

Cannabis Control Board Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2021

Chair calls to order meeting at 9:30am. Board members in attendance:

- James Pepper, Chair
- Julie Hulburd
- Kyle Harris

Minutes recorded by James Pepper.

Administrative details: Chair Pepper mentions that the Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act has been introduced federally and encouraged members of the public to review it. He notes that the Board is hiring an Administrative Services Coordinator and a General Counsel and indicates how one can go about applying.

The Chair makes introductory comments and asks for a motion to approve the minutes from the 7/13 meeting. Hulburd moves, Harris seconds. Vote is 3-0-0 to approve the minutes.

The Board's first witnesses are TJ Poor, Director of Efficiency & Energy Resources at the Vermont Public Service Department and Barry Murphy, Energy Program Specialist at the Vermont Public Service Department. They provide the Board an overview of the Public Service Department and review specific recommendations the Department provided the Board pursuant to Act 164 (2020). The Board then hears from Lauren Morlino, Emerging Technologies & Services Manager at Efficiency Vermont and David Westman, Director of Regulatory Affairs at Efficiency Vermont. They provide information regarding the energy demands of cannabis cultivation and review their incentive programs and best practices with respect to cannabis cultivation. The Chair opens the floor for public comment. Members of the public submit comment via Microsoft Teams and phone. The Board then hears from Billy Coster, Director of Planning at the Agency of Natural Resources about how cannabis cultivation and cannabis establishments may impact ANR's jurisdiction.

After public comment and a lunch break, the Board hears from Ryan Patch, Deputy Director of Water Quality at Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. He discusses how cannabis cultivation might implicate certain aspects of the Required Agricultural Practices and Water Quality rules. The Board then hears from Matt Leonetti regarding Clean Green and the importance of third-party certifications. The Board then hears from Jacob Policzer, Director of Science & Strategy at The Cannabis Conservancy. He discusses a number of energy policy considerations and how other states have approached them. The Board's final witness, Sam Bromberg of Mountain Fire Farm, discusses regulatory strategies the Board should consider to ensure equitable access to the cannabis marketplace. The Board again takes public comment through Microsoft Teams and phone.

Chair Pepper asks for a motion to authorize executive Brynn Hare to negotiate a contract with the two finalists for consulting services VS Strategies and the National Association of Cannabis Businesses. Member Hulburd moves, Harris seconds. Vote is 3-0-0 in favor. At approximately 3:25, Chair Pepper asks for a motion to adjourn. Member Hulburd moves, Harris seconds. Vote is 3-0-0 to adjourn.