

**MEETING SUMMARY
MARIJUANA REGULATORY WORKING GROUP
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

NOTE: The public may provide written comments prior to the meeting by emailing those comments by 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, to planning@pueblounty.us. Only comments relating to the Marijuana Regulatory Working Group will be considered. The meeting may be viewed live on the County's Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/PuebloCounty/> however comments will not be taken through Facebook during the meeting.

The following are summarized statements from the Working Group members and County Staff. Please refer to the Pueblo County Facebook page to watch the full video of the meeting.

Ms. Howard began the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brad Lisac, Rob Ganger, Jim Parco, Scott Smith, Tim Gordon, David Lytle

Members Absent: George Schleining, Vanessa Cruz, Matthew Bernal

Staff Present: Carmen Howard, Director of Planning and Development; Gail Wallingford-Ingo, Deputy Director of Planning and Development; Sarah Long, Assistant County Attorney; Dani Cernoia, Recording Secretary

II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Gordon and Mr. Lytle introduced themselves to the group.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Ms. Long informed the group that the County Commissioners would like them to come up with a proposal of different topics and/or issues that they believe should be addressed and discussed by the group going forward. Those topics will be presented to the County Commissioners, who will decide which topics should be addressed first.

Ms. Long informed the group that a quorum will no longer be required, and they will no longer be doing formal votes. Conflicting thoughts within the group that are not agreed upon would result in both thoughts being presented to the Commissioners.

Mr. Parco asked Ms. Long and Ms. Howard to give an update on the status and forecasted next steps of the recommendations sent to the Commissioners after the previous Working Group meeting, and to provide an update on the status of the moratorium on expansion on licensed premises. Ms. Long responded that the Commissioners are still considering the changes and looking at how they can implement the recommendations. She added that the group will be updated as soon as County Staff knows what the next steps will be, which they do not currently know and cannot answer exactly when changes will be implemented.

Ms. Howard informed the group that they will be meeting every other week instead of every week from now on.

Mr. Lisac asked if there are ways to make it easier to get rid of the moratorium.

Mr. Parco suggested creating a web page that has everything; latest updates, County Commissioner notes, applications etc. with a basic URL (example: pueblorcannabis.org) and better structure

Discussion occurred regarding the moratorium.

Mr. Smith suggested simplifying the forms [for application processes] and hiring a licensing clerk or information officer. Mr. Parco agreed and suggested evaluating administrative processes.

Discussion occurred regarding the application processes.

Mr. Parco suggested not moving so fast that the community doesn't have a chance to interact and expressed his thoughts on transparency.

Ms. Long summarized the thoughts and ideas that the group had discussed so far.

Mr. Ganger expressed his concerns with cross-pollination issues and suggested having an inspector in place to confirm that hemp regulations are being followed within the County. Mr. Smith and Mr. Parco agreed. Mr. Gordon provided his input as one of the hemp representatives, and added that it may be advantageous for the County to have another clerk, administrative assistant, or inspector in order to split the County into two or three sections. He also suggested mandating the Clean Fields Act in the approval process and gave details.

Discussion occurred.

Mr. Parco suggested normalizing the rules among peer businesses that are intentional, thoughtful, and helpful for the community.

Ms. Long summarized the thoughts and ideas that the group had discussed so far.

Discussion occurred.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori D Cernoia

Dani Cernoia, Recording Secretary
Department of Planning and Development

LDC