



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Meeting Minutes

Medical Marijuana Scientific Advisory Council

Date: September 26, 2014

Time: 8:00 - 11:30 am

Place: Hilton Garden Inn

Members Present: Ken Gershman, Tim Byers, Joseph Frank, Teri Robbnet, Ken Finn, Alan Shackelford, Paula Riggs, Lalit Bajaj, Larry Wolk.

Note Taker Elyse Contreras

Topics:

Presenter

8:00 am

(Agenda adjusted to await arrival of chairman Dr. Larry Wolk)
Presentation: Overview of Evidence Base for Current & Potential Medical Uses of Marijuana/Components

- Discussed by council members.

Ken Gershman

Business

Approve Minutes from 8/29 meeting

- Clarification of motions (bold or highlighted),
- Correction- public Comments: Steep Hill Labs
- Council's preference not to record straw votes. Straw votes recorded in 8/29 minutes have been stricken. Future minutes will record only that a straw vote was taken.
- **MOTION made to approve 8/29 minutes with corrections, motion seconded, approved unanimously.**

Ken Gershman

9/16 Board of Health (BoH) Meeting & Proposed Amendments

- Proposal to BoH reviewed (see Business presentation, slide 2).
 - Bylaws amended to coincide with proposal
 - Article III, section N and Article IV, section 1E are highlighted reflective of change in the Bylaws.
 - Change requested to Article III, section N; Statement beginning with "In addition..." should be a separate section (section O) to clarify role of Medical Marijuana Registry Program Manager.
-

-
- Quorum of 8 Council members present to amend Bylaws, motion made, seconded, changes passed unanimously.

Grant Review Process

- Update of grant review planning (see Business presentation, slide 3).
- SAC members Larry Wolk and Teri Robnett will not participate in the primary review of grant applications.
- Council's preference is to receive applications electronically for review.
- Timeline reviewed.
- Suggestion made to distribute grant applications to Council members 10/17, a week earlier, for primary review.
- Four statisticians from the Colorado School of Public Health (CSPH) will help with the statistical review of finalists.
- Grant Scoring reviewed (slide 4).
- Pre-screening of Letters of Intent (LOI's) will not be done as LOI's are non-binding and cannot be considered final. Clarification and documentation of non-profit status has been requested for some applicants.
- Applications received will be pre-screened, page by page to assess completeness.
- Reviewers will decide whether the purpose and intent of the application align with the RFA instructions.
- RFA qualifications briefly reviewed.
- Council members will have access to the RFA to reference during review if needed.

Conflict of Interest (COI) matrix discussed (slide 6 and example matrix handout);

- Example template of COI matrix reviewed and discussed.
 - Matrix will be sent out next week, request that it be completed and returned promptly.
 - Suggestion made to condense the first two columns of the matrix.
 - Suggestion made to tailor the matrix so only "yes" responses to conflicts need be indicated.
 - Suggestion made to disperse applications as they are received and inform Council later if some don't meet the minimum qualifications.
-

Proposal for preference points reviewed and discussed (slide 5);

- Preference points awarded during final scoring on 11/21.
- Concerns raised by council members regarding the use of points to award preference.
- Suggestion to change proposed point structure to a percentage structure.
- Percentage structure proposed: 2% for clinical trial or observational study in humans, 1% for Colorado investigator/co-investigator, 1% for a Colorado study.
- MOTION made to approve proposal, motion seconded, and passed unanimously.

Break

Presentation: Inferring Causation from Observational Studies

- Legal restrictions of doing marijuana research brought to Council's attention.
- Reference document requested for council members to refer to when considering legal feasibility of proposed research.
- Federal regulations on marijuana have not changed or progressed.

Tim Byers

Public Comments

Dr. Alan Feiger

Action Items:

- Conflict of Interest Matrix to be sent, completed and returned next week.
- RFA will be made available to members on Google Drive.
- Council members may contact Elyse if they need assistance with Google Drive.

11:30 am Adjourn
