

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

**April 16, 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
- [Meeting Packet](#)

In Attendance:

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

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. Minutes – 00:01:36

- March 4, 2026
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the March 4, 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 March 4, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.
- March 12, 2026
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the March 12, 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 March 12, 2026, Commission Public Meeting minutes.

III. Staff Recommendations on Change of Ownership – 00:02:42

- Licensing Analyst Jaime Wakefield (Analyst Wakefield) presented on behalf of the Licensing Department, on its Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Provisionals and Final Licenses.
1. Arrow Cultivate, LLC (#MC283773) – add two individuals.
 - Commissioner Benedon moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
 - 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 Change of Ownership.
 2. New England Regional Dispensary, LLC (#MR284607) – add three individuals and three entities.
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
 - 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 Change of Ownership.
 3. Phytopia Inc. (#RMD1692) – add two individuals and one entity.



- General Counsel Kajal Chattopadhyay (GC Chattopadhyay) spoke about an ongoing ownership dispute, but he did not believe it impinged on voting today. Commissioner Roy confirmed to keep the License viable, the board had to renew it and then the Commission Enforcement team does their investigation. Director of Licensing Olivia Koval (Director Koval) noted due diligence. The Commissioners tabled this vote to later in the meeting.

IV. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses – 00:09:13

- Attorney Kevin McRoy was granted three minutes to speak on behalf of Jonathan Bernier, a shareholder in Ignited Culture, Inc., alleging that documents which were submitted to the Commission were inaccurate. Mr. Jonathan Bernier also briefly spoke about when he first initiated contact with the Commission. Attorney McRoy expanded on other perceived inaccuracies which his client(s) is challenging, and again, advocated for an extension of the License, but wanted to make clear that there was a dispute concerning the identity of the owners and other associated allegations. Executive Director (ED) Travis Ahern noted that there was no extension request currently before the Commission, but that the Commission will monitor the allegations of fraud. The Chair asked GC Chattopadhyay about what duty of due diligence that the Commission must undertake once an allegation of fraud is raised. GC Chattopadhyay stated that the duty is to review the paperwork in due course, and to follow up with Enforcement Counsel (EC) and the Director of Licensing, if necessary, to determine if information submitted to the Commission is accurate. Attorney McRoy expanded upon the chronology of prior communications to the Commission on behalf of Mr. Bernier. The Chair queried GC Chattopadhyay if renewal is also tantamount to stating that the documents are in compliance with Cannabis laws and regulations. Director of Investigations Katherine Binkoski (Director Binkoski) stated that there certainly was a communication to the Commission (i.e., a copy of the complaint in the Bristol Superior Court action involving the ownership dispute) received on April 6, 2026, but she will have to check prior communications. Commissioner Benedon echoed Commissioner Roy's concerns about this Licensee's internal controversies; she thought that an administrative extension might be preferable to a formal extension vote, favoring an interim review by the Commission. Commissioner Roy suggested an administrative extension being granted, pending an investigation; the Chair set forth the concerns that (1) the License not expire, but (2) alleged issues should not be ignored.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the renewal of items numbered 1-5 and 7-17 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 1-5 and 7-17 as indicated on the agenda.
- The Chair noted they would address the Renewal of Ignited Culture, Inc. once they had additional motion language from the team.

V. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 00:37:57

1. Maruti Wellness LLC (#MR285001), Marijuana Retailer
2. SunnyDayz, Inc. (#MC283692), Marijuana Cultivator- Tier 2 Indoor
3. Top Shelf Cannaseurs, LLC (#MP281435), Marijuana Product Manufacturer
4. Green Meadows Farms, LLC (#RMD4325), Medical Marijuana Treatment Center

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Final Licenses.
- 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.

VI. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses – 00:38:49

- The Chair noted they would take up Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRN285402) first.

1. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRN285402)

- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
 - Proposed Condition: Prior to Final application for licensure, consider revision to your Positive Impact Plan goal number two and consider hiring or other strategies to impact disproportionately impacted area designated communities in closer proximity to the town of Saugus in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)a.11. and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)b and provide an update to the CCC Licensing division.
- Commissioner Roy opined that such conditional language imposes red tape on businesses. The Chair did not support the condition.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Roy – No
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Chair O’Brien – No
- The Commission denied the motion by two in favor and two opposed.
- Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRN285402)
- 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.
2. Apotho Therapeutics Dartmouth Manufacturing, Inc.(#MPN282262)
- 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. Bulrush, LLC (#MBN282537)
- 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.
4. Debken Corp. (#MRN285396)
- 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.
5. Hudson Botanicals Processing, LLC. (#MXN281354)
- 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.

6. J-Bam, Inc. (#MRN285505)

- Commissioner Benedon 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.
- Commissioner Roy noted that they did not vote on Phytopia Inc. (#RMD1692) and the Change of Ownership. Analyst Wakefield presented on behalf of the Licensing Department, on its Recommendation for the Change of Ownership.
- Phytopia Inc. (#RMD1692) – add two individuals and one entity.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- 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 Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 11:15 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 01:11:30.)

VII. Commission Discussion and Votes – 01:11:52

1. Update on Tip Line

- The ED updated progress made on the tip line, kicking off the discussion on the procurement for the new Complaint Resolution Administrator position. A project



management team has been formed and Chief Financial and Accounting Officer Lisa Schlegel (CFAO Schlegel) recommended adopting a Request for Response (RFR) form, explaining that a portal and/or a hotline could be utilized. Using an RFR form would expand potential candidates, beyond simply those vendors on a pre-approved state contract. The board discussed that the anonymous complaints would not be subject to a Public Records Request (PRR). CFAO Schlegel briefly explained the benefits of outsourcing this process, with the Chair noted that doing so would provide a further layer of protection to an anonymous complaints.

- The Commissioners returned to Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses and the consideration of the Renewal License for Ignited Culture, Inc. (#MRR207421). GC Chattopadhyay cited the statutory language permitting the Commission to entertain the proposed motion, which Commissioner Roy read into the record, to effectuate the Renewal of the License for Ignited Culture, Inc.
 - Commissioner Roy moved that subject to M.G.L 94G § 4 (a)(xi) renew the License subject to the outcome of the Commission's investigation into the allegations received on April 6, 2026, as applicable to (#MRR207421) Ignited Culture Inc.
 - 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 Chair noted she would be taking agenda items out of order.
2. Discussion of Progress on Change of Ownership Process Motion from March 4, 2026
- The Chair noted recent Licensee business failures, at which time the ED outlined how a Licensee could be deemed to be in good standing to expedite the allowance of the Change of Ownership process. The ED extrapolated on the need to reduce red tape based on what the Commission has traditionally defined to constitute good standing for a Licensee; then he introduced the topic of how good standing can be better and more efficiently defined. Commissioner Roy offered a definition of good standing, which the Chair then read into the record. The ED cautioned that not all Notices of Deficiency (NODs) operated under similar timelines, depending on their unique levels of complexity and seriousness. Commissioner Benedon mentioned that there might be an expedited option for consideration but if a licensee cannot meet the stringent standard, they can proceed in the normal course and timeline. There was a colloquy between Commissioner Stebbins and the ED about possibly preparing a regulation to incorporate this new definition, with the ED opining that currently, it could go ahead without a regulatory change, although regulations could be changed in the future. The ED recommended that the red tape reduction process be utilized to oversee the application of the approved good standing language.



- Commissioner Roy moved that the Commission adopt the following definition of “Existing Licensee in Good Standing” for use in evaluating eligibility for streamlined or notice-based Change of Ownership or Change of Control review processes no later than July 16, 2026:

“Existing Licensee in Good Standing” means a Marijuana Establishment, Medical Marijuana Treatment Center, or other Commission-licensed entity that, as of the date of submission of a Change of Ownership or Change of Control application:

- (a) holds a current and active license issued by the Cannabis Control Commission;
- (b) has no unresolved Notices of Deficiency, Orders to Show Cause, or pending enforcement actions that could materially affect its license status;
- (c) is in compliance with all Commission reporting, fee payment, and renewal obligations;
- (d) has substantially satisfied all previously imposed conditions of licensure, including operational, ownership, or corrective-action requirements; and
- (e) has not been the subject of a final Commission-imposed disciplinary sanction such as suspension, revocation, or monetary penalty within the preceding twelve (12) months, unless specifically waived by the Commission for good cause.

