

# MEETING MINUTES

## Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research: BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 11:00 am

*Remote Connection via Zoom*

### Board Members Present:

Roger Fillingim, Chair  
Dalton Dietrich  
Martha Rosenthal  
Eric Holmes  
William Anderson  
Ximena Levy  
Charles Weatherford  
Max Orezza  
Timothy Gilbertson

### Board Members Absent:

(None)

### Attendees:

Almut Winterstein, Consortium Director  
Robert Cook, Consortium Associate Director  
Yan Wang  
Joshua Brown  
Amie Goodin  
Sebastian Jugl  
Anna Shavers  
Jeevan Jyot  
Brianna Costales  
Ruba Sajdeya  
Jennifer Jean-Jacques

### Opening Remarks

Dr. Roger Fillingim of the University of Florida (UF) called the meeting to order at 11:02 am. He welcomed all Board Members and thanked everyone for being flexible and meeting via Zoom. He introduced the two new Board Members: Dr. Ximena Levy of Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and Dr. Charles Weatherford and Florida A&M University (FAMU).

### Overview, Budget Status and Updates on Consortium Future

Dr. Almut Winterstein introduced the Consortium leadership team including Dr. Bob Cook, Dr. Amie Goodin, Dr. Yan Wang, Dr. Joshua Brown, Jeevan Jyot, and Anna Shavers. Dr. Winterstein provided updates on MEMORY, the Annual Report, the Cannabis Clinical Outcomes Research Conference (CCORC), the prospective Cohort, Evidence in Context series and the patient/provider infosheets.

Dr. Winterstein shared updates on the budget. Yesterday the Governor signed the state budget, and the Consortium will receive \$1.5 million, as in the previous year. Dr. Winterstein handed the meeting over to Dr. Goodin to give an overview of the Cannabis Clinical Outcomes Research Conference (CCORC).

CCORC attracted 225 registrations prior to April 8<sup>th</sup> from 31 states and five countries. The conference was only slightly over budget, and registrations continue to come in due to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) offering. All CCORC content and recordings will remain accessible for six months (October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021) at <http://ccorc.mmjoutcomes.org/>.

Following the review of CCORC 2021, Dr. Winterstein handed the meeting back to Dr. Fillingim to discuss the Grants Program review.

### **Discussion of Grants Program Scoring Method**

The Consortium received 24 applications for the grants program this year. These proposals were reviewed by ad-hoc out-of-state faculty reviewers with demonstrated expertise in the respective research area.

Dr. Fillingim provided an overview of the scoring method and decision process for the grants program. Based on the overall reviewer scores, Dr. Fillingim recommended starting at the top with the best average overall impact scores and working down the list. All Board Members agreed, and review began at the highest rated proposal. Board members and consortium faculty were recused during discussions of proposals, if they were involved in any capacity.

### **Review Grant Proposals based on Reviewer Scores**

The proposals and their reviewer comments were discussed in detail by the board members in order of highest to lowest reviewer scores. Dr. Fillingim briefly described each proposal to the Board and requested comments.

Dr. Fillingim and Dr. Winterstein estimated the budget for this year would be at \$650,000. The Board decided to choose the top nine to eleven proposals for funding, based on their determination of the strongest proposal and the total cost of funding proposals.

Dr. Fillingim read the names of the top 9 PIs and their Institutions, whose proposals were selected for funding based on detailed discussions. The board decided to ask for a response to reviewer comments from the PIs of the next five top ranking proposals. Based on their review of the PI responses and ranking of these 5 proposals, a decision to fund two more proposals would be made. The Consortium and the Board will not release funding names or send award or non-award letters until the final decisions have been made.

### **Vote on Grants Program Applicants**

Dr. Fillingim completed a roll call of all voting board members of the Board. All the board members were in attendance. Dr. Fillingim proposed to start the voting process. Dr. Bill Anderson motioned to vote, and Dr. Martha Rosenthal seconded the motion. All Board Members present voted in favor of funding the top 9 proposals and continuing the vote on the final 5 proposals via email. No Board Members opposed the decision, and no Board Members abstained from voting.

### **Board Chair and Vice Chair**

Dr. Fillingim shared that the board needs to appoint a new Board Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Fillingim nominated Dr. Bill Anderson as Board Chair and called for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations. All Board Members present voted in favor of nominating Dr. Anderson as the Board Chair. No Board Members opposed the decision, and no Board Members abstained from voting.

Dr. Fillingim opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice Chair. Dr. Max Orezza nominated Dr. Martha Rosenthal. All Board Members present voted in favor of nominating Dr. Rosenthal as the Board Vice Chair. No Board Members opposed the decision, and no Board Members abstained from voting.

### **Public Comments**

The Chair invited comments from the public and none were submitted.

### **Closing Remarks**

Dr. Fillingim recapped the discussions today including the plan to finalize the funded proposals via email. Dr. Winterstein and all Board Members thanked Dr. Fillingim for his service as the Board Chair for the past two years. Dr. Fillingim also shared that Dr. Dietrich will be stepping down as the University of Miami (UM) representative. Dr. Jacqueline Sagen will be taking his place on the board.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Fillingim adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.