



State of Rhode Island  
CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION  
560 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02806

**Cannabis Control Commission**

**Open Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, July 20, 2023  
**Time:** 9:30  
**Place:** Roger Williams University School of Law  
The Hon. Bruce M. Selya Appellate Courtroom – Room 283  
10 Metacom Avenue  
Bristol, RI 02809

**Members Present:** Chair Kimberly R. Ahern, Esq.  
Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard, Esq.\*  
Commissioner Olayiwola Oduyingbo, Esq.

**Members Absent:** None

Chairperson Ahern called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

The first order of business was:

**Welcome and Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson**

Chairperson Ahern welcomed everyone present to the first meeting of the Cannabis Control Commission Listening Session.

She stated that the meeting is being live streamed through Zoom for viewing purposes only. She stated that they hoped to be able to receive public comment through Zoom at a later date.

Public comments are welcomed from those present and will be limited to 5 minutes each. There is a sign in sheet for anyone wishing to speak.

The next order of business was:

**Introduction of Dean Gregory Bowman, of Roger Williams School of Law who addressed the body with welcoming remarks.**

The next order of business was:

**Committee introductions by Chairperson Ahern**

Chairperson Ahern, Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard, Esq. and Commissioner Olayiwola Oduyingbo, Esq. introduced themselves.

Chairperson Ahern advised that if you are interested in getting notifications of future meetings, please email the Office of Cannabis Regulation at [dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov](mailto:dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov) to be added to their interested parties list.

The next order of business was:

**Motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting held on June 29, 2023.  
Minutes unanimously approved.**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Jacquard and duly seconded by Commissioner Oduyingbo it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Minutes from June 29, 2023.

The next order of business was:

### **Public Comments**

In total, 12 people provided comments on the following topics:

- Terpenoid content testing and labeling, the mandatory information on all cannabis product labels. Information not being transmitted from producers to patients/consumers.
- Remediation of the product causing inaccuracies in the product labeling. This results in payment for product that is not accurate in its effectiveness. Low quality product.
- The benefits of growing cannabis outside. Outdoor growing reduces the large carbon footprint left by indoor growers.
- Equity concerns within the Cannabis industry.
- RI tax laws for worker-owned Cooperative (worker-owned businesses), taxes on rolling papers (vice-tax vs medicinal use).
- Concerns about laws, compliance checks, loopholes and usage for the underage community.
- Lack of balance in the industry
- High licensing fees
- Quicker set up for the Advisory Board

There were no other comments.

\*Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard left the meeting at 10:20 am.

The next order of business was:

### **Next Meeting Date**

Chairperson Ahern reported the CCC will be hosting another Listening Session at the Public Utilities Commission office in Warwick, 89 Jefferson Boulevard from 1 – 3pm.

### **Adjournment**

Upon motion made by Chair Ahern and duly seconded by Commissioner Oduyingbo, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 10:34 am.

If you would like access to view this meeting electronically through the recording, please e-mail [CCCinquiry@ccc.ri.gov](mailto:CCCinquiry@ccc.ri.gov) to request.