



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
OFFICE OF MEDICAL CANNABIS
TEAM KENTUCKY MEDICAL CANNABIS WORKGROUP
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 29, 2026 REGULAR MEETING

- I. The regular meeting of the Team Kentucky Medical Cannabis Workgroup was called to order by Cannon Armstrong, Executive Director of the Office of Medical Cannabis, on April 29, 2026, at 3:00 P.M. The members met virtually via Zoom.

Workgroup Members Present:

Cannon Armstrong, Proxy for Steven J. Stack
Jamie Link
Danielle Milber, Proxy for Jeff Noel
Phillip Burnett
Marni Gibson
Michael Mueller
Dorsey Ridley
Julie Cantwell
Tom Miller

Workgroup Members not Present:

Ashton McKenzie
Ashley Smith
Jonathan Hatton

Additional Attendees:

Cannon Armstrong, Executive Director, Office of Medical Cannabis
Shelby Lewis, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of Medical Cannabis
Kaysha Stoner, Program Coordinator, Office of Medical Cannabis
Members of the Public

II. OLD BUSINESS

The Workgroup voted on the approval of the January 21, 2026 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Dorsey made a motion to approved the minutes, and Mr. Link seconded. The motioned carried 8-0.

III. NEW BUSINESS



a. Report from the Executive Director

Mr. Armstrong provided a brief update on the program, focusing on how cannabis business licensees are continuing to open and produce more and new types of medical cannabis products.

b. Presentation on Office Updates

Ms. Lewis gave a presentation with various updates from the Office, beginning with medical cannabis practitioners. As of April 24, 2026, there are 461 total authorized and registered medical cannabis practitioners in the Commonwealth, compared to 433 at the January 21, 2026 meeting.

As of April 24, 2026, approximately 21,500 patient applications have been approved, compared to 17,800 noted at the previous meeting. Additionally, Ms. Lewis noted that over 4,100 cardholders have applied for renewal applications with over 3,800 being approved.

Ms. Lewis provided additional dispensary updates, noting that there are now thirteen (13) dispensaries approved to operate across the Commonwealth. These dispensaries are receiving new product types from licensed processors, such as various concentrates and vaporizers, in addition to more strains of raw plant material and types edibles becoming available.

Ms. Lewis ended her presentation with an overview of the legislative session and of the Public Safety Brochure regarding accidental exposure and ingestion of medical cannabis that is in the process of being approved by the Board of Physicians and Advisors. Mr. Armstrong provided additional information regarding the legislative session, and how there were discussions regarding expanding the qualifying medical conditions and eliminating the notarized signature forms, but that there was a general lack of appetite to change anything for the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program at this time.

c. Other Business

Mr. Armstrong provided a brief update on federal changes, including a new pathway for medical cannabis to become a Schedule 3 drug rather than a Schedule 1 drug, and that the business licensees are now required to register with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

IV. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ridley asked if the Office would be impacted by any of the legislative budget cuts. Mr. Armstrong answered that the Office received the majority of the budget that the



Office asked for, and that the Office has additional funding available from both business and cardholder licensing fees.

Mr. Ridley also asked about banking, and how the cannabis businesses handle banking as he assumed it was an all-cash business. Mr. Armstrong answered that yes, these businesses accept both cash and debit, and that they work with banks within the state to deposit the cash. Ms. Gibson also provided that banks treat these deposits like any other “risky” payments, and that the Department of Financial Institutions has published guidance for banks who wish to work with cannabis business licensees.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Link moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ridley seconded, and the motion carried 9-0 (approximately 3:42 P.M.).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal stroke.

Cannon Armstrong
Executive Director
Office of Medical Cannabis