



Office of Cannabis Management

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT

Cannabis Control Board Chair

JESSICA GARCIA

Board Member

REUBEN R. MCDANIEL, III

Board Member

ADAM W. PERRY

Board Member

JEN METZGER

Board Member

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Executive Director

Meeting Minutes

Title:	New York State Cannabis Control Board Meeting
Time & Date:	January 25, 2022
Location:	Virtual via Webcast

Attendance

Board Chair (virtually):	Tremaine Wright
Board Members Present:	Jen Metzger
Board Members Present (virtually):	Jessica Garcia, Reuben R. McDaniel III, Adam W. Perry
Board Members Absent:	None
Others Present:	Chris Alexander, Axel Bernabe

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome & Chair Remarks
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 16, 2021 Board Meeting
- IV. Consideration of Delegation of Hiring Authority
- V. Consideration of Service-Level Agreement for OCM Call Center
- VI. Discussion of Proposed Social and Economic Equity Fund
- VII. Executive Director Report
- VIII. Adjourn
- IX. Executive Session



Action Items

<p>Resolution No. 2022-01:</p>	<p>Resolution Delegating to the Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management the Authority to Exercise Employment Decisions Relating to Office of Cannabis Management Employees Except Certain Decisions Concerning Employees in Certain Titles</p>	<p>Passed, Unanimous Vote</p>
<p>Resolution No. 2022-02:</p>	<p>Resolution to Authorize the Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management (Office) to enter into a Service Level Agreement between the NYS Office of Children and Family Services Human Services Call Center and the Office for the Provision of Call Handling Services</p>	<p>Passed, Unanimous Vote</p>

Notes & Comments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Wright commented that Governor Hochul’s Executive Budget includes the creation of the New York Social Equity Cannabis Investment Fund with a public-private partnership. The funds will grow to \$200 million and provide capital funding to eligible equity applicants for communities impacted by disproportionate policing during decades long of cannabis prohibition. • Chair Wright provided an update that the Cannabis Control Board and the Office of Cannabis Management had recently met with members of the Legislature, including the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus to update them about the progress of implementing the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Reuben McDaniel presented an overview of the New York Social Equity Cannabis Investment Fund. It is anticipated that this will be a \$200 million fund, a portion of which will be funded from the Office of Cannabis Management revenues, but also from private investors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New York Social Equity Cannabis Investment Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allows social equity applicants who are interested in retail licenses have the funding they need for capital improvements to open their facilities in a timely manner. ○ As the Board and the staff roll out licenses, the Fund will help facilitate the build-out of facilities to execute on those licenses. ○ DASNY will assist the Office of Cannabis Management in overseeing the site location of potential sites, the design and build-out of those sites, and facilitate getting equity applicants into those sites so the capital and leasing will not be an impediment to them being successful.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director Chris Alexander provided an overview of the Medical Cannabis Program progress to date:



Office of Cannabis Management

- Steps to further implement the Marijuana Regulation & Taxation Act (MRTA) and expand the medical cannabis program
 - o Allowing the sale of whole flower.
 - o Expanding the list of commissions who can certify medical cannabis patients.
 - o Permanently waiving the \$50 registration fee.
 - o Advancing public comment for regulations allowing the home cultivation of medical cannabis.
 - o Allowing commissions to certify patients for any clinical condition per their clinical discretion which will greatly improve access and allow patients to see if medical cannabis can be right for them.
- Cannabis Data Management System Redesign
 - o The newly launched medical cannabis data management system streamlines the user experience for practitioners, registered caregivers and certified patients and enables clinicians to certify patients for any condition per their clinical discretion.
- Public Comment Period
 - o The public comment period on the medical cannabis home cultivation regulations closed on January 18th, 2022.
 - o The Office received 160 comments from a wide range of stakeholders and now is conducting an assessment and will provide a formal response to those comments.
- Municipal Opt-Out Update
 - o Per the MRTA, the deadline for the opt-out by municipalities of retail and on-site consumption licenses ended on December 31, 2021.
 - o Data received through the Office of Cannabis Management's web-based portal shows that 10% of cities and 34% of municipalities have opted out of retail dispensaries and onsite consumption lounges. More than 11 million New Yorkers live in cities and only 118,000 live in cities that have opted out.
 - o Municipalities who have opted-out, may opt back in at any time.
 - o Municipalities cannot otherwise prohibit other cannabis businesses and conduct that was made legal with the passage of the MRTA including possession and use by adults over the age of 21.
- Cannabis Conversations
 - o The Office is rolling out a virtual community engagement campaign called "Cannabis Conversations." The Office will be hosting a series of regional conversations including one Spanish session.

- OCM Staff Counsel Elizabeth Nowicki requested an opportunity to speak to the Board in Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.
- Upon returning from Executive Session the Board Adjourn the meeting.