



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2024, 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, November 6, 2024. Member Ollie Garrett and Member Jim Vollendroff were also present.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Member Garrett moved to approve the Board Caucus minutes for October 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2024. Member Vollendroff seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. RULEMAKING TIMELINES – ALL INDUSTRIES

Cassidy West, Policy and Rules manager

Cassidy West provided an overview on four rule petitions and timeline updates.

4. GENERAL RULEMAKING – ALL INDUSTRIES

**ACTION ITEM (4A) – Board Approval of CR 103 Gender Neutral Terminology
Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator**

Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator, began the briefing with materials (HANDOUT 4A) and requested the Board's approval of a CR103 Notice of Permanent Rulemaking to file permanent rule updates to several sections of Title 314 WAC, with the purpose of updating the rules to replace gender-specific language with gender-neutral language. This rulemaking modernizes the rules of the LCB to reflect contemporary standards of inclusivity and ensures that the language used in regulatory documents is non-discriminatory and equitable for all individuals.

Member Vollendroff moved to approve the CR 103. Member Garrett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. ALCOHOL RELATED RULEMAKING

ACTION ITEM (5A) – Rules Petition Review and Consideration

Daniel Jacobs, Policy and Rules Coordinator

Daniel Jacobs, Policy and Rules Coordinator, began the briefing with materials (HANDOUT 5A) and presented a recommendation on a petition for rulemaking. A petition was submitted by Lucy Wight requesting the Board initiate rulemaking to add a health warning to alcohol bottles sold in Washington State.

Federal law already mandates a warning label with specific language and prohibits any other statements from being required under State law.

The Director's Office recommends that the Board deny the petition for rulemaking submitted on September 18, 2024 because based on staff understanding of the relevant Federal statute and regulations, any rule that the Board may create as a result of rulemaking on this topic would likely be preempted by Federal law and would be invalidated by a court in a legal challenge, which in turn would be very likely given the strong industry stakes and increased costs to alcohol manufacturers that such a rule would entail.

Member Garrett moved to accept the staff recommendation and deny the petition. Member Vollendroff seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Peter Manning

Paul Brice

Michael Schermerhorn

Christopher King

Gregory Foster

Keyon Garrett

Sami Saad

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

ADJOURN

Chair Postman adjourned the meeting at 10:44 am.

Minutes approved this 4th day of December, 2024



Jim Vollendroff
Board Member



Ollie Garrett
Board Member

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

Complete meeting packets are available online: http://lcb.wa.gov/boardmeetings/board_meetings
For questions about agendas or meeting materials you may email gretchen.frost@lcb.wa.gov or call 360-664-1656

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