

Medical Cannabis Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

May 16, 2023

I. Acknowledgement that quorum not met (0:35)

Dominick Zurlo announced that due to unforeseen emergent conflicts, many of the MCAB members could not join the meeting and quorum was not reached. Given that three of the MCAB Members were present, the decision was made to hold an informative/educational meeting. Again, due to lack of quorum no votes were held or taken.

Additionally, due to technical difficulties, only individuals utilizing the DOH server were able to use the video feature of the Teams platform. All other attendees, including MCAB Members, were forced to login using only the telephone option.

II. Introductory Remarks and (1:26)

Stephanie Richmond PA-C acknowledged the informative/educational meeting of the Medical Cannabis Advisory Board (MCAB) at 9:31 a.m. on May 16, 2023, using a WebEx Events Platform. General instructions were given to panelists and attendees.

III. Roll Call (1:32)

The following persons were present:

Ariele Bauers	(absent)
Mordechai Bronner	(absent)
Rachel Goodman	(absent)
Cynthia Griebler	(absent)
Courtney Marquez	<u>present*</u>
Allen Plymale	<u>present</u>
Stephanie Richmond	<u>present</u>

Traci White

present

(Three of eight Medical Cannabis Advisory Board Members were present at this time, so quorum was not met, and previous minutes could not be voted upon. (3:28))

IV. Medical Cannabis Program (MCP) Update

Patient Services Information: (3:41)

Dr. Dominick Zurlo presented a brief update with regards to the program. The main announcement he wanted to make was regarding the petition to include Insomnia as a qualifying medical condition for enrollment in the Medical Cannabis Program. After acknowledging the efforts of the petitioners and board members, Dr. Zurlo acknowledged that the Secretary of Health, Patrick Allen agreed with the recommendation of the MCAB that insomnia be included as a qualifying condition and that the decision would go into effect on June 1, 2023 (4:43).

Dr. Plymale added that he was very happy to hear about the addition of insomnia to the list of qualifying conditions and that he looked forward to evaluating patients who may qualify under this diagnosis (5:50)

The next item addressed was in regard to a number of rule changes that were going to take place. Given the passage and signing of Senate Bill 242 the expiration date of the MCP Card was changed to two years. Senate Bill 242 also removed the requirement for an annual verification. Additional rule changes would renumber the list of qualifying conditions given the addition of Anxiety and Insomnia. Furthermore, the requirement regarding an in-person evaluation prior to use of telemedicine also needed to be updated given the removal of this requirement with the passage of the CRA (8:30)

Plans to hold a rules-hearing will take place in the upcoming fiscal year. (8:58)

No vote was taken in regard to these rule changes given that quorum was not met. (9:14)

Dr. Plymale asked for clarification on how SB 242 would impact individuals whose were just granted a three-year card.

Dominick replied that the MCP would honor the current expiration date listed on a patient's Medical Cannabis Card and that patients would not have eligibility time deducted from their enrollment.

Courtney Marquez was able to join the meeting. (10:28)*

V. Discussion of Petitions (10:54)

Stephanie Richmond acknowledged that no new petitions were submitted for review by the MCAB. She did encourage those in attendance to submit petitions by following the guidelines outlined on the MCP Website.

VI. Public Comments (11:23)

Candice Abasta from Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Prevention Program asked if the Medical Cannabis Program was going to assist in educating dispensary customers. Candice was concerned by the “skyrocketing” number of Medical Cannabis Cards that were being issued to younger individuals. (13:15)

Michelle Roca asked how often the MCAB meets. (14:42)

Instructions on where to find future meeting time was shared with the attendee.

Attendees were again invited to send in public comments in writing the Medical Cannabis Program’s general email address. (15:35)

Set date for next Medical Cannabis Advisory Board Meeting (16:30)

Stephanie Richmond proposed a potential meeting to be held in October, but at this point in the meeting, only two MCAB Members were present. A presumptive date amongst the two remaining participants was scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

VII. Adjournment (18:06)

Stephanie Richmond PA-C adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Gary J. French, MD/ Medical Director NMDOH MCP

****(Please note that an audiovisual recording of the meeting in its entirety is available for viewing and can be found on the Medical Cannabis Program Webpage. These minutes are a short summary of the meeting’s events and serve to highlight key features of the meeting.)**