



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 10:00 am

This meeting was held in a hybrid environment

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Member Ollie Garrett called the regular meeting of the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to order at 10:00 am on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. Member Jim Vollendroff was also present.

Ollie Garrett: Thank you, Dustin. Good morning, everyone. I'm calling the Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting Wednesday, May 10th to order. For those of you that are in the boardroom, please silence your cell phones and take sidebar conversations to the lobby. The meeting is being recorded, and all noises are easily picked up. I want to begin by, as you know, on Monday, May 1st, Governor Inslee signed our Agency Request Bill 5080 for Social Equity in Cannabis. I want to take this opportunity to thank Marc Webster, our policy person, the staff, for much hard work that was done. I want to thank Senator Rebecca Saldaña along with the House that included -- Representative Deborah Entenman, April Berg, Melanie Morgan, and Kristine Reeves for their support on this bill. I also want to thank all of the members of the community that helped us, that put in tireless hours lobbying for this bill, and to let everyone know that we really appreciate your support on this bill.

If I missed anyone local government that participated and came and testified and others, I just want everyone to know we really appreciated your support on our Agency Request Bill. With that, we're now going to go into Years of Service Recognition, and Rick Smith will be presenting that.

2. YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

Tony Masias, 25 Years of Service

Presenter -- Rick Smith, Lieutenant

Rick Smith: Thank you, Board Member Garrett. I appreciate that very much. I'm here to recognize Officer Tony Masias. Let me tell you a little bit about Tony Masias and a career dedicated to public service well done. Tony joined the United States Air Force in 1990 and was stationed in Omaha, NE. He served seven months in Desert Storm and was honorably discharged as a Senior Airman in 1993 and joined Army ROTC with the University of Nebraska. He was commissioned to Military Police Lieutenant in 1995 and was stationed in Vespa,

Germany, where he spent 10 months in Bosnia for Operation Joint Endeavor. Thank you for your service. Tony was honorably discharged in 1997 and came home to Washington. Tony started with the State of Washington in May of 1998 with the Department of Corrections as a Corrections Officer, and 44 days later he joined the Liquor Board as a Law Enforcement Officer in Bellingham and has never looked back.

From June 1998 to February 2006, Tony worked as an LEO in Bellingham with a then young Lieutenant Tom Dixon. In 2004, Tony received the first ever Rex Award for Officer of the Year. In 2006, Tony took a promotion to come to headquarters and be the first Alcohol Awareness Program Manager. During this time, he formed lasting partnerships with the prevention community, conducted outreach and assembly events around the states, and created many posters that are still around in offices and headquarters today. In 2010, Tony came back to Enforcement in Olympia and Tacoma office until 2014, when he became one of the first to join the Cannabis unit for nine years in the Cannabis unit. Last month, Tony saw the light and came and joined my team in Tacoma. Thank you for your many years of service, Tony, and welcome again on the Tacoma team.

Tony Masias: Thank you very much.

John Tillison, 25 Years of Service
Presenter – Season Eckstrom, FDA Program Coordinator

Season Eckstrom: Thank you. My name is Season, I am the Program Coordinator for the FDA Unit here at the LCB, and I would like to acknowledge my FDA Inspector, John Tillison, for 25 years of state service. John started his career in state parks in 1994, where he initially was a Park Aide and then later became a Park Ranger after going to the Park Ranger Academy in Mount Vernon. He did 20 years of service with Washington State Parks, and in 2017, he ended up getting a medical retirement due to a knee injury, and lucky for us joined the LCB in February of 2018 as an FDA inspector, and he's currently based out of Spokane, Washington. He covers the entire northeast part of the state, so he does a lot of traveling in his position doing tobacco compliance checks under an FDA program and for our contract with them, so he's a very important part of our team. We've really enjoyed having him and appreciate all of his hard work and his dedication to state service. So we just want to thank you for your service, John, and congratulations on 25 years.

Rick Smith: I just want to congratulate John for his service to the agency and the state, 25 years. I wasn't sure how long you had been with us, John, so I learned something. Thank you, Season, for updating us there. Then Tony Masias. You know, I did my first ride-along with Tony Masias 25 years ago. I had been with the agency -- gosh, I think I had been with the agency like two months, and I drove up to Bellingham, and I did a ride-along with Justin Nordhorn and Tony Masias, and Tom Dixon was their -- I want to say their Lieutenant or Captain, but I had the opportunity to spend an evening with Tony and Justin. I always thought it was really -- I mean, for the first time I thought this is really interesting work that these folks do, but I just want to recognize John. And I really want to recognize Tony for all the years that he's been with us, and

he's been just a great model of an officer for us over the years. And so, jeez, Tony, it just seems like it came so quickly 25 years already. So thank you for the opportunity, Jim and Ollie, to say some things for John and Tony. Thank you.

John Tillison: Thank you. I really appreciate that.

3. RULEMAKING TIMELINES – ALL INDUSTRIES

Kathy Hoffman, PhD, MPA, Research Manager

Kathy Hoffman: All right. Good morning, Board Members Garrett and Vollendroff. I'm going to do a very brief update since I gave a more extensive update yesterday in Board Caucus and just briefly share with respect to Cannabis rule and projects, mailing checks project is online. We plan to have that completed by the end of September. implementation of the THC Legislation Sampling Rules, and implementation of Second Substitute Senate Bill 5080, so that's our Social Equity Legislation. We hope to have those projects done by the end of the year, first part of next year, so those are all on track. We do have two rule petitions on the Cannabis side that we'll be bringing to you for presentation the first part of June.

