

Washington State Department of Agriculture
Hemp in Food Task Force
August 31, 2022 (1 to 3:00pm)

Meeting Notes

This meeting was not recorded. Gregory Foster of Cannabis Observer obtained permission from the Task Force members present to record the audio output of the meeting.

NOTE: The original agenda for this meeting included a presentation from Joy Beckerman and subsequent discussion of her content. Shortly before the meeting was to begin on August 31, Joy had to respond to a veterinarian emergency and was unable to join the meeting. We hope that her presentation can be rescheduled in the very near future. It is also noteworthy that a fair number of other Task Force members were unable to participate on August 31 due to various reasons.

Those members present on August 31 decided to use the time to share what progress the “Bio-Safety Issues & Concentration” and “Language - Terms and Definitions” workgroups have been making.

Jessica Tonani shared her notes from a recent Bio-Safety Issues & Concentration workgroup meeting. She subsequently sent these notes to the entire Task Force. Please see these notes for a full description of their work. This workgroup is particularly concerned with reviewing available data for CBD and other cannabinoids. The workgroup wants to know who is gathering the necessary data for review. Some of the needed data may be provided in Joy’s presentation, and it is likely that other sources must be consulted.

Joy is the note-taker for the Language – Terms and Definitions workgroup, which also met recently. In her absence, Dylan shared his recollection of the meeting. They are looking at current lexicons and seeking to define impairment and intoxication in this context. They are also looking at GRAS precedents. There was an extended conversation about new dietary ingredient standards and whether that applies in this context. There were questions about whether extensive testing would be required. Dr. Stella asserted that it was likely they would be able to rely on precedent research.

Jessica Allenton graciously accepted several “assignments” from the Task Force, including checking on the creation of a central depository for Task Force documents and getting clarity about data collection.

Amber Wise committed to proposing a milestone schedule for producing the report to the legislature.

Before the meeting concluded, the members tentatively agreed to meet again on September 7, and hoped that Joy would be able to deliver her presentation. The Task Force does not have additional meetings scheduled at this time.

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