



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes

### Board of Health



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Tuesday, January 16, 2018

5:30 PM

Regular

Department of Public  
Health and Human  
Services

Training Room 1  
1005 W. Worley St.

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Szewczyk called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Staff Present: Stephanie Browning, Scott Clardy, and Amy Larkin.  
Janet Thompson represented the Boone County Commission.

**Present:** 9 - Cynthia Boley, Harry Feirman, Elizabeth Hussey, Lynelle Phillips, Mahree Skala, David Sohl, Michael Szewczyk, Mary Gadbois and Angie Bass

**Excused:** 2 - Jean Sax and Denise Stillson

#### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Szewczyk suggested modifying the order of discussion for the agenda items to move New Business before Reports.

A motion was made by Ms. Skala, seconded by Mr. Feirman and carried.

#### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the December 14, 2017 meeting were approved as presented.

A motion was made by Dr. Hussey, seconded by Mr. Sohl and carried.

**Attachments:** [December 14, 2017 Minutes-DRAFT](#)

#### IV. REPORTS

##### Legislative Report

**Attachments:** [BOH Legislative report 01-16-18](#)

Mr. Clardy reported that the legislative session started January 3rd, 2018. Only one additional bill has been filed since the previous meeting. No movements have been made on any of the bills.

The Congressional Budget Office has discovered that with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) reauthorization would save the government six billion dollars in the next ten years. Mr. Feirman suggested

sending a letter that had been discussed in previous Board meetings to our Congressional delegation. Discussion ensued, and it was agreed that Dr. Szewczyk would send the current draft of the letter to Ms. Bass and Mr. Feirman for their review.

### **County Commissioner Report**

Mr. Clardy reported for Ms. Thompson that the Boone County Commission is working with Department staff and Cradle to Career staff to obtain a Pritzler Family Grant for assistance in ramping up support for pre-k children.

The County Commission is also working with the PHHS, VA Hospital staff and MU School of Social Work cooperatively for a supportive housing grant.

A grant was awarded from Episcopal Diocese Liaison to the County to help create a tool to make resource identification easier for all stakeholders.

Ms. Thompson is attending the 2018 NACo Health & Justice Forum in Memphis which is focused on the intersections of health & justice, linking systems and improving outcomes.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### **Update on Status for Tobacco Retailer Licensure**

Ms. Browning reported that the law department was hoping to finish their review of Tobacco Retailer Licensure by the end of January.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **City Council Request Regarding Medical Marijuana Initiative Petition**

**Attachments:** [1 - Council Resolution on marijuana](#)  
[2 - Petition Initiative Referenced in Council Resolution](#)  
[3 - MO Medical Marijuana Petitions - Comparison](#)  
[4 - Early Cannabis Use & Drug Use Escalation](#)  
[5 - Letter from Dan Viets](#)  
[6 - Handout A from Dan Viets](#)  
[7 - Handout B from Dan Viets](#)  
[8-Recreational Marijuana in Colorado Decrease in Opioid Deaths](#)  
[9-Scientific American Marijuana & Opioid Crisis](#)  
[10-Medical Marijuana Decreases Opioid Use](#)  
[11-Efforts of Legal Access to Cannabis on Scheduled II-V Drug Prescriptions](#)  
[Cannabis-public-release-slides](#)

At their February 5, 2018 meeting, the City Council asked the Board to discuss and report back to the Council on a resolution supporting the statewide legalization of medical marijuana and how that might impact the opioid crisis. The Council also asked the Board to review the various Missouri marijuana Initiative Petitions that have been approved for signature collection.

The Board thought it best to concentrate on the following three main points:

1. Should the City Council support the statewide legalization of medical marijuana;
2. Should the City Council endorse the home cultivation of medical marijuana and if so, how many plants; and
3. Look at all Initiative Petitions and determine which would be best for the City Council to support.

The Board discussed the lack of large scale controlled clinical studies on medicinal use of marijuana and that, currently, only epidemiological studies and case reports exist. It was observed that cannabis has been classified as a Schedule I drug which has limited its ability to be used in case controlled clinical trials.

