

Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission December 20, 2016

On the 20th day of December, 2016 the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission (AMMC) convened at Little Rock, Arkansas. In attendance were the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commissioners: Dr. Ronda Henry-Tillman, Commissioner, Dr. Stephen J. Carroll, Travis W. Story, Esq., James Miller, and Dr. J. Carlos Roman.

Commissioner Tillman called the meeting to order.

The Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes from the December 12, 2016 meeting of the AMMC. Commissioner Story noted that the minutes did not state which commissioner made the motion to grant the AMMC a stipend of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per day for each meeting attended or for any day while performing any proper business of the AMMC. Commissioner Story stated that he made the motion, and Commissioner Miller provided the second. Commissioner Story asked that the 12/12/16 minutes be amended to reflect this. Commissioner Tillman agreed. A motion was made to accept the minutes, the motion received a second, and the minutes were approved, as amended.

The commissioners discussed the approach they want to take in accomplishing their duties under the Amendment. Commissioner Story expressed concerns for the cultivation facilities and their economic success, and stated he preferred issuing four (4) license for cultivation facilities. Commissioner Tillman expressed concerns about having facilities to serve all areas of the state. Commissioner Roman discussed having cultivation facilities in each congressional district of Arkansas. Commissioner Tillman also noted there are five (5) public health regions for the state. Commissioner Story distributed a map of the Arkansas congressional districts, and Commissioner Tillman said she would obtain a map showing the public health districts. Commissioner Roman made a motion to limit the number of initial cultivation licenses issued to five (5), with one (1) cultivation license to be issued in each public health district. His motion received a second. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2.

Commissioner Tillman stated she thinks the AMMC needs to put together a statement of understanding about what a cultivation facility looks like. Commissioner Roman expressed concerns about requirements for security. He suggested traveling to existing facilities so that the AMMC can get an idea of what these facilities look like. Commissioner Carroll raised the issue of testing the marijuana products. Commissioner Story stated he prefers a narrow definition of cultivation facility. Commissioner Roman expressed concerns about the potency and quality of products produced by cultivation facilities.

Commissioner Tillman requested that someone make a motion for the commissioners to visit a cultivation facility. Commissioner Roman made a motion to inquire about the possibility of obtaining a travel budget for the AMMC to visit existing facilities in other states. Commissioner Story seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0. Joel DiPippa, Senior Counsel for the Department of Finance and Administration – Revenue Legal Counsel advised the AMMC that research will be conducted to determine if there are funds available for the AMMC to visit an existing facility. Mr. DiPippa also advised that facilities and

commissions in other states could be identified to ensure they get the information they are seeking without incurring a waste of funds or resources.

The AMMC discussed the constitutional timelines established under the amendment. Mr. DiPippa advised the AMMC they need to have a somewhat polished set of rules available to post for public comment by the end of January in order to meet the rules promulgation deadline of March 9.

Mr. DiPippa advised the AMMC on steps they need to take with regard to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act in terms of promulgating their rules.

The AMMC set their next meeting for Thursday December 22, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. An additional meeting was scheduled for Tuesday December 27, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

Dr. Ronda Henry-Tillman, Chairperson