The Commission directs staff to incorporate this definition into applicable policies, procedures, and guidance materials governing Change of Ownership and Change of Control applications, and to apply it when determining whether a licensee qualifies for an expedited review.

- 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 Chair considered agenda items 2. Discussion on Change of Ownership Process Motion from March 4, 2026, and 4. Create Definition of “Existing Licensee in Good Standing” to Expedite Transfers of Ownership under the Commission and Votes, sections were successfully addressed.

3. Data Use agreement Form

- The Chair queried GC Chattopadhyay regarding why the Data Use Agreement form has not been prepared yet and he explained why the form was not completed. The Chair opined that work had not been adequately distributed in the Legal Department nor had she received a memorandum from GC Chattopadhyay about distribution of legal work, and also discussed the perils created and perpetuated without open data



being made available. The ED thought that there might be a Data Use Agreement ready by early May, subject to what will occur with the recent Cannabis bill. The Chair raised the possibility that improper level reporting could be violative of M.G.L c. 93A, the Massachusetts Consumer Protection Statute, and will send a letter to the Commonwealth's Attorney General's Office (AGO) concerning willful misreporting of levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content. The ED shared he was doing his best to get this up online by May 12, 2026, with the Chair again expressing concern that THC inflation could possibly implicate M.G.L c. 93A concerns, and that cheaters are potentially rewarded by false reporting.

4. Establishing a Permanent Testing Task Force

- Commissioner Roy moved to direct the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to establish the Testing Task Force as a standing, permanent body of the Commission. The permanent Testing Task Force shall include the Chief of Research, or their delegee, and the Director of Data Analytics, or their delegee, as members in addition to its existing composition. Further, the Testing Task Force shall expand its scope to include an examination of cannabis testing yields, including but not limited to dry/wet weight, for the purpose of identifying and addressing potential instances of fraud.

Additionally, the Testing Task Force shall develop and present to the Commission, within sixty (60) days, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to initiate auditing of ethanol for the purpose of detecting inversion or other related anomalies.

- The Chair seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – No
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission approved the motion by a three in favor and one opposed.
- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 1:20 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 03:17:10.)

5. Non-Enforcement of Conflicting Advertising and Purchasing Limits Regulations with H.5350

- Commissioner Roy read proposed draft language to ensure that the new bill's raise of purchase limits from one to two ounces is effectuated, to be moved for consideration



for approval by the ED and Governor, by immediate ED Administrative Order. The aim is to ensure that Cannabis equivalencies are unambiguous. The goal is to ultimately culminate in a consistent Administrative Order. The ED noted that the bulletin had been prepared, but it could easily be converted to an Administrative Order for the Governor's consideration and/or signature. The ED opined that the Commission bulletin could be released now, should the Governor approve the new Cannabis bill, to provide notice in a this is what will happen manner. An Administrative Order could then be released once the Governor takes action on the new bill (i.e., signs the bill, or makes changes to the bill). Commissioner Stebbins thought that releasing something less formal than a bulletin would be the preferable course to more of a general pronouncement regarding what might occur over this weekend. Commissioner Benedon mentioned a press release might work, in lieu of a bulletin. The ED stated that whether a bulletin or press release is anticipated, it is very important to note that the Governor ultimately makes the decision on what will become law. Commissioner Roy suggest that "public communication" might be better language than "bulletin" or "press release." Commissioner Benedon read motion language with all discussed changes included.

