NEBRASKA MEDICAL CANNABIS COMMISSION
INAUGURAL MEETING

June 9, 2025
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
301 Centennial Mall South, Lower Level – Otoe Room
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Notice of this meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on June 3, 2025, and Omaha World Herald on June 5, 2025, as well the Nebraska.gov Public Meetings Calendar on May 30, 2025

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order / Introductions.** The meeting was called to order by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) General Counsel, Michael Donley, on June 9, 2025, at approximately 3:00 p.m. Present were Commission members Bruce Bailey, Kim Lowe, and Dr. Monica Oldenburg, establishing a quorum. Commission member Lorelle Mueting was unable to attend due to a conflict. DAS General Counsel, Michael Donley, and Administrative Manager, Jennifer Sommars-Link, attended the meeting to assist.

2. **Review of Agenda and Documents.** Mr. Donley gave a brief overview of the agenda.

3. **Record Roll.** Jennifer Sommars-Link conducted a roll call and noted those present and not present on the Roll Call Sheet.

4. **Oaths of Office.** Oaths of Office were executed by all members present before a notary.

5. **Election of a Chairperson.** Members elected a chairperson by secret ballot, with all 3 votes of all attendee members made unanimously for Dr. Monica Oldenburg.
    a. Chairperson Elected - Dr. Monica Oldenburg

6. **Responsibilities under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and Procedures for the Governance of the Commission, including time, place and manner of meetings.** Ryan Baker, Assistant Attorney General spoke on the requirements of the Open Meetings Act to include notice and agenda requirements and the reasonable notice requirements. He also discussed what constitutes a meeting, and reviewed the requirements of any virtual meetings, as well as the rights and responsibilities of the public attending open meetings and information regarding closed sessions.

7. **Discuss and consider taking action to initiate the rulemaking process to meet the July 1, 2025 and October 1, 2025 deadlines in the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act.** Benjamin Swanson, Assistant Attorney General spoke on the rulemaking process and the deadline of July 1, 2025, for criteria to accept or deny applications for registrations including rules and regulations for such registrations. Mr. Swanson is available for additional questions and a DHHS staff person with significant experience will be assigned to assist with the regulations and navigating the requirements.

    Mr. Swanson later brought up the matter of perhaps authorizing one person to act on behalf of the commission to have discussions and gather information on creating the necessary regulations. Commissioner Bailey made a motion to allow two members to meet at any

one time to gather information regarding rules to bring back to the commission. Chair Oldenburg seconded the motion. Voting for: Bailey, Lowe and Oldenburg. The motion carried.

8. **Department of Administrative Services**
   a. **Jacob Leaver, Deputy State Budget Administrator** reviewed the budget process and how the Commission will work with the Liquor Control Commission to manage expenses, etc. until the budget can be created at mid-biennium. The legislature did increase the PSL (salary) for the Liquor Control Commission by $30,000. Mr. Leaver will be available for questions as they arise.

   b. **Phil Olsen, State Accounting Administrator** reviewed the requirements of a fund and appropriation to spend funds; and the accounting needs of Business Units to be established. State Accounting administers the Purchasing Card Program as well as conducts pre-auditing of spending to ensure payments are appropriate.

   c. **Sean Davis, Personnel Director and DAS HR Shared Services Director** announced services provided for Shared Services as well as the ability to serve as a resource for evaluating staffing needs regarding options etc. The Shared Services team also will assist in getting any necessary paperwork to getting all commissioners established.

   d. **Mike Donley, DAS General Counsel** announced that DAS could assist in finding meeting/office space for future meetings and information regarding how to get public notices published. Discussion was had regarding utilizing Liquor Control Commission's space as well as coordinating meetings times with the other commission to save on travel time/expenses. Chairperson Oldenburg motioned to approve a total public comment time of one hour and 3 minutes for each individual speaker, and to provide 7 days advanced notice for future meetings and to contact DAS to obtain meeting space. Bailey seconded the motion. Voting for: Bailey, Lowe, and Oldenburg. The motion carried.

9. **Public Comment Period.** Mr. Donley announced that anyone wishing to provide public comment could do so no. No member of the public indicated a desire to provide comment. Motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting was made by Oldenburg; seconded by Bailey. Voting for: Bailey, Lowe, and Oldenburg. The motion carried.

10. **Adjournment.** With no further business to be taken, the commission moved to adjourn. Voting for: Bailey, Lowe, and Oldenburg. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:55 p.m.