Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board Meeting Minutes December 18, 2020

The Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board (CCB) held a public meeting on December 18, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. In compliance with the Governor's Emergency Directive #006 dated March 22, 2020 and Emergency Directive #029 dated July 31, 2020, the Meeting was conducted by means of electronic communication.

Cannabis Compliance Board Members Present:

Michael Douglas, Chair Jerrie Merritt Dennis Neilander Riana Durrett Dr. Bryan Young

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director, called the meeting to order and took roll. Chairman Michael Douglas was present in Las Vegas. Member Dennis Neilander, Jerrie Merritt, Member Riana Durrett, and Member Dr. Bryan Young were present via video connection. Deputy Attorney General Asheesh Bhalla confirmed that the meeting complied with open meeting requirements.

I. Public Comment

Executive Director Klimas stated all public comment received up until the start of the meeting will be read into the record. Any public comment received after the start of the meeting will be read into the record at the second public comment period.

No public comment was received.

II. A. Consideration for approval of the November 17, 2020 Cannabis Compliance Board Meeting minutes

Chair Douglas asked for a motion for agenda items II A. Member Neilander made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 17 minutes as stated. Member Merritt seconded. All members said aye. Motion carried.

III. Request for Transfer of Interest

A. Chief Investigator David Staley presented agenda Item A for Lone Mountain Partners, LLC (TOI 21010). The TOI was filed by Lone Mountain Partners to clarify its organizational structure as approved by the Department of Taxation in June 2016. There was an intermediary company that was not disclosed in the previously approved transfer of interest. TOI 21020 was an administrative TOI to clarify the records. Staff did not identify any areas of concern.

There were no questions from the Board Members. Member Neilander made a motion to approve agenda Item III A. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

B. Chief Staley presented agenda Item B for Planet 13 Holdings Inc. (TOI 20017). The transfer of interest request was filed by Planet 13 to include the transfer of T077 to the approval received at the August 25, 2020 Board Meeting. The license for T077 was included in the Asset Purchase Agreement between West Coast Development and Planet 13 Holdings, Inc. but was mistakenly not included in the transfer of interest request previously submitted and approved at the August 25 Board meeting. Planet 13 requested approval of transfer of T077 and has filed an application for a waiver pursuant to NCCR 5.112. Staff did not identify any areas of concern.

Member Neilander commented that he was pleased with the way the reports were prepared and presented. Member Durrett agreed. There were no questions from the Board Members. Member Neilander made a motion to approved agenda Item III B as stated. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried. **C.** Chief Staley presented agenda Item C for Nye Farm Tech LTD (TOI 17003). The request was for internal transfers which would result in four existing owners transferring their membership interest to an intermediary owned by three existing members and to one other existing member. If approved, 93% ownership would be held by The Healing Center, LLC (Sandi Orr, Sophie Ideker, and Rick Saga) and 7% by David Broxterman. Staff identified areas of concern with the request because the transfers occurred before Nye Farms sent in the TOI applications, an apparent violation of NAC 453D. During the CCB staff investigation, Nye Farms was unable to provide requested financial statements. Despite repeated requests to explain the lack of financials and transfers of interest completed without CCB approval, the company was unable to provide anything until December 17, 2020. A timeline was provided along with a brief explanation of delays. Rick Saga and his counsel, Anthony Santos, were available for questions.

Chair Douglas asked for Rick Saga and counsel to explain why the licensee was unable to provide the requested documents. Mr. Saga explained that he tried to reach his accountant for the requested documents when CCB staff asked for them. One accountant left the country and was unable to return. The second accountant lost two family members due to covid and was unable to produce the documents. Mr. Saga is working with them to receive the documents and will produce them. Chair Douglas had concern that Mr. Saga was not able to produce the documents and asked Mr. Saga if he would be able to produce the financials and other documents in time for review prior to the January meeting. Mr. Saga stated he would work on providing those for review prior to the January meeting.

