

Meeting Minutes  
Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission

---

Thursday, June 1, 2023; 4:30 p.m.  
1515 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Streamed Via [www.myarkansaspbs.org/arcan](http://www.myarkansaspbs.org/arcan)

---

James Miller, Chairman  
J.P. Mobley  
Tyler Ketner

Kevin Case  
Reggie Thomas

---

The Medical Marijuana Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman James Miller. Chairman Miller, Case, and Ketner appeared in person with Commissioner Mobley and Thomas<sup>1</sup> appearing via the Go-To link. The first item of business was approval of the minutes. After reviewing the minutes Commissioner Miller moved the minutes be approved with the amendment to reflect that attorney Abtin Mehdizadegan had not been permitted to speak regarding renewal of license number 00065, River Valley Relief. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Case, and passed 4-0.

The next item on the agenda was introduction of the new Attorney General's office for Board and Agencies, Julie Chavis. Ms. Chavis introduced herself at this meeting, as she did not introduce herself formally at the last month's meeting. Ms. Chavis reiterated the commission's obligation for the two renewal applications on the agenda for today's meeting was purely ministerial. Ms. Chavis stated she and staff had previously vetted the renewal applications which were in order. Further, she told the commission that the renewal was presumed and that the renewal applications were in order.

Ms. Chavis further addressed the matter of correspondence sent directly to Commissioners from attorney Mehdizadegan. The letter was highly unusual and unprofessional, the Commission is represented by the Attorney General's office and the Rules of Professional Conduct mandate that attorneys not contact represented parties, such as the commission, without notifying their attorney. Attorney Mehdizadegan's letter is particularly unethical because he unilaterally advises the Commission to terminate the Attorney General's office representation. Further, Ms. Chavis informed the Commission that she had already

---

<sup>1</sup> Commissioner Thomas was not present for approval of minutes or the transfer application for permit 00117. He was present for the remainder of the meeting.

contacted attorney Mehdizadegan and advised him to not contact the Commission directly without notice to her. She told the Commission that the letter constituted impermissible *ex parte* communication.

Ms. Chavis also advised the Commission that it would be a violation of the Arkansas Supreme Court *supersedeas* should the Commission fail to renew the permit for River Valley Cultivation. Failure to do so could result in contempt of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

#### Transfer Applications

The next matter of business was a transfer of location application submitted by license 00117, The Greenery. Commissioner Miller recused from the proceedings. Commissioner Ketner made a motion to approve the transfer which was seconded by Commissioner Case and passed by a vote of 3-0.

The Commission next considered the transfer application submitted by NEA Full Spectrum, license 00029. The matter had been tabled from the previous month's agenda. Attorney Annie Depper, representing CROP dispensary spoke against the transfer. She stated the primary issue was the location of Families Inc. which is located less than 1000' away from the proposed location for NEA. Commissioner Thomas expressed concern about dispensaries moving back and forth. Commissioner Thomas then made a motion to deny the transfer, the motion did not receive a second. Commissioner Ketner then moved to approve the transfer and that motion was seconded by Commissioner Case, and was approved 3-2.

#### Permit Renewals

The next matter was renewal of license 00338, Morph Cannabis. Director Olson affirmed staff had reviewed the application for renewal. Commissioner Ketner made a motion to approve the renewal which was seconded by Commissioner Thomas. The application was approved by vote of 5-0.

The Commission next considered license 00065, which had been tabled from the previous month's agenda. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve the renewal application which was seconded by Commissioner Ketner. The commission approved by a vote of 3-2.

#### Administrative Matters

The next meeting was scheduled for July 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.