



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
**OFFICE OF MEDICAL CANNABIS**  
**BOARD OF PHYSICIANS AND ADVISORS**

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 30, 2024 REGULAR MEETING**

- I. The regular meeting of the Board of Physicians and Advisors was called to order by Sam Flynn, Executive Director of the Office of Medical Cannabis, on October 30, 2024 at approximately 3:04 PM. The members met virtually via Zoom.

Board Members Present:

Frederick Stine, D.O.  
Jodi Wojcik, APRN  
Ryan Grell, M.D.  
Linda McClain, M.D.  
Courtney Turner, M.D.  
AnYu Chen, M.D.  
Charles Roberts, M.D.  
Matt Carrico, PharmD

Board Members Not Present:

Kristin Dawson, M.D.

Additional Attendees:

Sam Flynn, Executive Director of the Office of Medical Cannabis  
Shelby Lewis, Executive Policy Advisor of the Office of Medical Cannabis  
Malaya Rivers, Executive Administrative Secretary of the Office of Medical Cannabis  
Members of the Public

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

The Board voted on the approval of the July 17, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Chair Stine made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dr. Chen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**



**a. Report from Executive Director**

Mr. Flynn provided an update on the Office and business licensing, stating that the first lottery was on October 28, 2024 for cultivator and processor licenses. The lotteries for dispensary licenses will be announced at a later date.

Mr. Flynn also discussed the various outreach events the Office has attended or organized. This included local government outreach, meeting with all of the area development districts, and presenting at the Governor's Local Issues Conference. The Office has also scheduled practitioner outreach webinars and cardholder outreach webinars.

The Office is additionally focusing on law enforcement outreach. The Office had previously presented at the Kentucky Prosecutors Conference, the Kentucky District Judges Conference, and multiple Police Executive Command Courses. Mr. Flynn also announced the \$150,000 grant from the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet to provide law enforcement education and hire a Director of Law Enforcement Outreach.

**b. Presentation on Consumption Methods**

Ms. Lewis gave a presentation on the various consumption methods of medical cannabis. Consumption methods include smoking (prohibited by Kentucky law), vaporization, ingestion, sublingual, and topical and the associated products that are typical for these types of consumption methods. She provided information about the popularity of the different types of products and their respective onset and duration times.

Ms. Lewis provided additional information on the health risks of smoking and vaping medical cannabis. Smoking can negatively affect the immune system and make it more difficult to fight diseases, but smoking cannabis has not been linked with tobacco-related cancers and has not been linked to the development/progression of chronic pulmonary disease. Vaping is generally considered to have fewer risks, and many health risks associated with vaping are due to vitamin E acetate, which is prohibited by Kentucky law.

**c. Review and Approval of Advisory Pamphlet**

Mr. Flynn and Ms. Lewis discussed the Medical Cannabis Advisory Pamphlet, which the Board is responsible for reviewing. Ms. Lewis walked through the various parts of the pamphlet as well as the pamphlet signature page that the dispensaries licensed



through the Office will be required show cardholders. Cardholders must sign the signature page acknowledging they reviewed the pamphlet.

Dr. Dawson, Dr. Stine, Dr. Carrico, and Dr. Grell had some minor edits to the pamphlet prior to approval. Dr. Stine then made a motion to approval the pamphlet with the Board member's edits, and Dr. Chen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**d. Update on Practitioner Outreach**

Mr. Flynn provided an update on practitioner outreach and the upcoming webinars the Office has scheduled. He walked through the general steps on how a practitioner can become authorize and registered to write medical cannabis written certifications and announced that there are currently 101 authorized and registered with our Office.

**e. Update on Cannabis Business Licensing**

Mr. Flynn provided a more detailed update on cannabis business licensing, listing the total number of applications the Office received and broke them down by business types. He provided more details on the licensees selected from the first lottery and the counties that they are located in. Mr. Flynn ended by stating the Governor Beshear will be announcing when the dispensary lotteries will be during the October 31, 2024 Team Kentucky Update.

**f. Other Business**

Mr. Flynn mentioned that the Office will be hosting a New Business Licensee Orientation in January 2025.

**IV. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Dawson asked where patients would be able to find a practitioner. Mr. Flynn stated that the Office is working on a medical cannabis practitioner registry for our website, which potential cardholders will be able to search and find a practitioner near them. They will be able to search by location and by specialty.

Dr. Roberts asked where the qualifying conditions can be listed and how this may work with patients with co-diagnoses. Mr. Flynn let him know he can find the qualifying conditions and that practitioners will be making the decisions on the amount and type of products they allow on a patient's written certification.

Dr. McClain clarified that practitioners don't have to make the original diagnosis. Mr. Flynn confirmed that the practitioners can make a diagnosis and confirm a diagnosis reflected in the patient's medical records.

A member of the public asked how potential employees can become connected with new cannabis businesses. Mr. Flynn stated that the Office is working with the new licensees regarding economic and workforce development opportunities, and that the licensees will be listed on the Office's website, [kymedcan.ky.gov](http://kymedcan.ky.gov).

Ms. Lewis then let the Board members know that she will be sending a 2025 Board meeting scheduled and reminded the Board members to send the Office their preferred mailing address. She additionally mentioned for members of the public to submit comments or questions through the contact us page on our website.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Stine moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Chen seconded, and the motion carried 8-0.



Sam Flynn  
Executive Director  
Office of Medical Cannabis



Dr. Frederick Stine  
Board Chair