Chair Douglas proposed looking at 30-day conditional TOI approval to allow the licensee to operate, subject to appearing on the January agenda with completed information for the final background investigation. Chair Douglas asked the Board for other suggestions. Member Durrett commented that it was worrisome that the records were not immediately available, as they should be something that the licensee had on hand. Mr. Saga apologized and responded that they had been unable to open a bank account due to nature of the business, and they did not have an excess of cash to pay anyone. He had the tax returns. Mr. Saga requested time to acquire the balance sheets, P&L, and detailed financial statements. Member Durrett asked if they could require the licensee to review the regulations. Chair Douglas replied that they could require the licensee to work with CCB staff to review everything and provide the documents. Mr. Santos added that he would ensure that his client complied.

Member Durrett made a motion for a 30-day conditional approval of the transfer of interest, conditioned upon the requirements of profit and loss statements, balance sheets, more documentation on whether the transfers had occurred, and review of the regulations with an attorney, all to be completed and provided to CCB staff prior to the January meeting. Member Neilander seconded the motion. All members said aye. Motion carried.

D. Chief Staley presented agenda Item D for Green Growth Brands, Inc. and The Source Holding, LLC (TOIs 19041, 19042, 19043, 19077, 20013, 20014, 20015, 20016). The TOIs were filed by Green Growth to request approval to complete the acquisition of Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC by purchasing the remaining 5% ownership; request for approval of the insertion of three intermediary companies between Green Growth and its Nevada licensees; and request for approval for The Source to acquire all of Green Growth's Nevada cannabis licenses pursuant to a court-ordered Acquisition Agreement. Green Growth and The Source have requested waivers pursuant to NCCR 5.112 and 5.125. Staff identified areas of concern with TOI 20016 because Green Growth completed the insertion of the three intermediary companies ten months before filing the request for approval, an apparent violation of NAC 453D.315; and Green Growth completed various transactions where it acquired and issued shares of its common stock without prior approval, an apparent violation of NAC 453D.315 and NCCR 5.110. Chair Douglas asked to hear from the licensee's counsel, Amanda Connor, to answer questions from the Board.

Amanda Connor appeared on behalf of Nevada Organic Remedies, Henderson Organic Remedies, and Wellness Orchards of Nevada. Ms. Connor stated they have worked for several months with CCB staff regarding these transfers, some of which were pending from May of 2019. The clients understood the concern of the investigator in relation to the intermediary companies. There was a misunderstanding that the pass-thru entity would trigger such a transfer, and they attempted to correct it by filing the notice of transfer. In regard to the stock issuances, the requirements for publicly traded companies had not been clear. The client strived to operate in compliance and submitted notices of transfer of interest for several licenses. The client tried to be as forthcoming as they could, but are working through the requirements of publicly traded companies.

Chair Douglas asked for questions from the Board. Member Neilander asked for the licensee to explain the intermediary companies and their understanding of the regulations surrounding it. Without licensees adhering to the regulations, there could be hidden ownership. Ms. Connor stated that she has had discussions with her clients and the proposed new owners, and they understand the concern and the reasons for full disclosure. It was a misunderstanding of the requirements, and it will not happen moving forward. Member Neilander asked how the compliance will work going forward. Ms. Connor responded the company will be private and no longer publicly traded. There will be employee in Nevada the as the compliance officer, Ms. Connor will remain as regulatory compliance counsel and several members of The Source were the original owners of the medical license, who were previously good compliant operators. Member Neilander asked if the transfers were in compliance with Canadian Securities Law. Chief Staley responded that they were in compliance, and the transfers were well below the 5% threshold.

Member Durrett asked when the stock transfers occurred. Chief Staley responded that three were completed under the NAC and two were completed under the NCCR. Member Durrett asked how the stock transfers would have been processed if the Department of Taxation did not have a process in place. Chief Staley responded that there was an extended review period and hold put in place, and there was a lack of clarity in the NAC and in the ability of the Department of Taxation to process the ones involving publicly traded companies. Member Durrett asked if any transfers occurred after August 5th. Chief Staley corrected his earlier response, and stated that all of the transfers occurred under the NAC. Member Durrett added that there needs to be clarification on stock transfers so that industry and regulators can be on the same page.