It was also noted that while there is evidence of the effectiveness of marijuana in the treatment of chronic pain, there is only limited data on whether medical marijuana is better for a patient than currently available controlled substances, what the long term side effects may be, and for how long a patient could continue using medical marijuana? Ms. Bass noted

there are FDA approved drugs that haven't been fully researched regarding their long term use.

There was discussion on the studies from the states that have legalized medical marijuana and how there appears to be lower death mortality from opioid overdoses. It was observed that medical marijuana could give doctors an alternative to chronic opioid use. There was a consensus that medical marijuana would be less likely to lead to other drug uses and overdoses.

**A motion was made by Dr. Gadbois, seconded by Ms. Boley that the Board of Health recommends the City Council support the statewide legalization of medical marijuana.**

**Yes:** 7 - Boley, Feirman, Hussey, Skala, Szewczyk, Gadbois and Bass

**No:** 2 - Phillips and Sohl

**Excused:** 2 - Sax and Stillson

The Board then discussed cultivating a personal supply of cannabis for medical purposes.

The Missouri Medical Marijuana Initiative Petition allows six plants per person, twelve plants total for two adults in the same household if they both have a card. The initiative has regulations for cultivating medical marijuana in the home which would be regulated by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

Mr. Dan Viets was present as a guest at the meeting. He stated there are only two Initiative Petitions currently circulating. One is the #41 Bradshaw Amendment that claims the author will find a cure for cancer. The proposal will have a tax of 15% on retail sales and as well as a medical marijuana wholesale tax. The revenue would go to a "medical research institute" whose Board of Directors would be hand- picked by Brad Bradshaw.

Mr. Viets went onto say that the other Initiative Petition is The New Approach Missouri project and is based on the best aspects of the 30 states that have already legalized access to medical marijuana. It provides a tightly-regulated system of cannabis cultivation, processing, and dispensing under a doctor's supervision. It has a retail sales tax of 4% to fund veterans' health care and other services.

Mr. Viets mentioned that Initiative Petitions are being used in lieu of legislation to minimize the impact the legislature may have on the wording of the proposals. Mr. Viets believes the City passing the resolution would encourage other cities to endorse the initiative.

**A motion was made by Dr. Gadbois, seconded by Ms. Bass that the Board of Health's report to City Council will not address the home cultivation of medical marijuana.**

**Yes:** 6 - Boley, Feirman, Hussey, Phillips, Gadbois and Bass

**No:** 3 - Skala, Sohl and Szewczyk

**Excused:** 2 - Sax and Stillson

**A motion was made by Ms. Bass and seconded by Dr. Hussey that the Board of Health recommends the City Council support Initiative Petition 2018-054 with no declarations of concerns.**

**Yes:** 4 - Boley, Hussey, Gadbois and Bass

**No:** 5 - Feirman, Phillips, Skala, Sohl and Szewczyk

**Excused:** 2 - Sax and Stillson

**A motion was made by Mr. Feirman, seconded by Ms. Skala that the Board of Health recommends the City Council support Initiative Petition 2018-054; however, the Board of Health has concerns that the number of plants allowed by this Initiative Petition could lead to cultivation of excessive amounts of marijuana and diversion of marijuana for illicit use.**

**Yes:** 5 - Feirman, Hussey, Skala, Szewczyk and Bass

**No:** 1 - Sohl

**Excused:** 2 - Sax and Stillson

**Abstain:** 3 - Boley, Phillips and Gadbois

**A motion was made by Mr. Sohl, seconded by Ms. Phillips that the Board of Health endorses further research into marijuana for medical use (for example clinical trials), in reference to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report titled "The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannaboids."**

**Yes:** 8 - Boley, Feirman, Hussey, Phillips, Sohl, Szewczyk, Gadbois and Bass

**Excused:** 2 - Sax and Stillson

**Absent:** 1 - Skala

## VII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

None

**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

February 8, 2018

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Ms. Boley, seconded by Dr. Gadbois to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.**

Members of the public may attend any open meeting. For requests for accommodations related to disability, please call 573-874-7214. In order to assist staff in making the appropriate arrangements for your accommodation, please make your request as far in advance of the posted meeting date as possible.