



Minutes

Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #6: Monday, January 9, 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.

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: Kent Vander Kamp; and Dr. Andrew Aasen. Present in person: Phil Chang, Deschutes County Commissioner; Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator; Jessica Jacks, Deschutes County Prevention and Health Promotion Program Manager, Karen Ard, Deschutes County Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, Ben Evans, Senior at Summit High School, Caroline Hicks, Sophomore at Summit High School, Jen Patterson, Deschutes County Strategic Initiatives Manager; Mary Fleischmann; Gary Bracelin; Liz Lotochinski; Hunter Neubauer and Detective Dustin Miller, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Absent: Joseph Stapleton and Kyle Gorman

II. Approval of October 17, 2022 Minutes

Hunter Neubauer moved to approve the minutes. Mary Fleischman seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. Presentation on Juvenile use of Cannabis and Health Services Utilization of Cannabis Tax Revenue

Jessica Jacks, Deschutes County Prevention and Health Promotion Program Manager, Karen Ard, Prevention Strategist, Ben Evans, Student, and Caroline Hicks, Student, presented on Juvenile use of Cannabis. Prevention and Health Promotion is a team that sits in the Public Health Department. The presentation addressed all prevention programs as it is more about teaching prevention skills rather than a focus on an individual substance. There is a continuum of care that focuses on promotion, prevention, treatment, and recovery. Presented guiding principles on risk and protective factors for adolescent drug use. Caroline Hicks presented on the Oregon statistics of youth cannabis usage, Oregon youth has increased usage of cannabis while national trends have not increased usage. A survey conducted, in 2020, with Deschutes County 11th graders, showed that 21.7% of County 11th graders stated they used cannabis within the past 30 days versus 13.5% of 11th graders state-wide.

Behavioral Health has started a program in all three County school districts called “Up Shift” that designs a system that a student who shows up to school impaired will be screened to either go to prevention intervention or be referred to treatment. Prior to this program the student was just suspended and sent home. Overall most youth in the County do not use cannabis.

The CAP’s funding recommendation to the BOCC approved some resources for the Public Health Department to promote community awareness including 3-4 targeted ads to help parents have conversations with their kids and improve the current website. ODOT heard what the County was doing and is adding \$10,000 to provide ads on awareness of impaired driving.

Liz Lotochinski asked if it would be helpful to have a consistent amount of funding every year. Jessica responded that the additional amount of resources is amazing, Health’s work is very strategic and it is hard to pivot really quickly. Having some consistency benefits the department in helping to continue to plan on future programs.

IV. Update on Deschutes County spending of FY 22’-23’ Cannabis Tax Revenue.

Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy Administrator, provided an update on how the Cannabis Tax Revenues were utilized for FY 22’-23’. Health was awarded \$70,000 for education and outreach media campaigns. \$20,000 went to fund code compliance operations. \$70,000 went to the Sheriff’s Office to help pay for continued service of two detectives assigned to marijuana as well as funding for Law Enforcement District #2 (the rural district).

V. Proposed allocation of FY 23’-24’ Cannabis Tax Revenue

Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy Administrator, discussed the difference between one-time funding versus ongoing funding. Figuring out the intent of CAP recommendations for funding will help direct the funding dollars. Funding recommendations for staffing positions can be difficult to have as a one-time fund on a yearly basis as it can take a few months to advertise and hire for a position and difficult to find a well-qualified person without being able to provide more permanent job security.

CAP believes it would be worthwhile to reach out to departments to see what type of specific projects and/or proposals departments would use cannabis revenue on if it was available. Departments to reach out to could include: Behavioral Health; District Attorney’s Office; Code Compliance; Sheriff’s Office; and Community Justice (specifically the Juvenile Department). CAP would like to receive department proposals ranging from \$20,000 - \$60,000, departments could submit more than one proposal. Proposals should be no more than one page in length. The total yearly budget is expected to be up to \$177,000. CAP agrees the awarded funds should be additive to department projects/services versus used for covering budget shortfall or as a replacement to existing budget money (i.e., budget committee should not “claw back” existing funds if a department is receiving cannabis tax revenue dollars).

VI. Next Steps

CAP is interested in composing a letter to the legislator to propose recommendations on legislature designated funding specifically for cannabis. Additionally the letter could address how cannabis tax dollars have not been used on cannabis prevention and education. Liz Lotochinski and Mary Fleischman will work on drafting a letter and sharing it around with other CAP members in order to have a more concrete draft available for the next CAP meeting.

CAP would like to receive the department proposals for potential funding one month prior (March 17, 2023) to the next meeting. CAP will choose one to two departments to briefly speak about their proposals, 5-10 minutes.

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. The Advisory Panel agreed that the next meeting would be held on

Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

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