

## Cannabis Control Board Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2024

Chair calls the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Board members in attendance:

- James Pepper, Chair
- Julie Hulburd

Minutes recorded by Patrick Crowley.

Chair Pepper began the meeting with remarks about the closure of Ceres and noted the board's commitment to keeping patient access open with the potential opening of another medical dispensary in Winooski up for board consideration today.

The Chair also mentioned the lawsuit regarding advertising rules which is scheduled for its first hearing in January.

The Chair announced that all four draft rules with proposed amendments were approved by ICAR, the first step in rulemaking. The rules will be up for public comment in early 2025.

The Chair then entertained a motion to approve the Minutes from the previous regular Board meeting as well as legislative working sessions. Commissioner Hulburd made one proposed change to note that she left executive sessions to recuse herself from any discussions about Cannaciello. Hulburd moved, Pepper seconded. Vote was 2-0-1 to approve the minutes.

The Chair opened the floor to public comment at 1:11 p.m. Members of the public submitted comments via Microsoft Teams. Pepper closed the public comment window at 1:15 p.m.

The Chair then turned it over to Olga Fitch, who delivered the Executive Director report. The Executive Director's report included a summary of public engagement events, licensing data, product registration data, and compliance data. The report also included a list of licensing recommendations and late renewal applications.

Hulburd moved to accept staff recommendations, motion seconded by Pepper. Vote was 2-0-1 in favor of accepting staff recommendations.



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The Board took up consideration of an application by an incumbent licensee to add/change their operating location, FWR Inc., Grassroots. The licensee plans to operate an adult-use and medical dispensary at a combined location in Winooski.

Hulburd moved to accept application, seconded by Pepper. Vote was 2-0-1 in favor of application.

General Counsel Gilman then reviewed the background on two requests for rule waivers. Current rules prohibit disposable vapes and plastic packaging. Recently, some manufacturers have written to the board about a new device, made of PLA plastic that is industrially compostable and has removable lithium ion batteries.

Gilman said the board has a few options: waive the rules related to these vape device completely, deny the waiver, or the board could run a limited pilot program and address in new rules in 2025.

Following Board discussion, Hulburd moved to authorize CCB staff to develop a takeback pilot program for PLA and battery-removeable vape devices and to give staff the ability to grant waivers to manufacturers who submit products that match conditions. Pepper seconded. Vote was 2-0-1 in favor of pilot.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Video recording:

[Recording of Meeting on 10/24/2023](#)

Adult-Use and Medical Program Application Register and Executive Director Report:

[Application Register](#) | [Executive Director Report](#)

