



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
**KENTUCKY MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM**  
**TEAM KENTUCKY MEDICAL CANNABIS WORKGROUP**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2024, MEETING**

**I. WELCOME**

The regular meeting of the Team Kentucky Medical Cannabis Workgroup was called to order by Sam Flynn, Executive Director of the Office of Medical Cannabis, on October 23, 2024, at approximately 1:05 PM. The members met virtually via Zoom.

**Workgroup Members Present:**

Sam Flynn, Proxy for Eric Friedlander  
Jamie Link  
Michael Kidd, Proxy for Phillip Burnett  
Marni Gibson  
Tom Miller  
Dorsey Ridley  
Ashley Smith  
Jonathan Hatton  
Julie Cantwell

**Workgroup Members not Present:**

Jeff Noel  
Ashton McKenzie

**Additional Attendees:**

Shelby Lewis, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of Medical Cannabis  
Malaya Rivers, Executive Administrative Secretary, Office of Medical Cannabis  
Approximately 50 Members of the Public

**II. OLD BUISNESS**

The Workgroup voted on the approval of the July 24, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Mr. Link made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Ridley seconded. The motion carried 9-0.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. Report from the Executive Director**

Sam Flynn provided an updated on the progress of the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program. Mr. Flynn reported on the status of cannabis business licensing following the initial application period from July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024. During that time, the Office received 4,998 applications. Mr. Flynn stated that the first licensing lottery will be held on October 28, 2024 for cultivator and processor applicants and will be livestreamed on the Office's YouTube channel.

Mr. Flynn provided an updated on local government ballot initiatives to allow medical cannabis businesses within their jurisdiction. In total, 106 jurisdictions will be voting on this. Mr. Flynn reassured the group that the outcome of these votes will not prohibit cardholders within those jurisdictions from accessing medical cannabis.

#### **b. Update on Law Enforcement Outreach**

Ms. Lewis provided an update on law enforcement outreach from the Office. Significant actions include a memorandum of agreement with the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, which provides funding to the Office to hire a Director of Law Enforcement Outreach to assist with training and education of law enforcement across the Commonwealth.

The Office has also participated in multiple outreach events for law enforcement, including attending the Kentucky Prosecutors Conference and attending multiple Police Executive Command Courses across the Commonwealth.

#### **c. Update on Practitioner Outreach**

Ms. Lewis provided an update on practitioner outreach from the Office, providing details on the webinar series the Office is hosting for physicians and APRNs. The goal of these webinars is to educate these individuals on how they can become an authorized medical cannabis practitioner. The first webinar had over 200 practitioners in attendance, and there are 91 authorized and registered medical cannabis practitioners at this time.

#### **d. Updated on Cannabis Business Licensing**

Mr. Flynn reiterated the information he provided about cannabis business licensing and provided an application breakdown by business type. He also highlighted the Office's first licensees, which are Safety Compliance Facilities. Licensees can be found on the Office's website, [kymedcan.ky.gov](https://kymedcan.ky.gov).

#### **e. Other Business**

None.

#### IV. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Workgroup members and members of the public asked questions.

Ms. Cantwell asked if the date of the dispensary lotteries has been set. Mr. Flynn stated that the applications are still being reviewed and the lottery will be announced in the coming weeks.

Mr. Ridley asked if there are communities, specifically cities, within counties that are voting to allow medical cannabis businesses. Mr. Flynn said there are and could be ticket splits between city and county votes.

A member of the public asked what would happen if a licensee is within a jurisdiction that opts out of medical cannabis businesses. Mr. Flynn stated that the Office has issued guidance on this and that the licensee may request to change the location of their business.

A member of the public asked if any of the 91 medical cannabis practitioner are APRNs. Mr. Flynn answered yes and that there will be a registry on our website in the coming weeks.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cantwell seconded, and the motion carried 9-0 (approximately 1:46 P.M.).

Sam Flynn  
Executive Director  
Office of Medical Cannabis

