



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 10:00 am
This meeting was held in a hybrid environment

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Vollendroff called the regular meeting of the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to order at 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 26, 2025. Member Ollie Garrett and Member Pete Holmes were also present.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Member Garrett made a motion to approve the March 1, 15, & 29, 2023 Board Meeting minutes; March 7, 14, & 28, 2023 Caucus minutes; and March 8, 2023 EMT minutes. Member Holmes seconded. The motion was approved.

3. RULEMAKING TIMELINES – ALL INDUSTRIES

Daniel Jacobs, Acting Policy and Rules Manager

Daniel Jacobs introduced the action items for the meeting. Jacobs noted that there is an open public comment period for the Supplemental CR 102 for Cannabis Sampling which will have a public hearing on March 12, and highlighted other upcoming activities.

4. CANNABIS RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM 4A – Rules Petition Review and Consideration of Social Equity in Cannabis
Daniel Jacobs, Acting Policy and Rules Manager

Daniel began the briefing with materials (HANDOUT 4A) and provided information on a petition for rulemaking submitted by Marc Elkins to amend WAC 314-55-570 on the social equity in cannabis program to “prohibit any current cannabis retail license holder from participating or owning any interest in any [social equity] licensed business or being a financier of any [social equity] licensed business.”

Rulemaking to implement E2SSB 5080, an act relating to expanding and improving the social equity in cannabis program, began on November 8, 2023, and had several rounds of surveys and extensive stakeholder engagement, numerous Board meetings where the Board received public feedback on the project, and extensive discussions that included topics related to social equity ownership. The final rule changes were effective January 18, 2025.

The Director's Office recommends the Board deny the petition to amend WAC 314-55-570 to modify the social equity in cannabis program due to the agency completing a comprehensive rulemaking process to amend WAC 314-55-570 to implement Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5080, which became effective January 18, 2025, as well as maintaining alignment with RCW 69.50.325(3)(b).

Member Holmes made a motion to accept the recommendation to deny the petition. Member Garrett seconded. The motion was approved.

**ACTION ITEM 4B – Board Approval of CR 102 to Implement Second Substitute House Bill 2151 (2024) regarding the Transfer of Cannabis Lab Accreditation
Denise Laflamme, Policy and Rules Coordinator**

Denise began the briefing with materials (HANDOUT 4B) and requested approval to file a rule proposal to amend and repeal sections of chapter 314-55 WAC in order to implement 2SHB 2151 and HB 1859 related to the transfer of cannabis testing laboratory quality standards and accreditation to the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA).

The Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) is responsible for certifying private cannabis testing labs in Washington who meet accreditation criteria. Initially, LCB was responsible for the regulation and oversight of cannabis testing laboratories, and established standards and accreditation processes to ensure the safety and quality of cannabis products. In 2019, the Legislature shifted the responsibility for accreditation from LCB to the Department of Ecology and established a task force to collaborate on the development of appropriate lab quality standards for cannabis product testing laboratories. LCB would continue to certify labs to operate.

Over time the authority over lab accreditation changed from Ecology to WSDA. The agency held two stakeholder feedback sessions and received public feedback.

Changes were made to rule language to reflect the transfer of laboratory quality standards and accreditation to WSDA, to consolidate and clarify LCB laboratory certification requirements, and for consistency or to align with other rulemaking.

Member Garrett made a motion to approve the CR 102 to Implement SSHB 2151 regarding the Transfer of Cannabis Lab Accreditation. Member Holmes seconded. The motion was approved.

**ACTION ITEM 4C – Hearing Regarding CR 102 for Minors on Non-Retail Cannabis Licensed Premises
Denise Laflamme, Policy and Rules Coordinator**

Denise provided a summary of the CR 102 to allow certain persons under the age of 21 on non-retail licensed premises of cannabis producers and processors, and reviewed the process leading to the public hearing. This rulemaking pertains to proposed changes to WAC 314-55-015, which requires that applicants, licensees, and employees working in each licensed establishment be at

least 21 years of age. No one under 21 years of age may enter or remain on a cannabis licensed premises except as provided in RCW 69.50.357.

The proposed rules allow two groups of minors on the licensed premises of producers & processors under certain conditions. Children and grandchildren of licensees who are under 16 years of age as long as they do not enter or remain in areas where cannabis is present, they are under direct supervision of the licensee while on the premises, and licensee must notify the enforcement and education division of the LCB prior to child(ren) being present. And employees of licensed or registered contractors who are between the ages of 18 and 20 years, provided that they are only on premises during the course of their official employment, indicate on the visitor log their business name and that they are under 21, wear an identification badge as required under WAC 314-55-083, and are accompanied by a supervisor at all times who is 1) employed by the same licensed or registered contractor, and 2) who is at least 21 years of age.

Chair Vollendroff opened the public hearing and invited citizens to address the Board. The Board heard from the following people:

Jennifer Wick
Caitlein Ryan
Bethany Rondeaux
Doug Henderson
Mike Asai
William Dougherty

For full detail of public comment, the meeting recording is available on the LCB website.

Chair Vollendroff closed the public hearing and thanked everyone for their input.

ACTION ITEM 4D – Hearing Regarding CR 102 to Implement Senate Bill 5376 Regarding Sales of Cannabis Waste

Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator

Jeff provided brief background that Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5376 allows for a licensed cannabis producer or processor to sell cannabis plant waste that has a THC concentration of 0.3% or less, such as cannabis plant roots and stalks, to a person who is not a cannabis licensee under certain conditions: the cannabis waste is not designated as hazardous waste; the licensee notifies the board and the Washington State Department of Agriculture before the sale, and the licensee makes all sales available to the public on an equal and nondiscriminatory basis.

To implement SSB 5376, the proposed rule changes to WAC 314-55-097 include updating the title, defining and clarifying terms, and requiring cannabis licensees and certified laboratories to evaluate and manage waste according to the applicable RCW laws. It requires cannabis producer and processor licensees to report sales of waste in advance and designates the required conditions under which the sale must be conducted.

Chair Vollendroff opened the public hearing and invited citizens to address the Board. The Board heard from the following people:

Doug Henderson
William Dougherty

For full detail of public comment, the meeting recording is available on the LCB website.

Chair Vollendroff closed the public hearing and thanked everyone for their input.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Vollendroff invited citizens to address the Board regarding any issues related to LCB business. The Board heard from the following people:

Caitlein Ryan
Jason Lammers
Lanisa Dearmond
Christopher King
Peter Manning
Mike Asai
William Dougherty

For full detail of public comment, the meeting recording is available on the LCB website.

6. ADJOURN

Chair Vollendroff adjourned the meeting at 11:13 am.

Minutes approved this 12th day of March 2025



Jim Vollendroff
Board Chair



Ollie Garrett
Board Member



Peter Holmes
Board Member

Minutes prepared by: Deborah Soper, Administrative Assistant to the Board

LCB Mission - Promote public safety, public health, and trust through fair administration, education, and enforcement of liquor, cannabis, tobacco, and vapor laws.