Member Neilander agreed with Member Durrett. It appeared that the licensee did try to comply, although the TOI application came 10 months after the transfers occurred. Member Neilander asked for comments on shelf approvals and how to deal with continuous offering that occur with public companies from Chief Staley. Chief Staley responded that he did not know if a shelf or continuous offering would apply in all cases. The NCCRs tried to allow for flexibility and NCCR 5.125 addresses the shareholder requirement. He concluded there would need to be changes to the statute to allow a shelf. Member Neilander commented that the concern would be control, and if an issuance of new stock was going to affect control of the company. In this instance, the issuance of stock was for financial reasons and did not seem to have control issues. Member Neilander would discuss further at another time.

Member Neilander asked Ms. Connor if the issuances and reissuances of stock were intended to affect control of the company. Ms. Connor responded that her understanding was that it was not; it was related to financial issues. It was less than 5% and the company applied for the waivers prior to the submitted transfer and shortly after the adoption of the regulations that went into effect.

Chair Douglas had concerns with transparency and the failure to provide the information as to the intermediary companies in a timely fashion. Chair Douglas asked Chief Staley if it was appropriate to approve at the meeting or if it should be referred to look at for possible violations, or conditioning approval with monetary sanctions. Chief Staley responded that there was precedent set that intermediary companies required a TOI application, but also recognized that there was a lack of clarity. The insertion of intermediary companies was a violation, but they were not conducted on purpose; it was an oversight. Secondary offerings occurred during a time when there was not clear guidance from the Department of Taxation. It may be appropriate to look at a dollar fine.

Chair Douglas stated his position would be to condition the approval of the TOI on the stipulated agreement of Green Growth and The Source to accept a civil penalty in the amount of \$25,000, if acceptable by the licensee. If not, the other option would be to refer back to staff to look into the violations. Chair Douglas had concerns with the response letter from Green Growth Brands and their position at the time. Chair Douglas asked if Ms. Connor had authority or needed to speak with the licensee. Ms. Connor responded that although stock offerings will no longer be applicable to this client, additional clarification would be good for the industry. Ms. Connor had authority to accept a fine of \$25,000 if the transfer was approved.

Member Neilander supported approving the transfer of interest as outlined, the stipulated agreement and \$25,000 fine. Member Durrett added that there was a moratorium on transfers and the industry needed to accept that; and there will probably be more issues like this in the future. Chief Staley reminded the Board that there was also the suggested condition of the 5.125 waiver for The Source. Chair Douglas asked if that was acceptable to Member Neilander's motion. Member Neilander confirmed. Member Merritt seconded the motion. All Members said aye. Motion carried with the waiver and penalty to be worked out with the Attorney General's office.

Chief Staley presented agenda Items E, F, G, and H, which were the TOI applications for Mystic Holdings and MediFarm, LLC and MediFarm I, LLC (MediFarm). TOIs 19039, 19039A, 19039B, 19073 were filed by MediFarm and its parent company Terra Tech Corp to request approval to transfer licenses for D088, RD088, D106, and RD106 to Mystic. TOI 19067 was requested to be withdrawn. TOI 20018 was filed by Mystic requesting approval of a Regulation A filing by Mystic of 50 million shares (approximately 43% of the company). Mystic requested waivers pursuant to NCCR 5.112 and 5.125 of the requirements of NCCR 5.110. Chief Staley presented the agenda items in a different order than placed on the agenda in order to act all of the transfers before acting on the Regulation A filing.

H. Agenda Item H, TOI 19067, was requested to be withdrawn by MediFarm, LLC. The sale agreement between MediFarm and Harvest Health and Recreation, Inc. was terminated.

Member Neilandar made a motion to approve the withdrawal for TOI 19067. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

G. Agenda Item G was the application by MediFarm I, LLC that requested approval for the transfer of licenses D106 and RD106 to Picksy Reno, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mystic Holdings. Michael Cristalli and representatives from Terra Tech were available for questions.

