



## Executive Management Team Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 1:30 pm

This meeting was held in a hybrid environment

### Meeting Minutes

#### EMT ATTENDEES

Chair David Postman  
Member Ollie Garrett  
Member Jim Vollendroff  
Rick Garza, Director  
Toni Hood, Deputy Director  
Chandra Wax, Director of Enforcement & Education  
Brian Smith, Communications Director  
Becky Smith, Licensing and Regulation Director  
Marc Webster, Director of Legislative Relations  
Justin Nordhorn, Director of Policy & External Affairs  
Dustin Dickson, Executive Assistant to the Board  
Gloria Hong, Special Assistant to the Director

#### GUESTS

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#### POLICY UPDATE – JUSTIN

Justin reported that the House Bill 1480 study is completed and has been approved by the Governor's Office and submitted to the Legislature. His team has been talking with stakeholders about the agency request bill and how it interacts with some of the Hemp and Food Task Force recommendations. They will review those recommendations as well as comparable documents from Oregon and Virginia. Some concerns surround THC limits in things that would be considered a hemp consumable. The Task Force has recommended further study and a pilot program on milligram limits, and setting that out into 2025, but that doesn't address the immediate issues that the state currently faces around these potent products. Another issue is that the Task Force has a concept of trying to categorize cannabis into two different classifications that they call "Class A" and "Class B" but the classifications do not cover all the THC compounds, and use some potentially contentious and vague language, and ultimately leave the provisions wide open.

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#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – MARC

Marc noted that the three agency request bills have been approved by the Governor's Office.

He has been discussing them with Legislators and has some sponsors lined up. He attended the WACA Legislative Preview Conference. The first of the pre-filed bills have been released in anticipation of next month's legislative session and the Governor's 2023-2025 budget proposal should be released today.

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### **LICENSING UPDATE – BECKY**

Becky provided updates on her division beginning with the social equity program work, reporting that progress is being made in mapping the Disproportionally Impacted Areas (DIA) and we should be seeing some maps in January. Make Green Go has almost completed six videos explaining the Social Equity Program for the website. Her team has been working with IT to ensure a secure process for sharing information with our third-party vendor. The Customer Service team is collaborating with Enforcement on expired liquor license lists.

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### **ENFORCEMENT & EDUCATION UPDATE – CHANDRA**

Chandra shared data regarding the number of licenses that her team is managing, including the number of complaints, education and violation contacts, and successful resolutions (PRESENTATION 1). The top three categories of complaints received were related to sale to a minor, conduct violations and sales to an intoxicated person.

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### **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE – BRIAN**

Brian provided a lot of information to an employee with the Seattle Times for their 10-year look at the cannabis industry, which will probably be published in Sunday's paper. His team is working closely with Licensing on the social equity activities. Communications recently developed some advertisements that are running in various online publications to help direct people to the website to learn more about the social equity program, and the ads have been translated into Spanish as well.

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### **GENERAL AGENCY UPDATE – TONI**

Toni updated on the Systems Modernization Project (SMP), Accenture is on board as the Salesforce integrator and they had their kickoff on December 6. Another part of SMP, Laserfiche, is set to go live on February 13, 2026, and there will be a lot of training before it goes live.

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### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS – RICK**

Rick reported that we received the requested funding for the SMP which implements the first phase and covers the second phase. Many staff members involved with the Diversity Council and the Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) team attended the Governor's Equity Summit on November 30.

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## ADDITIONAL TEAM UPDATES AND FINAL BOARD INQUIRIES

No reports.

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## ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Minutes approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026



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Jim Vollendroff  
Board Chair



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Ollie Garrett  
Board Member



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Peter Holmes  
Board Member

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

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