



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 10, 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, September 10, 2025. Member Ollie Garrett was also present. Member Holmes was excused. Two written comments were received and will be attached to the minutes.

2. YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

BECKY SMITH, LICENSING AND REGULATIONS DIRECTOR **Toni Hood, Deputy Director**

Toni recognized Becky Smith for 35 years of State service, twelve of those with LCB. Smith went to college for Social Work and became a social worker with the Washington Department of Social and Health Services. After 23 years at DSHS she transferred to LCB, and in 2015 became the Director of Licensing and Regulation. Hood thanked Smith for her many years of service and sincere commitment to the public. Member Garrett thanked Smith for her service and stated she has enjoyed working with her during her time on the Board. Chair Vollendroff thanked Smith on behalf of the Board and the citizens of Washington State for her 35 years of service.

KELLY HIGBEE, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT **Josh Bolender, Captain Enforcement and Education**

Captain Bolender said that it is an honor to recognize Kelly Higbee for her 40 years of public service, 39 of them with this agency, beginning as a Clerk Typist 3, then promoting to the Liquor Purchasing division's Administrative Assistant. In 2012, Initiative 1183 privatized liquor sales, and Kelly worked tirelessly to support the agency during the transition, then transferred to the Enforcement division, where she has served as an Administrative Assistant for the southwest region, working out of the Tacoma field office. Chair Vollendroff and Member Garrett congratulated and thanked Higbee for her many years of service with LCB.

3. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF ARAMARK AND WSU: GESA FIELD PILOT REQUEST

Joe Radermacher, Licensing Program Specialist

Joe presented a recommendation seeking allowance to begin a pilot project with Aramark and Washington State University (WSU) to implement and evaluate beer and wine consumption throughout general seating at their football stadium (HANDOUT 3). Captain Jeremy Wissing of LCB Enforcement offered his support for the pilot program. Melinda Altamirano of Aramark stated that she is grateful for the partnership with WSU and the people who have partnered to get the pilot and all the pieces in place to ensure the safety and the responsibility with it. She thanked the many LCB staff who have worked on this, and the Board for their consideration of this pilot program.

Member Garrett made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to approve a pilot project for Aramark and WSU at Gesa Field. Chair Vollendroff seconded. The motion was approved.

4. RULEMAKING TIMELINES

Kevin Walder, Policy and Rules Manager

Kevin provided an overview of the current Rules team activities and timeline items.

5. ALCOHOL RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM 5A – Board Adoption of CR 103 for Seasonal Hours Requirements for Alcohol Licensees

Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator

Jeff requested Board approval to file a CR 103 and updated rule language to amend WAC 314-02-045 regarding seasonal hours requirements for restaurants serving beer and wine, to reduce the minimum numbers of days per week that a beer or wine restaurant licensee must be open to the public from three days to two days per week, and to update license fees for the restaurant beer and wine licenses (HANDOUT 5A).

Member Garrett made a motion to approve the CR 103 for Seasonal Hours Requirements for Alcohol Licensees. Chair Vollendroff seconded. The motion was approved.

6. CANNABIS RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM 6A – Rules Petition Review and Consideration of Online Age Verification for Cannabis Retail Licensee Websites

Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator

Jeff presented a petition received from Anil Bhagwat requesting that the Board create a new rule section that would require cannabis retail licensees to ask all online customers to provide their official government issued identification when they register for an online account on the retail website, to prevent minors from placing orders for cannabis on the websites (HANDOUT 6A). Because recreational cannabis purchases must be transacted in person by a person who is

21 years of age or older, there is no apparent advantage to preventing customers from pre-ordering or reserving products for their in-person purchase. Any person under the age of 21 who attempts to buy cannabis products by reserving the products on a website would, by definition, lack valid government-issued identification necessary to enter a licensed cannabis retail store and to purchase cannabis at the point-of-sale counter.

The Director's Office staff recommends that consistent with RCW 34.05.330, the Board deny the petition.

Member Garrett made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to deny the petition regarding age verification for cannabis retail licensee websites. Chair Vollendroff seconded. The motion was approved unanimously

7. ADJOURN

Chair Vollendroff adjourned the meeting at 10:44 am.

Minutes approved this 23rd day of September 2025



Jim Vollendroff
Board Chair

Not Present

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.

Two written comments were received.

To Whom it may concern:

This letter stems from an incident that I had at the WSU/SDS football game on 9-6-25.

I am a Pullman citizen with concerns about alcohol sales at WSU football games.

I attend all of the home football games and have for many years.

I am aware of the drinking that goes on in the stadium and on the WSU properties.

BTW...I personally do not have anything against drinking.

Former WSU Pres. Schulz once stated alcohol sales would be "enhancing the experience."

Rather, I find it exactly the opposite.

It is not an "enhancing experience" when people sitting around you are vomiting, being obnoxious and rude, using foul language that everyone (even young children) can hear. Many people are spilling their alcohol all over other people and their belongings.

I have personally experienced games where alcohol was allowed and I found it very offensive.

Brian Smith, a WSU graduate who serves as the spokesman for the state's Liquor and Cannabis Control Board,

states: "The safety of our fans, student-athletes, and community is a top priority."

That WSU promotes this mind-altering activity has me quite concerned for the safety of anyone!

I am fully aware that WSU is "in the hole" financially but selling alcohol at these games and exposing many

drinking/non-drinking citizens and children to this type of behavior, in my opinion, is very inappropriate.

Those are my concerns and I would like to thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Debbie Steiner

Could you all please expedite the approval process on beer sales at Martin Stadium (WSU)?

The school is in a budget crisis. Mainly because our rival school, which you guys seem to have approved beer sales with ease for, left the conference to go play Midwest and east coast teams.

Do something for our state please. Approve it conditionally if you are truly that concerned about what will happen. You're hurting a college when they need support the most.

Jeff Hogue

University Place, WA