There were no questions from the Board. Member Neilander made a motion to approve agenda item G, for TOI 19073. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

F. Agenda Item F was the application by MediFarm, LLC and consisted of TOIs 19039, 19039A, and 19039B. TOI 19039 was the application for the sale of 19% ownership from each of Camden Goorjian and Richard Vonfeldt to Terra Tech Corporation, the majority holder of MediFarm, LLC. TOI 19039A was the application for transfer of the remaining 1% held by Camden Goorjian and Richard Vonfledt to Terra Tech Corporation, resulting in Terra Tech holding 100% of MediFarm. TOI 19039B was the application of transfer licenses D088 and RD088 from MediFarm to Picksy, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mystic. Staff identified no areas of concern with the application. Michael Cristalli and executives from Terra Tech and Mystic were available for questions.

Chair Douglas asked for questions from the Board. Member Neilander noted that it would be easier to combine these related transfers into one item, as a suggestion for the future. Member Neilander made a motion to approve agenda Item F. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

E. Chief Staley presented agenda Item E, which was the TOI 20018 filed by Mystic Holdings, Inc. requesting approval of a Regulation A offering by Mystic of 50 million shares, or approximately 43% of the company. Mystic requested waivers pursuant to NCCR 5.112 and 5.125 of the requirements of NCCR 5.110. Mystic has adequately addressed the required items. Staff suggested the Board limit the 5.125 waiver to expire on such agenda date as Mystic's next TOI application is heard. Staff identified no areas of concern. Michael Cristalli and executives from Terra Tech and Mystic were available to answer questions.

Member Neilander asked Chief Staley why the condition was attached to the item. Chief Staley responded that that the waiver allows for the licensee to request a time period to be covered by the waiver. The expiration date was suggested so that a blanket waiver is not issued to the company. It will allow for a secondary offering or transfers of shares of less than 5% without Board approval, but allows the Board to evaluate the waiver in the future. Member Neilander made motion to approve agenda Item E. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

IV. Consideration of the Proposed Settlement Agreements to Resolve Disciplinary Action

Senior Deputy Attorney General Kristopher Rath presented the proposed settlement agreements.

A. Cannabis Compliance Board vs. Gravitas Nevada (Case No. 2020-20) was filed and served on September 22, 2020. Respondent's counsel initiated settlement discussions. The Attorney General's office and CCB staff came to a mutual agreement to resolve the matter. The complaint concerned violations by a medical and adult use production facility in May 2018. Gravitas self-reported that an employee had without authorization improperly taken several cannabis products home. The products were taken by a minor in the home to a school. The complaint alleged three Category 1 violations (for reporting product destroyed when it had not been) and ten

Category 3 violations (for allowing diversion of cannabis products). The respondent shut down of its own accord and quickly instituted corrective measures, including dismissal of the key offending employees and suspensions of others. To resolve the matter, the respondent admitted to two Category 2 violations, one Category 3 violation, and agreed to imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$52,500 inclusive of costs.

Member Durrett made a motion to recommend approval of the stipulation and agreement. Member Merritt seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

B. Mr. Rath presented Cannabis Compliance Board vs. Silver State Cultivation, LLC (Case No. 2020-21). The complaint was filed and served on October 20, 2020. Respondent's counsel, the Attorney General's office and CCB staff came to a mutual agreement to resolve the matter. The allegations involved failure to comply with the requirements of disposal of cannabis waste, failure to comply with required documentation on security cameras and security camera malfunction log, and a failure to comply with tracking requirements. To resolve the matter, respondent admitted to one Category 3 violation and two Category 4 violations for its cultivation facility, one Category 4 violation and one Category 5 violation for its production facility, and the imposition of a \$28,470 civil penalty for both facilities inclusive of time and effort costs. A plan of correction was provided and the licensee is in compliance.

Member Neilander made a motion to approve the settlement agreement. Member Merritt seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

C. Mr. Rath presented Cannabis Compliance Board v. Nevada Medical Group (Case No. 2020-22). The complaint was filed and served on October 20, 2020. Respondent's counsel, the Attorney General's office and CCB staff came to a mutual agreement to resolve the matter. The allegations concerned several violations of respondent allowing employees to work in its cultivation facility without valid cannabis agent cards in their immediate possession and false statements made to CCB investigators. To resolve the matter, respondent admitted to one Category 2 violation and three Category 4 violations with respect to the agent cards, one Category 5 violation, and a \$50,000 civil penalty inclusive of costs. A plan of correction was provided and the licensee is in compliance.

