

Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 10:00 am This meeting was held in a hybrid environment

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair David Postman called the regular meeting of the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to order at 10:00 am on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Member Ollie Garrett and Member Jim Vollendroff were also present.

2. ALCOHOL RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM 2A – Hearing Regarding Private Club Membership Drives Kathy Hoffman, PhD, MPA, Research Manager

Kathy Hoffman: Thank you, and good morning, Chair Postman, Board Members Garrett, and Vollendroff. I'm just going to provide a brief background on the rule hearing that is scheduled for today (HANDOUT 2A). This proposal that is being heard today was initiated by a rule petition that was received in July of 2022 from a member of the Vancouver Elks, asking that the agency allow private clubs to add one additional membership drive per calendar quarter, for a total of eight per year, and host membership drives on two consecutive days during one quarter per calendar year.

The Board accepted the petition in September of 2022, and we began rulemaking on March 29th of this year. We developed draft conceptual rules that were shared via GovDelivery. Comment received on that was all positive. That comment period was opened from May 3rd to May 17th, and that allowed us to bring a proposal to you that you accepted on July 5th that is at the public hearing for today. As I understand it, there was one public comment received through the Board office this morning largely in support of this proposal, and there have been no written comments provided to date.

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

<u>Bailey Hirschberg</u>: I'm Bailey Hirschberg, Washington NORML. Actually I don't have a strong opinion this. I just really hope to take the opportunity to ask the Board to support these types of possibilities legislatively for marijuana consumers as well. Thank you.

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

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Bailey Hirschberg: Bailey Hirschberg, Washington NORML. I was just wanting to briefly congratulate Mary Segawa on her retirement. And I appreciate that while the public health education liaison may not be a direct hire of the Board, I'd like to encourage Board members to be mindful about what they would like that role to accomplish for the agency, then trying to advocate for consumer education group to kind of expand some of your guys' offerings. Obviously, that is something I'll still believe in, and will hope that whether that gets going this year or early next year with a new person that it remains a priority. I just really encourage you guys to consider looking at this role less as the public health for people who don't use products that are regulated by the LCB and think of it more as like the chief harm prevention officer for the people who want to drink. And they or anything else, you need someone at the agency who cannot just say that it is not a great idea legally or even that may not be a great idea for health but also put it into more of a social context and be, like, well, that is why it might not be great for you but also, why would it be bad for people more generally?

And as I said, I think a little more focus on harm reduction. You know, issues of poly-drug use I know have been an increasing focus of Board Members. Someone who cannot just articulate technically what those issues are and the problems with them but also being good at engaging with members of the public and communicating that in a more, I guess, as a socialized context is something I think would be really valuable. So I hope you guys will keep that in mind.

4. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

Minutes approved this 3rd day of June 2025

Jim Vollendroff Ollie Garrett
Board Chair Board Member

Peter Holmes Board Member

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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.