

MMC Meeting 1

DJB

1/9/19(ThursAM)

More than two years after voters legalized medical marijuana in Arkansas, the state's Medical Marijuana Commission will now grant licenses to dispensaries. KUAR's Daniel Breen was at last night's (Wed) meeting, and has this report.

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Members of the commission had voted to outsource the grading of dispensary applications to avoid any potential setbacks. Now, all five members of the commission voted to accept the scores of the Boston consulting group tasked with grading nearly 200 applications. Scott Hardin, spokesman with the Department of Finance and Administration, says it should be two weeks until the top-scoring applicants are fully licensed. (NEWS15) A total of 32 dispensaries will make up the inaugural group, spread out over 8 zones across the state. This marks what's likely the last big regulatory hurdle the commission had to overcome, in a series of many that sidelined the availability of marijuana in the state for over two years. Now, with some growers expecting to have product ready by April, they'll likely also have a place to sell it by then. DJB, KUAR News.

MMC Meeting 2

DJB

1/9/19(ThursAM)

Members of the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission voted unanimously yesterday (Wed) to accept an outside group's recommendations for licensing marijuana dispensaries. The five commissioners accepted Boston-based Public Consulting Group's scores for the nearly 200 applicants the state received. Department of Finance and Administration spokesman Scott Hardin says the 32 highest-scoring applicants will be spread out over 8 zones in the state.

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"...opening in stores."

Arkansas voters approved a medical marijuana amendment in November of 2016, but a series of legal and regulatory hurdles has delayed the process of implementing it. The commission will meet again in February to set rules and regulations for transporting marijuana from growers to dispensaries.