

Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission Meeting

April 13, 2026

1:02 PM – 2:02 PM

The Meadowlark Room Lower Level NSOB 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE
68509

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission landing page on the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's website on March 20, 2026, as well as on the Nebraska.gov Public Meeting Calendar.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Open Meetings Act Notification.

The meeting was called to order by the Commissioner, Lorelle Mueting, on April 13, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Present were Commission members, Lorelle Mueting, J. Michael Coffey, Robert Synhorst, and James Elworth establishing a quorum. A copy of the Open meetings Act was available for review at the back of the room.

2. Roll Call

Lorelle Mueting – present
J. Michael Coffey – present
James Elworth- present
Robert Synhorst – present

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 16th meeting

Commissioner Mueting states that the next order of business is the approval of minutes from the meeting held on March 16, 2026.

Commissioner Mueting asked for a motion and a second to approve the minutes from March 16th meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from March 16th meeting, motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Synhorst.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

4. Public Comment Period

Commissioner Mueting noted that there will be an opportunity for the public to comment.

She stated that the public comment portion of this Commission meeting was not a question-and-answer session and that defamatory remarks and hostile commentary would not be tolerated. Each speaker is allowed three minutes to speak. The public comment period will be limited to one hour or less if there are not sufficient speakers. She asked each speaker to state and spell their name for the record and asked for a show of hands from the member of the public who wished to comment.

Public Comments were made by the following individuals:

a. Lia Post

- a. Post states that she is a legal medical cannabis patient and did not see anyone there for LB 933. Stated that there was no comment from the Commission for the media for LB 933 and there the irony is that there was a bill that just passed were they(the commissioners) got paid. Post mentions that she goes to Iowa to receive treatment and that other patients should start looking out of state since doctors are not protected. Post wishes that the Commission would have been there to listen to Senator Riepe anecdote about his granddaughter. Post mentions that they are not allowed to speak to each other, that's fine because she doesn't want to speak to them at all. Post says that although that she still shows up. Post mentions that Senator Jacobsen wrote to her and said that your group is a bunch of radicals who will do anything to push your agendas. She mentions that she believes no one has been honest with the commission and thinks to herself about how he (Sen. Jacobsen) was the same senator that accused Shelly Gillan. Post mentions that Commissioner Coffey admitted previously to hanging out with republicans and is sure it's in the minutes. Post states Commissioner Muetting is a prohibitionist and does not want Commissioner Muetting to say hi to her. Mentions that they have tried to kill me for years, that you have taken money for going against medical cannabis, and that they are evil.

b. Georganna Schroeder Stanley

- a. Georganna mentions that sabotage of Senator Cavanaugh physician protection bill is yet again another illustration of how far opponents of medical marijuana will go to derail the program. Georganna states that'll be a year since she is able to bite and chew food, have numbing in her face, some degree of pain daily, and using marijuana to manage pain. She mentions there is a reasonable chance that she will be better by 2027 but that is not the case for other Nebraskans as given to them by voters but denied to them by politicians. She states she does not understand why ruining medical marijuana is so important to certain politicians in this state. She mentions that the first time she had met the commission was in late

September of last year and that she had left the meeting with the impression that the commission members didn't believe the testimonies. She mentions the same is for the Governor and Attorney General. She mentions she is used to it by now because she has been to every meeting since.

c. Tiffany Tex Gustafson

- a. Gustafson mentions that before the Commission looks at their paperwork, she needs them to understand what it cost for her to sit here. She mentions that she is a double above the knee amputee, paralyzed from the chest down, lives with one kidney, diabetes, gastroparesis, and blind in their right eye. She mentions that her body has been carved up and broken down by pharmaceuticals that she was told were safe, has taken something from her. She mentions she lost these things not because of an accident but because of her treatment. She states that when she tells you that medical cannabis is the thing that provides her with relief, to hear it with the weight it deserves and has nothing left to lose or give. She mentions that when the ballot passed she had hope for many reasons but as time has gone on her hope is slipping away for other reasons. She mentions the delays land on people like her, not on paper. She states that after losing so much to pharmaceuticals that they look at her and tell her that her pain should wait, that she should be denied relief, and that the people who voted for this don't deserve what they were promised. She ends by saying my pain is real and ask is your empathy real, do you even care?