And then with respect to Alcohol rules in progress, we're going to combine Class 13 privilege review with part of the implementation of Substitute Senate Bill 5448. Those are the Alcohol allowances that were provided during the COVID-19 pandemic. We saw some legislative action there this year. I'll be bringing a 101 on Trade Areas to you during the next Board meeting. And then Private Club Memberships are in progress. We do anticipate that will be done by the first part of August. Daniel will also be working on implementing additional Alcohol legislation, and hope to have that done by the first part of October, middle of October. And then we also have some additional exception rules that we will be working on to implement statutory mandates of Substitute Senate Bill 5448, and I'll bring that to you during the next Board meeting.

Also have cloud storage that we're working on. We'll have an update for you on that during the next Board meeting and Global ID cards. We plan on bringing the 101, hopefully, in June with finalization sometime toward the end part of September. Then one rule petition on the general side has to do with vapor products that Daniel will bring a response to you towards the end of June. So that is our brief rulemaking update.

4. CANNABIS RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM 4A – Board Withdrawal of Emergency Rule Extending the Social Equity Application Deadline

Daniel Jacobs, Policy and Rules Coordinator

Daniel Jacobs: (HANDOUT 4A) Good morning, Member Garrett, and Board Member Vollendroff. This morning, I'm going to ask for your approval to withdraw the emergency rules

that were filed on March 29, 2023, which extended the 30-day window to accept applications for the Social Equity in Cannabis program. The extended application window closed on Thursday, April 27, 2023. We extended this window due to an unforeseeable delay at another state agency that may have affected the application window, and out of an abundance of caution, we extended that window. The window was initially 30 days, and we extended it to 58 days. Because these emergency rules are no longer necessary because the window is closed, I am requesting that they be withdrawn. If approved for filing today, we will file the withdrawal with the Code Reviser later this morning, and it will become effective immediately upon filing. We previously talked about this yesterday and at the Board meeting on March 29th, but I'm happy to answer any additional questions if there are any.

Member Vollendroff made a motion to withdraw the emergency rule extending the social equity application deadline. Member Garrett seconded. The motion was approved.

5. ALCOHOL RELATED BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM 5A – Nicola Reid, Compliance and Adjudications Manager; Joe Radermacher, Program Specialist

Nicola Reid: (HANDOUT 5A) Good morning, Board Member Garrett, and Vollendroff. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to speak with you today. Today, I'm presenting on behalf of Joe Radermacher and myself. Joe is in a new role in Licensing as the Licensing Compliance Specialist, who reviews and works with the licensees on an array of legal requirements specific to the license type they are holding. One of his roles being the review and approval of operating plans for sports entertainment facilities. For consideration by the Board today, we are bringing forth a decision paper outlining a request by the University of Washington for review and approval of what would be third year pilot program at-home football games.

As you will recall, the UW has successfully gone through two pilot programs, which allow for beer and wine to be consumed in general seating restricted from the student section and also prohibiting patrons to leave and re-enter the arena once they have gone into the game. This has been an agency collaboration with Enforcement, Licensing, Prevention, and the University of Washington partnering to ensure that success of previously approved pilot programs. The UW has been very responsive in suggested measures to improve operations and continue with public safety being at the forefront of alcohol sales as we continue always cohesive collaboration with open communication being the foundation for all of it. This third pilot program would allow for enforcement officers to attend more football games and continue our aligned partnership.

We have reached out to local jurisdictions who would be impacted by this approval, and we received letters of support from the City of Seattle, the City of Seattle Police Department, the UW Police Department, and the Athletic Division of the UW. So I am presenting that information today and I would like to take any questions you might have. Thank you.

Jim Vollendroff: Yeah. I was just going to say that in anticipation of this particular conversation, I wore my Husky purple today. I just want to say a couple of things. One, I appreciate the work of the LCB and the team that has been working with sports entertainment facilities. I think I've mentioned this. I'm a long-time season ticket holder for the University of Washington for football, baseball, basketball, and soccer, and so I've been there the entire time pre using or serving of any kind of alcohol in the stadium and have seen the progression of this throughout the years, and the University of Washington has done a great job of partnering with us, listening to us when we've expressed concerns, addressing those concerns, and helping develop what I think is a best practice approach to the service of alcohol in sports facilities. And now that we have a research division, at some point I would love for us -- I brought this up multiple times, so, Nicola, you're going to keep hearing this until we actually do something, and now that we've got a research team to work with to help develop in partnership with sports facilities and big arena facilities, best practice approaches that we can share that we've developed in partnership. So I look forward to that and appreciate everybody's participation and cooperation in this. Thank you.

Member Vollendroff made a motion to approve extending the University of Washington pilot program. Member Garrett seconded. The motion was approved.

6. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Garrett invited citizens to address the Board regarding any issues related to LCB business.

No public comment.

7. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 am.

Minutes approved this 9th day of April 2025

Not Present



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.
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