



State of Rhode Island  
**CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION**  
560 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

**Cannabis Control Commission**

**Open Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** Friday, November 10, 2023

**TIME:** 1:00 PM

**PLACE:** Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02886

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Kimberly R. Ahern, Esq.  
Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard, Esq.  
Commissioner Olayiwola Oduyingbo, Esq.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mariana Ormonde, Chief of Legal Services, Cannabis Control Commission  
Kelsey McQueeney, Administrative Officer, Cannabis Control Commission  
Matthew Touchette, Director of Public Affairs, Rhode Island Commerce

Chairperson Ahern called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

The first order of business was:

**Motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting held on November 3, 2023.**

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

**VOTED:** To approve the Open Session Minutes from November 3, 2023.

The next order of business was:

**Executive Session**

At 1:03 p.m., upon motion made by Commissioner Oduyingbo and duly seconded by Commissioner Jacquard it was unanimously voted:

**Motion to go into Executive Session, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1) for the following matter:**

1. Review, discuss and potential vote to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on November 3, 2023, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1).

At 1:05 p.m. the Commission reconvened in Open Session.

The next order of business was:

**Motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on November 10, 2023**

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

VOTED: To seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on November 10, 2023 pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-46-5(a)(1)

The next item of business was:

**Report out on activities/votes taken in Executive Session**

Chairperson Ahern reported the following Commission action(s):

1. That the Commission reviewed and discussed the meeting minutes from Executive Session held on November 3, 2023. A unanimous vote was cast to approve the minutes.

The next order of business was:

**A presentation by Mariana Ormonde, Chief of Legal Services for the Cannabis Control Commission. The presentation included:**

- An overview of statutory provisions governing the Cannabis Advisory Board.
- How appointments to the Cannabis Advisory Board were made.
- The relationship between the Board and the Cannabis Control Commission.
- The roles and responsibilities of the Board.
- The work of the Board and breakdown of the Board's subcommittees.

The next item of business was:

**Updates from the Chairperson, with specific focus on the following:**

- Chairperson gave update on Rhode Island's labor market growth in labor force and economic performance, with focus on the state's low unemployment rate.

- Setting the Commission’s annual open meetings calendar of regularly scheduled meetings for 2024.
- Response to the public comment question from the November 3, 2023 open meeting on data inquiry to the Office of Cannabis Regulation website regarding unaffiliated and affiliated cultivator definitions. Clarified that unaffiliated referred to cultivator to compassion center transfers, while affiliated refers to internal transfers made by vertically integrated compassion centers.
- Update as to regulatory goals for the calendar year 2024.

The next order of business was:

**Public Comment (in person only):**

There was no public comment.

The next order of business was:

**Next Meeting Date: November 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the Adams Public Library, 205 Central Street, Central Falls, R.I. 02863.**

The next order of business was:

**Adjournment**

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

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 1:31 p.m.