- Commissioner Roy moved to direct the Executive Director to issue a public communication no later than April 17 at 12:00 noon clarifying that if and when the Governor signs House Bill 5350, increasing the daily purchase limit of marijuana flower to two ounces, a further Administrative Order will be forthcoming. The Administrative Order will provide that two ounces of marijuana flower shall be equivalent to ten grams of active tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in marijuana concentrate, including tinctures, and one thousand milligrams of active THC in marijuana edibles, and that such equivalencies shall govern the calculation of combined dry weight equivalents for marijuana concentrate and edibles in retail purchases.

Further move that that the Cannabis Control Commission direct the Executive Director to issue an Administrative Order No. 6 immediately upon the Governor signing House Bill 5350, authorizing the daily purchase of two ounces or less of marijuana, or the equivalent amount of marijuana products as determined by the Commission, consistent with M.G.L. c. 94G, § 7(a)(1) as amended by House Bill 5350, and the Commission's equivalency and potency standards under 935 CMR 500.140(3). For purposes of the Administrative Order, two ounces of marijuana flower shall be equivalent to ten grams of active tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in marijuana concentrate, including tinctures, and one thousand milligrams of active THC in marijuana edibles, and that such equivalencies shall govern the calculation of combined dry weight equivalents for marijuana concentrate and edibles in retail purchases.



The public communication and Administrative Order shall apply solely to adult-use regulations under 935 CMR 500.000 and shall not be applicable to medical-use regulations under 935 CMR 501.000.

- 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.

- Commissioner Roy moved to take a recess returning at 2:50 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 03:59:39.)

6. Non-Enforcement of Property Control for Provisional Licensure

- The Chair mentioned that the issue of Notices of Deficiency (NOD) being frequently issued in the area of cannabis advertising, might merit consideration. The input of the Co-Chiefs of Investigation and Enforcement (Co-CIEs Enos and Goodin) and the Director of Licensing was sought. Co-CIEs Goodin and Enos expressed the advertising issues which the new Cannabis bill presents to the public. Director Koval did not foresee any public health concerns with advertising online, and that the discount itself did not constitute a public health risk. Co-CIE Goodin opined on what clarification constituted a maximum discount percentage, and whether this risk encouraged inversion of product. Commissioner Roy used the analogical example of the Commonwealth’s Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) alcohol-related restrictions on promotions for a basis of discussion before the Commission, delineating the specific alcohol-related restrictions. The Chair expressed interest in how the ABCC enforced the restrictions and gauged costs. Co-CIE Goodin believed that with the ABCC, alcohol cannot be sold to the public for less than the wholesale price and will check on the accuracy of the statement. Reading the new cannabis bill, Commissioner Benedon felt that the Commission was not completed to take action in this area, although she thought that doing so is a good idea. Commissioner Stebbins raised the issue concerning whether a website is part of an alcohol business or an extension of it. The ED queries about whether a website was an extension of a Licensee’s business because of advertising issues with Licensees. The Chair considered language that the Commission not enforce what’s currently there because



there is an emergency situation with public health, and mentioned that there might be a need of regulations around the issue in the future.

7. Publication of Receivership Reporting Form

- The receivership proposed form was not ready today, but the ED opined that the form would be ready by the end of April. Commissioner Roy proposed motion language.
- Commissioner Roy moved that the Cannabis Control Commission direct Commission staff to develop, finalize, and publish a standard Receivership Reporting Form and corresponding monitoring process for cannabis business receiverships under the Commission's jurisdiction, and to present the completed form and process proposal to the Commission no later than April 30, 2026, or within 14 days of adoption of this motion, whichever occurs first.
- The Chair 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.