d. Crista Eggers

- a. Crista states that she represents Nebraskans for medical marijuana. She mentions she understands that today is not a Q and A but believes that the people in this state deserve an answer to, when will this program be accessible to the people who need it. She mentions it has been 524 days since the voters passed these ballot measures. She then mentions the progress the commission has made since being established, the licenses left to award, and with that it may be two years into the future until the program can actually start. She mentions there is no clear path forward, no fully established seed to sale, no testing infrastructure, and no place for the medicine to go. She states given the circumstances, cultivators maybe have 90 days left to grow this year and yet the rules and regulations are still not in place. Crista mentions that critical pieces to this program are missing and it is becoming harder for people to believe in the program. She mentions how she spoke before about the cost being on human lives. She then goes on to explain the hopes of a father after the ballot initiative passed, who hoped his

son could have access to relief. Crista asks what is it going to take? She mentions that from her side there continues to be delays and people running out of time. She mentions in the past she didn't envy the commissioner's position in many ways; however, she would do anything to have the responsibility to drive change.

e. Bill Hawkins

- a. Bill states he is a lifelong Nebraskan organic farmer and herbalist. He mentions that he ran down Senator Tomy Garrett in the hall to get the first medical cannabis bill introduced. He mentions he has been working in the legislature to help reform unjust medical cannabis laws. He mentions that he would like remind the commission that FDA approved drugs aren't always safe based on history, that people have a right with a recommendation form from a physician in any state with any ailment they may possess and acquire 5 ounces of cannabis right now in the state of Nebraska. He states as a caregiver with a signed affidavit form, he may acquire and deliver medical cannabis. He highly encourages any patient to not wait for the commission and to acquire a license from Leaf Well Missouri to get your recommendation if you are really suffering. He then mentions that with Senator Cavanaugh's bill being hijacked and burned like a Christmas tree, it has eliminated all patients from the medical cannabis registry because no Nebraska physician is able to recommend medical cannabis without fear of losing their license. He then thanks Commissioner Muetting for all the work she has put in and then states that the Alcohol commission has no right to have anything to do with medical cannabis.

f. Troy Burgess

- a. Burgess mentions that no bill has been passed but believes the commission has been funded. He then states that none of the approved cultivators can legally grow until a seed to sale tracking system is established. He then mentions that the only way to grow economically is to grow outdoors and then goes on to say that if the commission can establish a seed to sale tracking system in the next 30 to 60 days the cultivator will have a chance to grow outdoor. He mentions that cultivators would be lucky to break even outdoor and if someone were to grow indoors it would be to produce medicine not profit. He then states that growers need to have started a crop by June 1st. He then states the commission needs to move faster and offers guidance.

Commissioner Muetting then clarifies that in our regulations cultivators can use their own seed to sale system if it translates into the commissions system when established and

approved by the commission.

Legal council then clarifies that the information can be found on Section 12, subsection 10a.

5. Update in the Medical Cannabis Commission (MCC) website

Commissioner Mueting stated that the next order of business is to discuss the new MCC website.

Commissioner Mueting states that previously the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission hosted all information related to the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission. Beginning May 1st, the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission will no longer host this information. Until then, their website will provide a link to the new MCC website.

Commissioner Mueting then states the website can be accessed at mcc.nebraska.gov.

Commissioner Mueting asks for any discussion on the new website. There is no discussion.

6. Staff Updates

Commissioner Mueting states the next order of business is to discuss staff updates.

Commissioner Mueting states that during the last meeting, the hiring of SOS temporary staff was approved. Since then, the Commission has hired an administrative specialist to help support the Commission. They are expected to begin on April 20th

Commissioner Mueting asks for any discussion or action regarding staff related updates or announcements.

Commissioner Coffey makes a motion regarding retaining private counsel for the Commission. He states that the motion is in no way to be considered a negative reflection on the legal services that have been provided to the Commission so far by the Attorney General's office. He then mentions the Commission is subject to the appearances of impropriety and conflict because of their relationship and the best way to move forward, now that the Commission is funded and can hire personnel, is to start the process of retaining and hiring private counsel for its representation.

Commissioner Mueting then ask for any discussion on the motion.

Commissioner Elworth echo's the comments made by Commissioner Coffey that this is no reflection on the great work they've had so far.

Commissioner Mueting states that she is not sure what the commissions budget would look like and if there were to be litigation from the Attorney General's office having general counsel wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing. Commissioner Mueting states that before looking for general counsel, they need staff. She mentions that they need staff to move processes along and general counsel isn't necessarily what they need for that. Commissioner Mueting states her feeling is to have a executive director and staff in place before moving forward with general counsel.