Member Merritt made a motion to approve the settlement agreement. Member Durrett seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

D. Mr. Rath presented Cannabis Compliance Board vs. Medical Cannabis Healing (Case No. 2002-26). This matter was the result of the Board's approval of a transfer of interest contingent upon the respondent paying a civil penalty for failure to notify the CCB of transfer prior to the transfer taking place. Respondent waived rights to filing and service of a disciplinary complaint, admitted to the imposition of one Category 2 violation, and agreed to pay the \$4,000 civil penalty.

Member Durrett made a motion to approve. Member Merritt seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

E. Mr. Rath presented Cannabis Compliance Board vs. Alex Rodriguez (Case No. 2020-13). The complaint was filed and serviced on August 25, 2020. The complaint alleged respondent worked at a dispensary when he was only authorized to work in a production facility and diversion. Respondent was not represented by counsel but negotiated with the CCB and its counsel to reach an agreement. To resolve the matter, the respondent admitted to a violation of 453D.365(2)(a), revocation of agent card for four years from the date the CCB approved the settlement agreement, and \$1,250 civil penalty. If the civil penalty is not paid within that four years, the revocation period is nine years and eleven months.

Member Durrett made a motion to approve the settlement agreement. Member Merritt seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

V. Consideration of Proposed Settlement Agreement Approved by the Nevada Tax Commission

A. Senior Deputy Attorney General Ashley Balducci presented the agreement memorializing a settlement between the Department of Taxation and RAD Source Technologies, LLC to resolve litigation. In the settlement, the Department of Taxation, within three judicial days of the effective date or as soon as reasonably possible after the effective date, will pay \$500 to reimburse RAD Source for petitioning the CCB to repeal and/or amendment of NCCR 12.065 in exchange for a dismissal with prejudice of the litigation. The agreement provides that the

CCB shall issue guidance on the applicability of NCCR 12.065 within twenty-one days of the effective date, schedule a public workshop on January 19, 2021 regarding NCCR 12.065 chaired by Member Young, and shall provide public notice to the cannabis industry of the workshop. The Tax Commission approved the settlement on December 7, 2020.

Member Neilander asked if it will impede the discretion to be able to consider Member Young's findings based on the workshop. Ms. Balducci responded that it did not impede the ability of the Board to dispose of the petition. Member Young asked if section 2.3 referred to all forms of radiation of if that was open to a different interpretation. Chair Douglas noted that the petition before the Board is to look at the regulation. The Board can move to strike it, modify it, or take no action. Member Young commented that product is unique in that it is used recreationally and medicinally, applied topically, ingested, and inhaled. Regulation for the safety of the consumer was most important.

Member Neilander made a motion to approve agenda item V(A), the settlement agreement approved by the Nevada Tax Commission, to the extent it imposes certain duties and requirements upon the Board. Member Merritt seconded. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

VI. Petitions filed Pursuant to NRS 678A.460(1)(d)

A. Deputy Director Michael Miles presented agenda item VI (A), a petition filed by RAD Source Technologies, Inc. requesting relief from NCCR 12.065 which requires that cannabis or cannabis products treated with radiation must be labeled with a notice to inform purchasers of said treatment.

Kimberly Maxson-Rushton appeared on behalf of RAD Source. The petition submitted that the regulation imposed an unnecessary obligation on licensees to include a notice which is not scientifically based and has the potential to mislead the public. Ms. Rushton noted that NRS 678D.420 did not authorize the additional labeling requirement that was currently in NCCR 12.065. The parties mutually agreed to proceed to a workshop on the regulation. Ms. Rushton responded to Member Young's earlier question about section 2.3 in the settlement agreement. Ms. Rushton explained that the specific provision was an agreement where the CCB would notice the industry that NCCR 12.065 was applicable to all forms of radiation, not just irradiation. Ms. Rushton requested the Board to grant the petition, recognize the requirement relative to the notice, and proceed to workshop if necessary; or it is their request that the regulation be repealed.