8. Cultivation Freeze

- The Chair clarified that this did not affect current businesses and Licensee's ability to move between tiers, but rather upcoming applicants. Commissioner Roy stated that stakeholders overwhelmingly supported this freeze. She thanked Chief Technology and Innovation Officer Paul Clark (CTIO Clark) and Director of Data Analytics Marianne Sarkis (Director Sarkis) for their efforts on evaluating how to evaluate a potential freeze. Commissioner Roy read into the record motion language to temporarily suspend indoor and outdoor cultivation License applications as of June 16, 2026, with the exceptions for microbusinesses, for example. Commissioners Stebbins and Benedon discussed disparate treatment of Licensee's issues. While the composition of the Board may soon change, Commissioner Benedon opined that this group of Commissioners was uniquely qualified to vote on a temporary freeze, while Commissioner Stebbins raised the issue of future Commissioners deciding when/if to lift the freeze.
- Commissioner Roy moved that the Commission pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 94G, § 4 and 935 CMR 500.100, and based on its assessment of current market conditions and the need to support a stable and sustainable regulated marijuana market, shall temporarily suspend the acceptance of Indoor and/or Outdoor Marijuana Cultivator license applications, effective June 16, 2026. This suspension shall not apply to applications already submitted to the Commission as of June 16, 2026, which shall continue to be processed in accordance with M.G.L. c. 94G, § 5(a) and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.102(2). This suspension shall not apply to Microbusiness License applications submitted by eligible Social Equity



Program (SEP) Participants or Economic Empowerment Applicants (EEA), as defined in 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.002, nor to cultivator operations conducted pursuant to such Microbusiness licenses. This temporary suspension of acceptance of Marijuana Cultivator License applications shall remain in effect for 120 days, after which time the suspension shall terminate if not further extended.

- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Benedon – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – No
 - Chair O'Brien – Yes
- The Commission approved the motion by a vote of three in favor and one opposed.

9. Red Tape Removal Working Group Prioritized Recommendations

- Commissioner Benedon presented on the Red Tape Removal group's progress, focusing on a 4-stage process of evaluation. She reviewed external group's recommendations, and in a slide exhibited the five largest areas of commentary, including Responsible Vendor Training (RVT), Metrc, inspections and advertising. Commissioner Stebbins queried about deficiencies being potentially corrected during inspections. Co-CIE Enos stated that this could be done, using the example of fixing a sign at the premises. The Chair appreciated all the work and progress by the group and did not anticipate a vote on this matter. Commissioner Benedon concluded the discussion by remarking about how the Commission and stakeholders often reached a consensus on issues, but in any event an emphasis should be placed on high priority matters.

VIII. Executive Director and Commission Staff Report – 05:37:48

- The ED noted that there was an update on the Social Consumption (SC) group's work and the Annual 4/20 Public Education Campaign. The ED echoed the Chair's earlier recognition of Director of Digital and Creative Services AnnMarie Burt (Director Burt) and Multimedia Content Manager Fiona Moreland (Manager Moreland) on their work on the videos for the 4/20 Education Campaign, which is so critical to ensure safety for Consumers. The ED also presented information on the EquityWorks Career Hub Virtual Career Fair, with the event scheduled for May 20, 2026. The Chair thanked the work that culminated in the video on the 4/20 Public Education Campaign. The ED concluded by stating that there was a 5:00 PM deadline for submitting material on testing protocols, and mentioned the upcoming Equity Career Fair, the updates on the SC Working Group, the 4/20 Campaign and the potential of Licensing and Data teams to assist if the Governor signs the Cannabis bill. He concluded with remarks regarding continuity in the medical program.

IX. Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 05:41:36



- Commissioner Benedon thanked her fellow Commissioners and emphasized her appreciation for how they welcomed her to the Commission and worked with her in such a collegial manner. Commissioner Roy echoed Commissioner Benedon's comments and thanked all of her co-workers, stating that it has been an honor to work with her fellow Commissioners. Commissioner Stebbins gave an update concerning a meeting with Michael Fiore, the program supervisor in the Commonwealth's Safety Works Office whose division offers free consultations for small businesses to provide services to ensure workplace safety. He thanked all his colleagues and former Commissioners and staff. The Chair also thanked all Commission staff and cited the considerable work done by the Enforcement team.

X. Next Meeting Date – 05:47:17

- The Chair stated that the next meeting is scheduled to be held on April 30, 2026.

XI. Adjournment – 05:47:25

- Commissioner Roy 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 approved to adjourn.