Commissioner Coffey states that his motion is in no way an attempt to undermine the hiring of an executive director or other staff, it is an addition to those things. He states that it is his understanding that the commission does have sufficient funds to hire counsel and if there were to be hurdles down the road that the commission deal with it as it comes.

Commissioner Synhorst asks Commissioner Coffey if he has a vision on how they would proceed?

Commissioner Coffey states there are two ways, either contracting from a firm or specific attorney or going straight into hiring. He then mentions that the Commission will need someone to deal with compliance and initially it could start on a contract basis moving towards full time as everything gets up and running.

Commissioner Elworth mentions that these things take time and if we are going to start this process we should start it now.

Commissioner Mueting asks for any other discussion or thoughts.

Commissioner Coffey restates his motion to retain private counsel for the Commission.

Commissioner Mueting ask for clarification if this motion prioritizes any other needs. Commissioner Coffey responds with no.

Motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

7. Discussion and Approval of KRL MED proposal

Commissioner Mueting states the next order of business is to discuss the KRL MED proposal. Commissioner Mueting explains the following, KRL MED requests the approval of a proposed phased approach to their site security infrastructure due to construction timing for their permanent barn structure. She states their goal is to move forward responsibly while ensuring that all security requirements are fully met before

any cannabis is planted. A redacted version of the proposal was available at the back of the room, with certain portions being withheld due to sensitive information related to security measures and to protect personal information.

Commissioner Muetting invites KRL to present.

Michael Johnson and Kent Rogert speak on behalf of KRL MED to say that nothing in their original proposal is changing other than one minor detail being that in their original proposal the security room would be held in their barn. Michael then states that the barn has not been built yet and in the meantime the security cameras can be temporarily housed in a metal cargo container while the barn is being built to begin growing since an inspection involving security measures is needed before growing. He ensures that they will meet all security measures and requirements.

Michael goes onto explain that if the proposal is not approved they will not be able to provide a crop to manufacturers until late quarter of 2027, delaying the process significantly. He then opens himself to answer any questions.

Commissioner Synhorst asked a clarifying question about when the barn is to be completed and if he understood correctly that if not approved today they would not produce a crop until late 2027. Michael responds with July and goes on to explain that Commissioner Synhorst is correct.

Michael then explains there are three things that need to happen before they begin growing, the proposal needs to be approved, a seed to sale tracking system approved by the commission, and an inspection done by the commission.

Commissioner Elworth then ask how do you track and what is your responsibility after the crop leaves you? Michael answers with that once the crop leaves them the visibility would end after the product goes to the manufacturer.

Commissioner Synhorst ask another clarifying question, if you plan to have a harvest in by October would it be safe to assume that the commission should establish a seed to sale tracking system by then. Michael responds with they can either manually export and import the information or have an API system that manual transfers information. He then states that October 1st in the expected harvest date but with weather it can be a different date. Michael explains how his priority is to dry the product.

Commissioner Synhorst asks is it safe to assume that if a seed to sale tracking system is created by October then things can be tracked and moved forward. Michael answers yes.

Commissioner Coffey asks how long does it take to dry? Michael responds with about a week depending on humidity.

Motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Synhorst.

Commissioner Mueting states we have a motion and second, any discussion?

Commissioner Synhorst explains that he believes it is important to get the process going so that there aren't any delays for patients and thanks Michael for his leadership.

Commissioner Mueting adds that seed to sale has been on the commissions list of things for a number of months and the commission will be working on it for the next couple of weeks.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

8. Discussion and approval of Cultivator License Renewal Application

Commissioner Mueting states the next order of business is to discuss the cultivator license renewal applications. On October 8, 2025, the Commission issued two cultivator licenses.

Commissioner Mueting explains that at the last meeting, the Commission approved the removal of any potential sanctions related to the failure to submit a license renewal application for the two cultivators, for a period of 60 days from the date the renewal applications were sent to them via email.

Commissioner Mueting states both cultivators have since submitted their license renewal applications. Copies of the redacted applications are available at the back of the room, with certain portions withheld due to sensitive security information and to protect personal information.

The commission begins by taking up the Midwest Cultivators Group license renewal application.

There is no discussion, Commissioner Mueting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Synhorst and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

The commission then takes up Patrick Thomas's renewal license application, which has a listed business name of Mahamota.

There is no discussion, Commissioner Muetting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Synhorst and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Muetting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

9. Update on Cultivator Application Process

Commissioner Muetting states the next order of business is to discuss the cultivator license applications. During the March 16th meeting the Commission approved the following application: Meadowlark Medicinals LLC.

