



**New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission  
April 22, 2021  
Minutes of Public Meeting**

*This meeting was publicly accessibly online via Zoom.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The April 22, 2021 public meeting of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission was called to order by Chairwoman Houenou at 3pm at the commission offices, 225 East State Street, Trenton NJ 08608.

**2. NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Executive Director Jeff Brown read the following statement:

“Madam Chair, this is a regular meeting of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission. Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meeting Act. There was a publication of the meeting time and location in two NJ print publications, The Trenton Times and The Star Ledger, on Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, and the notice has been sent to the Secretary’s Office. Information regarding the virtual nature of meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic was posted in the publications and on the CRC/MMP website. In addition, notice of said meeting has been and is being displayed on the websites of both the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission.”

**3. ROLL CALL**

Chairwoman Houenou took the roll, and the following Commissioners were present: Mr. Charles Barker, Ms. Maria Del Cid-Kosso, Mr. Samuel Delgado, Ms. Krista Nash, and Ms. Dianna Houenou.

**4. CHAIR’S REMARKS**

- Chairwoman Houenou gave opening remarks

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairwoman Houenou called for a motion to go into Executive Session for 30 minutes. Commissioner Delgado made the motion, and Commissioner Barker seconded. Hearing no discussion, Chair Houenou took the vote.

AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash, Commissioner Barker, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: None The motion was passed.

Executive session started at 3:07pm and ended at 3:37pm.

6. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Chairwoman Houenou asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso made the motion, and Commissioner Nash seconded. Hearing no further discussion, Chairwoman Houenou took the vote.

AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash, Commissioner Barker, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: None The motion was carried.

7. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2021

Chairwoman Houenou displayed the amended proposal of the meeting agenda for the rest of the year and called for a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-3 concerning the annual meeting schedule. Commissioner Delgado moved, and Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso seconded. Commissioner Barker expressed that the amended meeting schedule didn't do enough to address concern of those wanting to attend the public meeting but unable to do so at the proposed afternoon times. Hearing no further discussion, Executive Director Brown took the roll call vote.

AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: Commissioner Barker The resolution was passed.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Brown gave remarks and read from the Executive Director report.

9. INTERIM TESTING STANDARDS FOR LABORATORIES DISCUSSION

Executive Director Brown summarized the standardized requirements and procedures for testing medical cannabis products, and stated that according to the statute N.J.S.A. 24:6I-19, until the Commission can establish its standards, a licensed laboratory shall utilize the testing standards established by another state with a medical cannabis program. The state medical programs that were chosen to model for interim standards were Massachusetts and Maryland. Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Houenou moved to the next item on the agenda.

10. AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Chairwoman Houenou introduced Resolution 2021-4, summarized that the authorization would allow the Executive Director to enter into an MOU with the DOH to deal with issues such as staffing, technology, and administrative support on behalf of the Commission. Chairwoman Houenou asked for a motion to allow the authorization of the MOU. Moved by Commissioner Nash and seconded by Commissioner Barker. Hearing no discussion, Executive Director Brown called the vote.

AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash, Commissioner Barker, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: None The resolution was passed.

11. AUTHORIZING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION

Chairwoman Houenou introduced and the Executive Director summarized resolution 2021-7, which states that the DOH will provide criminal background check capability for the CRC until the CRC can establish this service on its own. Commissioner Houenou asked for a motion to approve this authorization. Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso moved, and Commissioner Nash seconded. Hearing no new business to consider, Executive Director Brown called the vote.

AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash, Commissioner Barker, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: None The resolution was passed.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairwoman Houenou described the procedure for submitting comments and where to submit comments in order to be featured during the public comment portion of the public meeting. Commenters submitted their names and emails to [MMPQuestions@doh.nj.gov](mailto:MMPQuestions@doh.nj.gov) to be given the opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

There were approximately 65 submitted commenters prior to the meeting, and everyone that wished to speak was given the opportunity to do so.

Cameron Pitt Jr – Discussed the challenge of 350mg THC limit for concentrates

Shannon Hoffman – Regional Director for Steep Hill Testing Lab, discussed welcoming the opportunity to become a licensed lab modeled after either Maryland or Massachusetts

Theresa Howard – Inquired about financial opportunities for minorities

Jason Ravitz – Stated his comments were addressed by others

Dayana Nunez – Inquired about opportunities available to new venture startups, specifically to minorities and women owned businesses

Randall Query – Discussed lab accreditation standards and urged the commission to utilize latest standards when creating regulations

David July – Discussed cultivation requirements and stated that 2500sq. ft. for a microbusiness is inadequate to be able to compete with multistate operators

Andrea Winslow – Thanked the Commission for taking questions

Andrew Wallace – Inquired about the validity of various cannabis educational institutions and discussed the opportunities for minorities

Justin Escher Alpert – Discussed failures of prohibition and importance of issuing micro-licenses quickly

Chuck Latini – Addressed various issues such as licensing, and municipal zoning

Paul Ploskonka – Discussed pitfalls of the Massachusetts standards for testing, specifics of the 2019 RFA, and how to obtain and source genetics for cannabis

Sarah Ahrens – Discussed interim medical cannabis testing standards, and safety and transparency in cannabis testing

Brian Yerger – Discussed opportunities for his CBD business

Travis Ally – Discussed the 2019 RFA process and should give priority to those awaiting results

Carl Christianson – Discussed testing standards and analytical labs

Christopher Emigholz – VP of NJBIA, discussed employer concerns of recreational cannabis

Cristina Fowler – Discussed Borough concerns of opting in/out of allowing cannabis sales, and issues of prohibition of cannabis sales within 1000 feet of a drug free school zone

Amanda Levy – Discussed acquiring a license in the future and encouraging social equity in various ways

Nicholas – Discussed homegrow opportunities

Seth – Discussed giving more opportunities and consideration to New Jersey residents versus those from outside the state, as well as home grow for specific medical conditions

Jalaad – Inquired about obtaining access to previous and future meetings recordings, as well as inquiring about cannabis infused foods, opportunities for minorities, and a list of cannabis approved municipalities

Edison Hunter – Inquired about large gatherings of cannabis events, and wanted clarification of what would be required for cannabis events

Brian Cooper – CEO GangaGoGo, inquired about a Gantt chart that displayed timelines for future opportunities

Zack K. – Discussed testing standards and randomized testing of finished cannabis products, and Atlantic City as a cannabis convention site

Elizabeth Park – Inquired about the 2019 RFA

Levi Holmes – Inquired about results of the 2019 RFA

Carl – Discussed hardware sales as an opportunity for revenue for the State

Hugh Giordano – Discussed how the UFCW wants to create true social equity through union membership

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Houenou called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso made the motion to adjourn, and seconded by Commissioner Delgado. Chairwoman Houenou called the vote.

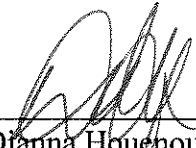
AYES: Chairwoman Houenou, Commissioner Delgado, Commissioner Nash,  
Commissioner Barker, Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso

NAYS: None

The public meeting adjourned at 5:13pm.

#### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing minutes represent a true and complete summary of the public meeting held by the Cannabis Regulatory Commission on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

  
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Dianna Houenou  
Chair