitable for people with disabilities.

X. Commission Discussion and Votes – 02:08:02

1. Open Meeting Law and Release of Executive Session Minutes Policy (continued)
 - The Chair tabled the discussion to a later date.
2. Delegation of Powers to Approve Licenses (continued)
 - The Chair requested that a memorandum be prepared and distributed on the topic of the rule of necessity from the General Counsel (GC) by mid-March of 2026.
3. Licensing Freeze Considerations
 - Commissioner Roy presented, citing wholesale and retail price compression. She noted that oversupply was particularly affecting vulnerable populations in a negative manner. She mentioned that the Commission has broad powers to consider a new licensing pause and a pause on licensing types. She then read into the record the text of an Executive Summary concerning the possibility of instituting a prospective freeze, for a limited amount of time. Short term versus long term freezes were differentiated, with a focus on the dormant commerce clause considerations and ensuring that it is not discriminatory. A review of what the Commission can and



cannot do was displayed on a slide, in the event that a freeze was instituted. The ED detailed commenced operations and canopy considerations. Commissioner Roy stated that the Commonwealth's canopy statistically stood between supply-constrained states like Connecticut and other over-supplied states. She read proposed motion language. Commissioner Benedon observed that some comparative states' canopies needed to be adjusted since many bordered states that still ban adult use. Commissioner Roy explained the limitations inherent in understanding canopies in other jurisdictions. Additionally, it was noted that Microbusinesses were not included in the canopy analysis. Commissioner Benedon introduced the perspective of considering the quality of product also. The Chair observed that Massachusetts was at a competitive disadvantage in competing with the warmer climates in other jurisdictions. She also expressed her frustration concerning the invocation of attorney-client privilege addressed in a memorandum prepared by the Commission's Legal department. The Chair requested the GC present her with evidence of past practice with inter-Commission invocations of privilege. Commissioner Benedon reviewed the responsibilities of the GC, particularly in informing the Commissioners of risk. The Chair cited past deficiencies in the advice generated by GCs and received by the Commissioners. The Chair advocated for motion language to address future invocations of privilege before Public Meetings (PMs).

- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 1:05 PM.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 03:10:13.)

- The Chair revisited the issue of legal opinions not being available to all Commissioners. Commissioner Benedon mentioned a segment of the memorandum in question, which might be excludible. Commissioner Roy asked why the GC only communicated with two Commissioners, to the exclusion of herself and the Chair. The Chair mentioned that there might be a need for an Executive Session (ES) regarding advice from the Legal department and repeated her request for an answer from the GC regarding past practices of the Commission raised earlier. The ED stated that the Executive Summary addressed the material discussed at the current PM. Commissioner Roy criticized disparate treatment of Commissioners by the GC. Commissioner Roy read into the record her motion for a future hearing concerning a licensing freeze.



- Commissioner Roy moved to direct staff to schedule a Public Hearing within 30 days to receive public testimony on a proposed moratorium on new cultivation Licenses including consideration of a temporary freeze on additional canopy capacity approvals. The Public Hearing shall also accept testimony on the potential extension of such moratorium or freeze measures to other License types, including Craft Marijuana Cooperatives, Product Manufacturing, and Microbusinesses, as informed by current market data on supply, pricing, and operator viability. Staff shall provide at least 14 days' public notice via the Commission's website, email, and standard regulatory channels with remote and in-person access options to ensure broad stakeholder participation, including from equity applicants, rural Cultivators, and affected municipalities.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

4. Notices of Deficiency

- Director and Co-Interim CIE Enos presented and listed the most commonly cited types of violations with each topic area. For example, required annual and on-going RVT, required on-going Metrc training, record keeping and limited access areas. With the exception of Courier and Third Party Transporter License types, the topics of video camera security, inventory issues and the processing and recording of waste were explored in terms of the most common types of violations found. Thereafter, the most prominent types of violations in transportation of Cannabis were cited as lack of adherence to emergency stop logging, manifests not being properly kept and the absence of operational alarms in vehicles. Finally, deficiencies in advertising, waste processing, expired products, and maintaining real time/virtual inventories were highlighted. Director and Co-Interim CIE Enos focused on advertising violation in Licensee's websites, although there are also violations that need to be addressed on billboards and the like.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to take a recess returning at 2:25 PM.
- Commissioner Benedon seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 04:20:37.)



5. Executive Director Goals for CY 2026 and First Six Months of CY 2027

- Commissioner Stebbins presented and observed that the Commission is better poised to respond to goals than it had been in the past, largely due to the comprehensive nature of the ED's report. Commissioner Stebbins advocated that a vote not be taken at that time, with the need for more view of the report's Exhibit A.

6. Workforce Safety Hearing Discussion

- The Chair lauded the work of Danny Carson pertaining to the public health issues at Trulieve. She suggested continuing to address workforce safety at a future Public Hearing and rounded out the discussion on workforce safety by citing the need to set up a tip line.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to take a recess returning at 3:35 PM.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 05:33:41.)

7. Discussion of US District Court action on February 4, 2026, related to former MA provisional and suspended Licensee

- The Chair requested an update from the ED, and he discussed the Department of Justice (DOJ)'s release on a probe concerning Carolina Correa and Lifted Luxury. A chronology was presented concerning the history of expired Licenses, mentioning the work done in Rhode Island with the probe of Correa and/or Lifted Luxury. An assessment of M.G.L c. 30A issues was discussed. The Chair specified that the Commission does not audit the actual source of funds for Licensees.

8. Discussion on WS Coliseum (#MR285088)

- Commissioner Roy discussed lag between September 22, 2025, to the present with advancing this Licensee, despite being a priority applicant on two levels. She noted the architectural review was delayed several months. Globally, the red tape issues involved with delayed architectural reviews need to be alleviated. The ED stressed that this expedited review would be accomplished.

XI. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 05:51:28

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

XII. Next Meeting Date – 05:51:37



- The Chair stated that a Public Hearing was scheduled for February 23, 2026, and the next Public Meeting was scheduled for February 26, 2026. She added that there may be an upcoming Executive Session on February 20, 2026.

XIII. Adjournment – 05:52:30

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

