

**Minutes
Iowa Medical Cannabidiol Board
Friday, November 19, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order

Mike McKelvey, Chair

The November 19, 2021 Iowa Medical Cannabidiol Board meeting was officially called to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Mike McKelvey, Chair

Cpt. Mike McKelvey – Law Enforcement	Vacant – Gastroenterologist
Dr. Bob Shreck – Oncology	Vacant - Neurologist
Dr. Lonny Miller – Family Medicine	Vacant - Pediatrics
Dr. Stephen Richards – Pharmacist	Vacant - Psychiatry
Dr. Jacqueline Stoken – Pain Management	
Sarah Reisetter – Deputy Director	
Owen Parker – Bureau Chief	
Joseph Husak – Program Manager	

3. Approval of Minutes

Mike McKelvey, Chair

Dr. Stoken made a motion to approve the August 20, 2021 minutes, with a second by Dr. Miller.

A verbal vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment Period

Mike McKelvey, Chair

- **Maggie Ballard** - Maggie is a certified prevention specialist. Maggie appreciated the Board's medical focus of the program. Maggie discussed and clarified her credentials, and concerns she has heard about youth access and anecdotal reports of the benefits of medical cannabis.
- **John Fenner** - John spoke to board comments about potentially limiting veteran eligibility for the reduced fee based on their type of service. John spoke in support of all veterans being eligible for the reduced fee option. John spoke in support of additional seats with differing opinions being added to the Board. John thanked the Board for their work.
- **Sandy Rayhons** - Sandy is a prevention specialist and focuses on youth. Sandy spoke to the limited intent of the program and how higher-potency products are now available. She expressed concern with the commercialization of IA's program and the normalization of cannabis at large. Sandy thanked the Board for their work.
- **Jennifer Huseman** - Jennifer is a prevention specialist. Jennifer shared an anecdote of the effects that high dose and frequency recreational cannabis use may have on youth.
- **Dr. Cline-Campbell** - Dr. Cline-Campbell spoke to the importance of education for patients, practitioners and stakeholders. She spoke to the benefit that she's seen in her patients with spastic conditions and chronic pain. She spoke to an awareness of some practitioners not prescribing narcotics for pain patients certified for medical cannabidiol, and that medical cannabis can be used in conjunction with narcotics. She described how many of her patients have seen improvements in their quality of life, but that the cost of the products is prohibitive.
- **Lorelle Mueting** - Lorelle is a prevention specialist, and discussed her credentials serving the community. She spoke about the original intent of the program and the expansions that have been made. She urged the Board to proceed with caution with their recommendations.
- **Trent Walker** - Trent serves on a narcotics task force in Council Bluffs, IA. Trent spoke to difficulties with law enforcement education as regulations evolve. He spoke to the current prevalence of illicit use of cannabis in different forms, and reduction in the stigma around its use. He spoke about his experience encountering users of cannabis in the field.
- **Carl Olsen** - Carl expressed support for requesting a federal exemption for IA's program from the DEA. Carl thanked the Board for their work.
- **Jason Karimi** - Jason spoke in support of expanding the program, and cited demographic information about older persons being a significant portion of the patient population. He spoke about the lack of reports of diversion and low renewal rates.

5. Program Updates

Owen Parker, Bureau Chief

a. Board Seat Vacancy Update

Owen explained that interviews for the seats of Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Neurology had been conducted by the Governor's Office, and expressed optimism that there would be new members by the first meeting of 2022.

b. Data Review and Update

Owen explained that year-over-year data on key program metrics had generally increased.

c. New Dispensaries Update

Owen explained that the new dispensaries in Iowa City and Council Bluffs were now operational.

d. CANNRA Medical Use and Research Update

Owen explained how the committee now had >60 members, with representation from most medical programs and Canada. He explained some of the initial projects the committee was planning.

Dr. Shreck commented on having an in-person meeting to introduce the new Board Members, and the potential of that meeting being in Iowa City or Eastern Iowa.

6. Recommendations - 2021 Annual Report to the Legislature **Owen Parker, Sarah Reisetter**

a. Amending the name of the program to “The Medical Cannabis Act”

Owen explained how the necessity for this recommendation was well-documented.

Dr. Miller made a motion to approve the recommendation to rename the program, with a second by Dr. Richards. A roll call vote was taken, and was unanimously approved.

b. Additional Dispensaries

This recommendation was in lieu of a 2020 recommendation to explore a satellite delivery option. Dr. Shreck asked how this would be done, and Owen explained the specific number would need to be changed or additional authority granted to the Department to issue additional licenses. Dr. Shreck spoke in support of granting authority to the Department to issue licenses based on demand of the market. Deputy Director Reisetter commented on the requirement to take geographic distribution into account, and whether the Board would like to retain that requirement. Cpt. McKelvey spoke in support of allowing the Department to take geographic location into account, Dr. Shreck concurred.

A motion was made to approve the recommendation to allow more dispensaries, with discretion given to the Department to issue licenses based on market demand, with consideration of geographic distribution of the licenses in would-be RFPs.

A motion to approve was made by Dr. Richards, with a second by Dr. Shreck. A roll call vote was taken, and was unanimously approved.

c. Veterans inclusion in the reduced application fee option

Owen explained that veterans are currently ineligible for the reduced fee option.

A motion was made by Dr. Shreck, with a second from Dr. Miller. A roll call vote was taken, and was unanimously approved.

d. Exemption of Medical Cannabidiol products from sales tax

A motion was made by Dr. Stoken to approve the recommendation, with a second from Dr. Richards. A roll call vote was taken, and was unanimously approved.

e. Addition of New Board Seats, reflection of new disciplines under HF2589

Owen explained how the licensure requirements of PAs and ARNPs do not line up with the requirements of 124E, and that new seats would need to be created for these disciplines to participate in the Board. Owen explained how it would make it an 11 member Board. Dr. Shreck spoke to the benefit of adding these disciplines to the Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Shreck to approve the motion, with a second by Dr. Stoken. A roll call vote was taken, and was unanimously approved.

f. Additional Recommendations Discussion

Dr. Richards commented on practitioners certifying patients via telemedicine and a dedicated service. Owen explained that there currently is no prohibition for this. Cpt. McKelvey asked if telemedicine still allows for certification of a waiver. Owen explained that it does, assuming the practitioner is the original certifier of the patient.

7. Future Meetings

Mike McKelvey, Chair

- a. February 11, 2022
- b. May 20, 2022
- c. August 12, 2022
- d. November 18, 2022

8. Adjourn

Mike McKelvey, Chair

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Richards, seconded by Dr. Miller. A verbal vote was taken: Motion carried unanimously. The meeting officially adjourned at 11:23 a.m

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