



## Minutes

### Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #7: Monday, April 17, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Deschutes Services Building, DeArmond Room, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend

This meeting was conducted in person and by video. It was video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website [www.deschutes.org/meetings](http://www.deschutes.org/meetings).

#### I. Introductions / Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Cannabis Advisory Panel Chair Liz Lotochinski. Present via Zoom: Patti Adair, Deschutes County Commissioner, Jake Johnstone, Oregon Water Resource Department. Present in person: Tony DeBone, Deschutes County Commissioner; Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator; Jessica Jacks, Deschutes County Prevention and Health Promotion Program Manager, Peter Gutowsky, Deschutes County Community Development Director, Joe Brundage, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Business Manager, Trevor Stephens, Deschutes County Community Justice Business Manager, Jen Patterson, Deschutes County Strategic Initiatives Manager; Mary Fleischmann; Gary Bracelin; Liz Lotochinski; Dr. Andrew Aasen; Detective Dustin Miller, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; Detective Tony Ramos, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Absent: Hunter Neubauer

#### II. Approval of January 9, 2022 Minutes

Mary Fleischman moved to approve the minutes. Gary Bracelin seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

#### III. Presentation on proposed allocation of FY 23'-24' Cannabis Tax Revenue

Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy Administrator, provided an update on the expected increase of Cannabis Tax Revenues for FY 23'-24'. For FY 22'-23', marijuana revenue was budgeted at \$160,000. At the last Cannabis Advisory Panel meeting, staff discussed using the same figure, \$160,000, for marijuana revenue for FY 23'-24'. Since that time, we received our quarterly marijuana tax distribution in the amount of \$45,599.

Based on this most recent distribution, County staff are budgeting FY 23'-24' marijuana tax revenue at \$182,396, an increase of more than \$20,000 than the current fiscal year.

When developing its recommendation for expending the FY 23'-24' marijuana revenue, the Cannabis Advisory Panel should use the updated revenue projection of \$182,396.

#### IV. Presentation on Cannabis Tax Revenue Proposals from four County Departments:

## **Community Justice, Community Development, Health Services, and Sherriff's Office**

Trevor Stephens from Community Justice requested \$25,000 to support efforts to address barriers to substance use disorder treatment for youth on supervision by attending a 4 day University of Cincinnati training class and certification. The costs would include about 18 training class slots. The proposal is for 5-7 County employees in the Community Justice department and the rest would be filled with community provider partners.

Peter Gutowsky from Community Development, requested \$20,000 for Code Compliance. Funds would support coordination issues involving illegal marijuana production and general code compliance cases. Dustin Miller gave a quick synopsis on illegal grow operations where law enforcement were brought in and indicated that it be beneficial if a CDD code compliance officer could be a partner with the sheriff's office when going out on illegal grow operation incidents. Jake Johnstone briefed on a program that Jefferson and Jackson Counties implemented to try to cut back on illegal grows which includes mailing out informational letters on legalities of growing operations. Jake will share a sample of the mailer with the Cannabis Advisory Panel.

Jessica Jacks from Health Services, requested \$60,000 of Marijuana Tax Revenue to continue paid media advertising focused on supporting parents and guardians in Deschutes County to talk with their kids about marijuana and other drugs. As a result of a Marijuana Tax Revenue allocation in FY22'-23' (\$70,000), Health Services developed three Public Service Announcements (PSAs), in English and Spanish, all focused on encouraging parent and child conversations, and connecting parents to related resources. A fourth is currently being produced with additional funding provided by an Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) grant. The requested funds will be used to market and advertise the PSAs already developed from the previous FY. Jessica will provide information to the Cannabis Advisory Panel in questions to if the data shows an uptick on web activity for resources after PSAs have been aired as well as why the PSAs have been targeted to air on specific platforms.

Joe Brundage from Sheriff's Office, requested \$75,000 of Marijuana Tax Revenue toward Illegal Marijuana Enforcement for the FY 23'-24' Budget. As you know, the County was funding 2.0 FTE Illegal Marijuana Detectives, but in recent years reduced that to 1.0 and then 0.5 FTE. The Illegal Marijuana Enforcement team continues to grow.

### **V. Cannabis Advisory Panel Budget Recommendations**

The Cannabis Advisory Panel discussed several options:

1. Recommending all four proposals be funded at the requested amounts.
2. Reduce Community Justice and Community Development to \$10,000 each, fund Health Services at the requested amount of \$60,000 and increase the Sheriff's Office at more than the requested amount.
3. Remove funding for Community Justice and Community Development, fund Health Services at the requested amount of \$60,000 and increase the Sheriff's Office to fund at \$100,000.
4. \$92,000 to Sheriff's Office, \$10,000 to Community Justice and fund Community Development at the requested amount of \$20,000 and Health Services at the requested amount of \$60,000.

The panel voted and unanimously voted to recommend option #4.

## **VI. Cannabis Advisory Panel member updates**

Liz Lotochinski notified the panel that two members are no longer able to serve. Kyle Gorman has retired from his watermaster position with the state. County staff is working with the interim director to fill Kyle's role as a watermaster representative on the panel. Joe Stapleton resigned his position and County staff is working to fill Joe's role as a licensed marijuana retailer.

## **VII. Public Comments**

No public comments

## **VIII. Next Steps**

Next meeting topics will include a presentation from Community Development Department on code compliance summary of the 2023 annual reporting season. Sergeant Vander Kamp will present on the Clear Alliance program. Information and discussion on chair rotation and panel re-applications. Legislative updates.

## **IX. Wrap up and Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. The Advisory Panel agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager,  
Deschutes County Administrative Services