

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
January 2, 2017, 4:00 p.m., Special BCC Meeting - Commission Board Room
1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Alan Bush	Charles Kent Chairman	Tray Hawkins	Todd Abbott Vice-Chairman	Steve Joyner

- A. Call to Order – Chairman Kent
- B. Invocation/Pledge – County Administrator Hamilton/Chairman Kent

The Washington County Board of County Commissioners met on the above date referenced with the following members present: Chairman Kent, Commissioners Bush, Hawkins, Abbott, and Joyner.

Also attending the meeting are as follows:

- Jeff Goodman, County Attorney
- Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court
- Hank Hamilton, County Administrator
- Risha Brantley, Deputy Clerk

I. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Temporary Medical Marijuana Moratorium – County Attorney Goodman addressed the Board and public in reference to ordinance 17-1, which is an ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Florida establishing a temporary moratorium on growing, cultivating, processing, manufacturing, dispensing, distribution, and wholesale and retail sale of medical cannabis, low-thc cannabis, and

derivative products, or any related activities establishing a temporary moratorium on the opening, relocation, or expansion of any medical marijuana dispensing facility within unincorporated Washington County; Directing county staff to develop proposed land development regulations and other recommendations regarding such cannabis-related activities; providing for penalties; providing for severability; providing for codification; providing an effective date.

In November, amendment 2 passed, which basically legalized the cultivation, production, and dispensing of medical cannabis for a wider variety of potential patients.

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At this time, the purpose of the moratorium is to enable the county to determine the best way to regulate medical cannabis activities for the benefit of the public's health, safety, and welfare.

This is not a prohibition against medical marijuana. The moratorium is essentially a pause.

The Department of Health will handle the licensing, security, and other issues.

The ordinance will apply to unincorporated Washington County. The cities are subject to their own home-rule powers.

Commissioner Abbott asked if the municipalities that do not have an ordinance in place will, this take effect in those areas.

County Attorney Goodman advised Commissioner Abbott, they have the ability to piggy back on the ordinance presented today.

County Attorney Goodman advised the Board, upon approval of the ordinance it will be forwarded to municipalities.

Commissioner Hawkins questioned how penalties will be established, which are referenced in section 5.

County Attorney Goodman advised that it would be addressed as a planning and zoning violation. It is not a law enforcement issue but a planning and zoning issue.

The ordinance is a pause for an individual to apply in the next 240 days to open a dispensing facility. It is not criminal at this time as far as the ordinance goes.

If state statute is violated in respect to not being a permitted dispenser, there will be other ramifications for that.

Commissioner Hawkins expressed interest in having involvement with the sheriff's department as this proceeds with planning and zoning.

There were no public comments.

- II. **ADOPT THE AGENDA – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and carried to adopt the agenda.**
- III. Non-Agenda Audience – Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to

be heard on the proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- Temporary Medical Marijuana Moratorium – Jeff Goodman, County Attorney – **Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and unanimously carried to pass ordinance 17-1.**

County Attorney Goodman advised the Board after the February meeting in Orlando a special meeting will be schedule to discuss the topic.

County Administrator Hamilton advised the Board he will update them as far as any upcoming LDC amendments.

- V. ADJOURN – **Commissioner Hawkins offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to adjourn.**

Deputy Clerk Brantley

Date Board Approved