

# **County of Monterey**

Government Center- Monterey Room  
168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901



**CANNABIS PROGRAM**  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY

## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Join via Zoom at <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99494643490> or in person at: 168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor-Monterey Room, Salinas CA 93901; or 599 El Camino Real, Greenfield CA 93927 – District 3 Office**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**

**3:00 PM**

**Special Meeting**

**Cannabis Committee**



Supervisor Chris Lopez will appear by video conference on this date at: 599 El Camino Real, Greenfield CA 93927. Consistent with Government Code Section 54953, an agenda will be posted at this location, and it will be accessible by the public.

**Participation in meetings:**

Members of the public may participate in Committee meetings in two (2) ways:

1. You may attend the meeting in person at 168 W. Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas CA 93901 – Government Center Building, Monterey Room; or;
2. You may participate via Zoom at: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99494643490>

If you do not have access to a computer, you may call into the meeting and participate by calling the following number: 1-669-900-6833 and entering the following meeting ID: 994 9464 3490

If you choose not to attend the Cannabis Committee meeting but desire to make a public comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment to Araceli Baltierra at [baltierraA@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:baltierraA@co.monterey.ca.us) and your comment will be placed into the record at the meeting.

If you are watching the live stream of the Cannabis Committee meeting and wish to make either a general public comment or to comment on a specific agenda item as it is being heard, please select the “raise hand” option on the Zoom screen, and your microphone will be unmuted so you can speak. To select the “raise hand” option, click on the ‘participants’ icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen, then click the “raise hand” icon next to your name.

**Participación en reuniones:**

Los miembros del público pueden participar en las reuniones del Comité de (2) maneras:

1. Puede asistir a la reunión en persona en 168 W. Alisal Street, Segundo Piso, Salinas, CA 93901 - Centro de Gobierno del Condado de Monterey, Monterey Room; o,
2. Puede participar a través de Zoom en: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99494643490>

Si no tiene acceso a una computadora, puede llamar a la reunión y participar llamando al siguiente número: 1-669-900-6833 e ingresando la siguiente identificación de la reunión: 994 9464 3490

Si decide no asistir a la reunión del Comité de Cannabis, pero desea hacer un comentario, envíelo antes de las 5:00 p.m. del viernes anterior a la reunión, a Araceli Baltierra, por correo electrónico a: [BaltierraA@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:BaltierraA@co.monterey.ca.us) y su comentario se incluirá en el registro de la reunión.

Si está viendo la retransmisión en directo de la reunión del Comité de Cannabis y desea hacer un comentario público general o comentar un punto específico del orden del día mientras se escucha, seleccione la opción "levantar la mano" en la pantalla de Zoom, y su micrófono se silenciará para que pueda hablar. Para seleccionar la opción "levantar la mano", haga clic en el icono de "participantes" que encontrará en la parte inferior de la pantalla de Zoom y, a continuación, haga clic en el icono "levantar la mano" que encontrará junto a su nombre.

**TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, LA PARTICIPACIÓN DEL PÚBLICO POR ZOOM ES ÚNICAMENTE POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES REQUERIDA POR LA LEY. SI LA ALIMENTACIÓN DE ZOOM SE PIERDE POR CUALQUIER MOTIVO, LA REUNIÓN PUEDE PAUSARSE MIENTRAS SE INTENTA UNA SOLUCIÓN, PERO LA REUNIÓN PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.**

**PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE PRESENT IN PERSON, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY ZOOM IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW. IF THE ZOOM FEED IS LOST FOR ANY REASON, THE MEETING MAY BE PAUSED WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE MEETING MAY CONTINUE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.**

**NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to corresponding Committee Report.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address comments to the Committee concerning each agenda item. Timing of the public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.**

**Call to Order**

**The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.**

**Additions and Corrections**

**There were 2 corrections.**

**Public Comment Period**

**There was no public comment.**

**Approval of Action Minutes**

1. Consider approval of action minutes from the January 4, 2024, Cannabis Committee meeting.

**ACTION: The Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee Minutes from January 4, 2024, was approved by consensus**

**Regular Agenda**

2. Provide a verbal update on the status of the County of Monterey Cannabis Program Manager recruitment.

*Presenter: Nick Chiulos, Chief Assistant County Administrator Officer*

**ACTION: Committee received a verbal update on status.**

3. a. Receive a status update on commercial cannabis consumption lounges and the critical collaboration needed between County departments and local agencies to analyze the elements needed for an amendment to the Monterey County Code to include this new business type;  
b. Recommend the Cannabis Committee identify the prioritization of continued work for a commercial consumption lounge; and,  
c. Recommend the Cannabis Committee make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on how to proceed.

*Presenters:*

*Joann Iwamoto, Interim Cannabis Program Manager*

*Craig Spencer, Acting Housing and Community Dev. Director*

*Nicki Fowler, Environmental Health Specialist IV*

*Michelle House, Health Program Coordinator*

*Brian Jones, Deputy District Attorney*

*Sgt. Nicholas Kennedy, Sheriff Office*

*Division Chief Scott Anderson, Monterey County Regional Fire Dist.*

*Chief Joel Mendoza, North County Fire Protection District*

**ACTION:** Committee received a status update on commercial cannabis consumption lounges; including departmental input of potential benefits, the requirements, and necessary restrictions. The committee also heard from concerns from other county departments. Chair and Vice Chair agreed to move forward and bring the commercial Cannabis Consumption Lounge item to the full Board for further discussion. No prioritization established.

**Public Comment:** Michelle H Williamson, Aram Stoney, Bob Roach, Sara Stewart, Jennifer Rosenthal, Esq., Joey Espinoza

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2024.

**Committee Members:** Supervisor Mary L. Adams, Chair; Supervisor Chris Lopez, Vice-Chair.  
**Committee Staff:** Nick Chiulos, Chief Assistant County Administrative Officer; Robert Brayer, Deputy County Counsel; and Araceli Baltierra, Committee Secretary.

- Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to items referenced on this agenda and/or submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are on file and available for public inspection at the County Administrative Office, County of Monterey Government Center, 168 West Alisal Street, 3rd Floor, Salinas CA 93901.
- Meetings of the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee are accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Administration Building and Monterey Conference Room are wheelchair accessible. Please contact the County of Monterey Civil Rights Office at 831-755-5117 if you need assistance or accommodations to participate in a public meeting or if you need the agenda and public documents modified as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The following services are available when requests are made by 5:00 p.m. of the Friday before this noted meeting: American Sign Language interpreters during a meeting, large print agenda or minutes in alternative format.
- If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please contact the Senior Secretary in the County Administrative Office at 831-755-5419. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests for translation assistance. Requests should be made as soon as possible, and at a minimum 24 hours in advance of any meeting.
- Si usted requiere la asistencia de un intérprete, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de Administración localizada en el Centro de Gobierno del Condado de Monterey, (County of Monterey Government Center), 168 W. Alisal St., Tercer Piso, Salinas - o por teléfono llamar al 831-755-5419. La secretaria hará el esfuerzo para acomodar los pedidos de asistencia de un intérprete. Los pedidos se deberán hacer lo más pronto posible, y a lo mínimo 24 horas de anticipo de cualquier junta.