Chair Douglas stated this this was an opportunity, as the labeling issue had been brought up a number of times. Chair Douglas would like to have an executive summary on this matter presented to the Board in January, then placed on the February agenda to take whatever action is appropriate. Member Durrett commented that she was glad with the direction this was headed, as the petition process can avoid litigation in the future.

Chair Douglas made a motion to grant the petition, setting the item for executive summary at the January 26 Board meeting for consideration of information presented at the January 19 workshop, with action taken at the February Board meeting. Member Neilander seconded the motion. All Members said aye. Motion carried.

B. Mr. Miles presented agenda item VI (B) from Blackbird Logistics, who held two cannabis distributor licenses. Blackbird requested relief from the two-driver rule under NCCR 13.025(5) due to the current emergency COVID-19 situation. NCCR 13.025(5) requires two cannabis establishment agents to accompany any vehicle that transports more than \$25,000 worth of cannabis or cannabis products.

Jennifer Gallerani, Director of Compliance, appeared on behalf of Blackbird. Ms. Gallerani stated their petition contained two recommendations. One was emergency action request for relief of the two-driver rule during the coronavirus pandemic, to prevent a situation where one employee with a positive case would shut down the majority of wholesale distribution in Nevada. The second recommendation was the consideration to waive the requirement in perpetuity as they did not feel two drivers presented an additional security benefit.

Chair Douglas commented that he would look at it as an eminent health hazard under 4.065(1)(i) and considered suspending the two-driver requirement for a time-period until the February 23 Board meeting. Deputy Attorney General Asheesh Bhalla clarified that what would be voted on is to schedule the matter for action pursuant to NRS 678A.460(1)(d); it would be scheduled and enforcement of the rule suspended until that hearing.

Member Neilander asked for comment regarding having a second vehicle follow. Ms. Gallerani stated that the requirement was for two drivers in one van. They have not seen a need for a security tail. For deliveries, the security factors occur on loading and unloading, which are done in secure locations under camera and security guard. Ms. Gallerani argued that a robbery in transit would likely target the cash. Member Young asked if the driver had access to the product once it is loaded. Ms. Gallerani responded that the cargo was secured and the driver had the key. Member Young asked if the two person rule was to protect the product from a third party robbery or theft from an employee. Director Klimas responded that two person rule was in place for security reasons, to have a backup for an extra level of safety and security. Member Young questioned if there was one driver, would secondary security measure be implemented. Ms. Gallerani added they could provide a summary regarding diversion or internal theft risk if needed.

Chair Douglas made a motion for suspension based on the eminent health hazard under NCCR 4.065. Member Young seconded. All members said aye. Motion carried.

VII. Approvals and Resolutions

Director Klimas reported that MM Development Company, Inc. (RD215) was issued its final license on November 18, 2020.

VIII. Briefing to the Board from the Executive Director

Chief Investigator David Staley provided a report on the status of Transfer of Interest applications. In summary, staff have completed fifty TOIs and submitted them to the Board for action since August 2020. Staff have completed or started forty-nine out of the ninety-two TOIs impacted by the extended review period. Thirty-eight of the extended review period TOIs have not yet been assigned, but they are anticipated to be assigned in first part of 2021.

Executive Director Klimas provided an update on agent registration cards. Agent card processing numbers were good with same day applications being processed. The delay outside of CCB control is the time it takes to mail in a payment, so it can take seven to ten days before an application can be finalized. In most cases, applicants receive the temporary agent card the same day that the payment is received if the application is complete. A pilot program is planned to allow a direct draw down from an established account for same day payment on applications requested by an establishment. CCB was also working on implementing ACH payments to allow for online payments from a checking account.

Executive Director Klimas thanked the industry for its patience and willingness to adapt. Director Klimas acknowledged the CCB staff and partners and the Attorney General's office for their work and commitment throughout the year.

IX. Next Meeting Date

Chair Douglas stated the next meeting date is January 26, 2021.

X. Items for Future Agendas

Chair Douglas thanked the CCB staff and the Board Members for their work throughout the year. Chair Douglas added that the Nevada Legislature will meet in 2021 and the Board would like an update on what the industry will be looking at legislatively.

XI. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.