With the approval and acceptance of the fourth cultivator, the cultivator application process has concluded.

10. Discuss updating regulations in light of passage of LB 1235

Commissioner Muetting states the following, the next order of business is to discuss updating the regulations in light of passage of LB 1235.

Commissioner Muetting states that with the passage of LB 1235, the Commission now has a cash fund, and the ability to collect fees. To set those fees, LB 1235 requires that the Commission must pass new regulations. The Commission must decide what it will charge for fees, and what those fees will be for. There are also other changes the Commission can discuss making to the regulations during this process.

Commissioner Muetting asks if there is any discussion on updating the regulations in light of the passage of LB 1235?

Commissioner Synhorst what is the process to complete that?

Commissioner Muetting explains that the commission should move forward with formalizing the current regulations so that they do not expire and then because of LB 1235 they will need to update the regulations after.

11. Review and vote on payment of invoice for court reporter for regulation promulgation public hearing (Thomas & Thomas Court Reporting \$508)

Commissioner Muetting states the next order of business is the payment of invoice from Thomas and Thomas Court Reporting for the transcription from the public hearing for the regulation promulgation process. The invoice is dated February 26th and is for \$508.

Commissioner Muetting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Muetting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

12. Review of regulation hearing summary and discuss and approve responses

Commissioner Muetting states the next order of business is to review the regulations hearing summary and discuss responses.

Commissioner Muetting states the following: the public hearing for formal regulations occurred on February 26th. All public comments have been captured in a hearing summary and have been provided to the Commissioners for review. The Commission needs to provide responses to each of the comments provided. Commission responses should indicate whether changes to the regulations will be made based on the individual comment. If the Commission decides to make changes to the regulations and those changes are substantive in nature subsequent public hearing will be required and the process to be repeated. The responses to the public hearing comments and any potential changes to the regulations will need to be brought back before the Commission and voted on.

Commissioner Muetting adds that there were 20 comments submitted and no changes were made based on the comments received.

Commissioner Muetting states that after the public hearing, non-substantive changes were made to the regulations to fix typographical errors, such as spelling errors and grammar.

Commissioner Muetting ask for any discussion?

There is no discussion, Commissioner Muetting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Muetting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

13. Review of proposed regulation changes

Commissioner Muetting states that the next order of business is to review the proposed regulation and consider action on the formal promulgation process.

Commissioner Muetting states the following: the Commissioners each have a copy of the proposed regulations with the non-substantive changes made after the public

hearing. If the Commission decides to make substantive changes to the regulations, a subsequent public hearing will be required, and the hearing summary process will need to be repeated. If the Commission does not wish to make any substantive changes, the proposed regulations will move forward in the formal promulgation process.

Commissioner Elworth says that there some substantive changes and ask how the commission will proceed. Legal counsel advises that substantive changes can be made, all it does is start the promulgation process over and is reminded that the current emergency regulations expire soon.

Commissioner Mueting adds that with updates needing to be done anyways as addressed earlier in the agenda we can make any changes in that round of the process.

Commissioner Synhorst asked how long it'll take?

Legal Counsel responds with clarity and reviews the formal promulgation process.

Commissioner Mueting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Synhorst and seconded by Commissioner Coffey.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.

14. Discuss extension of current emergency regulations, and approve, if applicable.

Commissioner Mueting states that the next order is to discuss the extension of the emergency regulations.

Commissioner Mueting states the following: the current emergency regulations expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 22nd. The Commission will need to vote to extend the current emergency regulations so that regulations remain in full force and effect as the promulgation process for permanent regulations moves forward.

Commissioner Mueting asks if there is any discussion.

Commissioner Synhorst asked for clarification in the formal promulgation process. Legal counsel advises.

Commissioner Mueting asks for a motion and second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Synhorst and seconded by Commissioner Elworth.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth

voting in favor.

15. Reminder of the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting date and time

Commissioner Mueting announces the next order of business is to remind the public of our next regularly scheduled meeting. The next meeting will be May 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the LCC hearing room on the First Floor Hearing Room, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509.

16. Closed Executive Session to discuss imminent litigation regarding regulations or licensing, if necessary

Commissioner Mueting states a closed executive session is not necessary, and the commission will move on to the next agenda item.

17. Adjournment

With no further business to be carried out, Commissioner Mueting asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Synhorst. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:02 PM.

The motion was adopted with Commissioners Mueting, Coffey, Synhorst, and Elworth voting in favor.