

ICR Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2021 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

<https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/510564566>

Meeting Minutes:

ATTENDEES: Cinnamon Bidwell, Chad Kinney, Sue Sisley, Nicole Quartiero, Scott McWhorter, Sherard Rogers, Sal Pace, Jon Reuter, Malik Hasan, Maureen Leehey, President Mottet, John Lord, Ean Seeb

- I. Welcome (12:00-12:03pm) Dr. Bidwell
- II. Approve minutes from 11/13/20 (12:03-12:05pm) Dr. Bidwell
 - Sue moves; Dr. Hasan second Yes (10)
- III. RFA Updates (12:05pm-12:10pm) Nicole Quartiero
 - a. Proposals Submitted
 - b. Call for Reviewers
 - Discussion by the board regarding the number that we can fund.
 - Suggestion by Dr. Hasan to include the total amount requested in future requests to the State.
 - Suggestion by Dr. Bidwell to show the range of institutions and projects to highlight with the dollar amount requested.
- IV. Potential Research Funding (12:10-12:50) Dr. Bidwell and Dr. Kinney
 - a. Potency Legislation – Sal Pace
 - Sal provided an update on the overarching issues of the potency legislation and how the ICR can play a role in providing unbiased research to inform future decisions/legislation.
 - Dr. Hasan shared that minors are an important consideration here. Dr. Bidwell shared that experts are also saying there is a need for more research in this area. Dr. Hasan explained that the black market is another layer that has to be considered.
 - b. Strategy Feedback
 - Dr. Kinney discussed the efforts thus far including: reaching out to the current sponsor of the bill and the Speaker of the House to explain how the ICR can assist in these efforts as well as research meeting the state's needs in general. The current ICR RFA can be leveraged as an example of how to facilitate these efforts.
 - Dr. Bidwell also reached out to the sponsor of the bill and received a reply.
 - Dr. Sisley asked if the bill can be placed on hold until 1-2 studies are completed. Mr. Pace agrees that this would be optimal, but it will be up to the legislator. A similar bill is under consideration in Washington.
 - Dr. Hasan asked about what the premise of the legislation is. Mr. Pace discussed Project SAM.
 - Mr. Seeb provided an overview of the engagement by the Governor's office thus far. He also discussed a recent CDPHE report and recommendation on the issue (education, surveillance and research). Dr. Bidwell shared that research can positively contribute in all of these areas.
 - Recommendation was made by Mr. Seeb to proactively engage trade industry reps. ICR has an opportunity to further develop these areas.
 - c. Talking Points (see below) Feedback
 - Taken from the 1-pager drafted by Drs. Kinney, Bidwell and Nicole Quartiero.
 - Dr. Bidwell encouraged the board to think about their connections to share this information with.
 - Mr. Rogers agreed and shared that this is important especially as it relates to protecting communities and consumers.
 - Mr. Pace recommended that the ICR should produce a short letter as soon as possible to all 100 legislators overviewing our work and offering to conduct research on potency and covid

treatment and asking the General Assembly to fund them. We also should offer a briefing to any legislator who has questions about the program. This was supported by the group. The message would be to communicate that the ICR is here and this is the research that can be done with a direct ask for emergency funding for at least two studies.

- Dr. Bidwell agreed to the approach and suggested that the members also share with their personal network in addition.
- Dr. Leehey shared The Univ of Colorado has an active C2RC group of cannabis researchers that would be interested in supporting our stance, e.g., this document
- Mr. Pace shared that he would suggest Cinnamon sign the letter and we send a hard copy and email copy to each of the 100 legislators. Then we as board members could follow up to respective contacts. In his conversations he has been using the amount \$3.6 Million/year to support 2-3 studies as a gold standard.
- Dr. Bidwell confirmed this is how the 1-pager is currently organized.
- Mr. Pace shared that despite some divide, there is a desire to find compromise by stakeholders. And thus, there is a strong sense of urgency. Motion to allow Dr. Bidwell to finalize and approve the content; Dr. Hasan seconded this to avoid any time delays. Yes Votes (10)
- Mr. Seeb said that he may be able to share this information but would need a draft very shortly.
- Dr. Hasan shared that we need to make it clear that these efforts are founded upon public interest and founded in science.

V. Other Potential Funding - Grants and Contracts + F&A (12:50-12:55) Dr. Kinney

- Tabled for further discussion between Drs. Bidwell and Kinney.

VI. Public Comment (12:55-1:00pm)

- Dr. Lindley shared that she is happy to help secure support from the C2RC on behalf of the discussed efforts. Dr. Leehey asked how/where this group would submit this letter. Dr. Bidwell made a recommendation that can be shared with Drs. Leehey and Lindley on an approach. Mr. Pace commented that they can be sent to people's respective legislator.
- Dr. Hasan asked President Mottet to send a letter. President Mottet agreed.
- Dr. Hasan asked for the CU support. Dr. Reuter said yes, but it might take some time. Drs. Bidwell and Reuter will work on this effort offline.

VII. Adjourn

Key Talking Points:

- With the legalization of medical and recreational cannabis, Colorado has both an obligation to protect public health and an opportunity to advance cannabis knowledge.
- There is currently a lack of available research related to THC potency of cannabis products – CDPHE has noted the need for additional research on the topic to inform regulatory decisions
- The Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) is committed to supporting unbiased cannabis research using national best practices to select research projects and investigators.