

Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

This meeting was held in person and virtually. This meeting was recorded. An audio copy of this recording can be found on the Utah Public Notice Website (<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/>). Visit the board's website for more information on past meeting minutes and agendas (<https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/>).

Attendees

Board members attending: Kent Andersen, Nanette Berezhnyy, Cami Clark, CMHC, Desiree Hennessy, J. D. Lauritzen, Matthew Page, and Misty Smith, PhD.

Board members excused: Chris Morgan, APRN.

DHHS/UDAF staff attending: Richard Oborn, Trevor Eckhoff, Dr. Brandon Forsyth, and Cody James.

Agenda

1. Welcome

Ms. Hennessy acknowledged that there was a quorum so the meeting could proceed at approximately 2:01 pm and read the [introduction script](#).

2. Board approval of [September 2025 minutes](#)

Ms. Hennessy asked the board if there were any proposed changes to the September 16, 2025 minutes. There were no changes proposed. Mr. Andersen motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Berezhnyy seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the September 2025 minutes.

• Administrative business

- Ms. Hennessy introduced potential bylaws changes. The board discussed the possible changes to the bylaws and asked clarifying questions..
 - i. The board took the following action on this agenda item.
 - 1. Vote: To amend the bylaws based on the discussion held.

2. Motioned: Mr. Lauritzen
 3. Second: Mr. Andersen
 4. Voice vote: unanimous.
- Matt Page announced his resignation and a search for his replacement.
 - Jimmy Higgs also submitted his resignation and was not in attendance.

3. DHHS and UDAF update

- DHHS updates: Mr. Oborn informed the board about:
 - i. DHHS proposals for the 2026 legislative session;
 - ii. New Center for Medical Cannabis (CMC) resources for individuals who want to know more about the medical cannabis program, how to become a recommending medical provider, and a one-page version of the patient product information insert;
 - iii. Research opportunities with the University of Utah Center for Medical Cannabis Research;
 - iv. Upcoming presentations:
 1. November 7, 2025 at a Utah Academy of Family Physicians conference;
 2. November 12, 2025 at the Rural Health Association of Utah annual conference;
 - v. Patient and provider newsletter updates; and
 - vi. Patient and provider participant statistics.
- UDAF updates: Dr. Forsyth informed the board about:
 - i. The expected launch of the new inventory control system in February, 2026;
 - ii. Awarding a new rural medical cannabis pharmacy license; and
 - iii. UDAF proposals for the 2026 legislative session.

4. Medical cannabis education, cont.

Mr. Lauritzen discussed his memo on his proposed changes to statute regarding allowing UDAF to conduct public education about cannabis. The board discussed the proposal and which entities should conduct certain types of education.

The following public members gave comments on this agenda item:

- Chase Angelo Giles, representing himself.

The board took the following action on this agenda item.

- Vote: Recommend the following statutory changes:
 - To [UCA 4-41\(a\)-104](#):
 - (4) The department may only use money in the fund to:
 - (a) fund the department's implementation of this chapter; and
 - (b) educate medical cannabis production establishment licensees, medical cannabis medical cannabis pharmacy licensees, medical cannabis courier licensees, and the public regarding topics related to cannabis as determined by the department.
 - To [UCA 4-41a-110](#):
 - (3) consult with the advisory board regarding:
 - (a) fees set by the department that pertain to the medical cannabis program; and
 - (b) the education described in Section 4-41a-104; and
 - Motioned: Mr. Lauritzen
 - Second: Mr. Page
 - Roll call vote:
 - Kent Andersen: Yes
 - Nanette Berezhnyy: Yes
 - Cami Clark: Yes
 - Desiree Hennessy: Yes
 - JD Lauritzen: Yes
 - Matthew Page: Yes
 - Misty Smith: Yes
 - The motion passed unanimously.

- **Medical Cannabis THC potency.**

Ms. Hennessy updated the board about a discussion regarding THC potency during the October 14, 2025 Medical Cannabis Governance Structure Working Group meeting. She reiterated her points from the Working Group meeting, stating that there is no evidence a lack of THC potency restrictions is causing harm. The board discussed the topic and the need for education and data.

The following public members gave comments on this agenda item:

- Chase Angelo Giles, representing himself.
- Blake Smith with Zion Pharmaceuticals,
- Kale Lopez with Block Farmacy
- Mindy Madeo with Beehive Farmacy.

The board took the following action on this agenda item.

- Vote: Recommend that Utah's existing purchase limits – 113 grams of usable cannabis flower and 20 grams of THC in composite form per 28-day period – remain unchanged and not be lowered unless credible, science-based evidence shows a need to protect patient safety or public health, oppose any additional limitations on cannabinoid potency or form factors without evidence-based justification, and that any concerns regarding dosage continue to be managed through these existing limits.
 - Motioned: Ms. Hennessey
 - Second: Ms. Berezhny
 - Roll call vote:
 - Kent Andersen: Yes
 - Nanette Berezhny: Yes
 - Cami Clark: Yes
 - Desiree Hennessy: Yes
 - JD Lauritzen: Yes
 - Matthew Page: Yes
 - Misty Smith: Yes
 - The motion passed unanimously.

5. Low-THC production medical cannabis pharmacies

Dr. Forsyth commented about confusion regarding the legality of products with less than 0.3% THC and apologized for an email prematurely sent to licensees in September. Mr. Page discussed his [memo](#), advocating to change the definition for a cannabis product in 26B-4-201(8). Mr. James spoke on UDAF's interpretation of the definition and their concern over not causing more confusion between what is hemp versus cannabis and concerns about interstate commerce. Dr. Forsyth stated they would do more research and get back to the board.

The following public members gave comments on this agenda item:

- Mindy Madeo with Beehive Farmacy.
- Chase Angelo Giles, representing himself.

The board took the following action on this agenda item.

- Vote: Table the agenda item.
 - Motioned: Matt page

- Second: J. D. Lauritzen
- Voice vote: the motion passed unanimously.

6. Future topics for board discussion

Ms. Hennessy asked the board about its future priorities. Ms. Berezhnyy advocated for a future discussion on expanding qualifying conditions.

Mr. Lauritzen recommended having a discussion about allowing recommending medical providers to recommend medical cannabis for any condition. He also advocated for no limit on medical cannabis form factors.

7. Adjourn

Mr. Page motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to end the meeting. The meeting ended at approximately 4:05 pm.