



Minutes

Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #15: Monday, July 14, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Deschutes Services Building, Allen Room, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend

This meeting was conducted by video. It was video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website www.deschutes.org/meetings.

I. Introductions / Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Cannabis Advisory Panel Chair Liz Lotochinski. Present in person: Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager; Liz Lotochinski; Mary Fleischmann; Hunter Neubauer; Jeremy Giffin; Dustin Miller; Tony Ramos, Sheriff's Office; Kevin Riding, Sheriff's Office; Aixa Willoughby, Anti-Trafficking Project; and Bre Barrett, Anti-Trafficking Project. Present online: Matt Hurt;

II. Approval of April 21, 2025, Minutes

Mary Fleischmann moved to approve the minutes. Hunter Neubauer seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously. Hunter Neubauer and Matt Hurt's term ends on October 17, 2025, Hunter is willing to serve another two-year term on the CAP. Dustin Miller's term expires on October 17, 2025. Anthony Ramos will be the new CAP member representing the Sheriff's Office and will serve a one-year term.

III. Presentation from Anti-Trafficking Director

The Anti-Trafficking Project (at:project) has been around since 2018 and supports Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson Counties as well as Warm Springs. Aixa and Bre presented on what the at:project does and what trafficking means. Human trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for various purposes, including forced labor, services, and commercial sex. All minors involved in commercial sex are automatically viewed as a victim – but may not see themselves as victims.

Traffickers can be parents/caregivers (33%), intimate partners (28%), employer (22%), and others (17%). Indicators of trafficking merely serve as an initial reference point for assessing a situation. No single indicator confirms the existence of trafficking, several indicators combined can mean it is more likely that a person is being exploited or is actively being targeted and recruited. Not all trafficking situations can be identified through indicators. Indicators can include sudden change in behavior, presence of controlling individuals, especially older companions, inability to move freely or seeming constantly monitored, and frequent unexplained absences from school or home.

At:project provides direct services to victims and survivors of human trafficking in Central Oregon. They are a survivor-centered, trauma informed program that provides comprehensive services for survivors of

sex and labor trafficking, both adults and minors.

At:project offers crisis intervention, case management, safety planning, transportation assistance, legal advocacy, housing navigation, survivor support, basic needs support, and medical and mental health referrals. They also offer community support, education, and training.

The Cannabis Workers Program was created in 2022 with the at:project. They work directly with workers affected by the illegal marijuana market in Central Oregon. The program supports legal, transportation, housing, immigration, credit relief, referrals, and basic needs.

Since July of 2022 at:project has provided 66 training courses totaling 1,876 people trained. They encourage people to call at:project if anyone has any questions or referrals.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments

V. Next Steps

Next meeting will be Zoom only.

VI. Wrap up and Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m. The Advisory Panel agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager
Deschutes County Administrative Services