



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LAWS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE ABLE COMMISSION MEETING

February 21, 2025

The filing of the meeting and posting of the agenda were in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. The notice of the meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on October 18, 2024. The agenda was posted on February 19, 2025, on the front and back doors of the 50 Northeast 23rd Street building in Oklahoma City, the door of the ABLE Commission's Office Reception area, and the ABLE Commission website.

Chairman Brooks started the meeting with agenda Item #1 and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. at the office of the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement (ABLE) Commission at 50 Northeast 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Chairman Brooks directed Executive Secretary Shae Isaacs to move forward with agenda Item #2 and a roll call of the following ABLE Commissioners was announced: Chairman Jonathan Brooks; Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis; Commissioner H. Robert "Bob" Usry; Commissioner Keith Mitchell; Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford; and Commissioner Austin Benton.

Assistant Attorney General and ABLE Commission legal counsel, Joe Dewey, acknowledged that the ABLE Commission is compliant with the Open Meeting Act and there were enough Commissioners present to complete a quorum for the current meeting. A quorum was then established for the ABLE Commission meeting February 21, 2025. A notice of the meeting and agenda were posted 48 hours prior to the meeting and in accordance with Oklahoma statute 25 O.S. §311.

The visitors that were in attendance were: Donnie Anderson, Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBNDCC); Sarah Stewart, Director of Communications for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for the State of Oklahoma; Lauren Kidwell, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Todd Cox, Traditions Spirits; Collin Graham, Oklahoma Restaurant Association (ORA); J.B. Jarboe, Southern Glazers Wine and Spirits; Randy Malone, Attorney/Oklahoma Beverage Law; Gwendolyn Caldwell, lobbyist for the Institute for Responsible Alcohol Policy; Patrick Gaines, Craft Brewers Association; Anne McKinney, Oklahoma Beer Alliance; Justin Naifeh, Republic National Distributing Company; Robert Jernigan, Retail Liquor Association of Oklahoma; Alex Adkins, Beer Distributors of Oklahoma; and Ellen Spiropoulos, Phillips Murrah Law Firm.

The following ABLE Commission employees in attendance were: Executive Director Brandon Clabes; Assistant Director/General Counsel/Public Information Officer Lori Carter; Deputy General Counsel Leif Arvidson; Licensing Director/Prosecuting Attorney Kate Springer; Assistant Attorney General and ABLE Commission legal counsel Joe Dewey from the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma; Licensing Supervisor Carla Clanton; Captain Scott Smith; and Executive Secretary Shae Isaacs.

Director Brandon Clabes introduced his guest Donnie Anderson, Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBNDCC). Director Anderson thanked the ABLE Commission for their support and briefly explained how ABLE is assisting with the sex trafficking prevention initiative with OBNDCC.

Director Brandon Clabes introduced another one of his guest, Sarah Stewart, Director of Communications for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for the State of Oklahoma. Director Stewart will be setting up the social media pages for the ABLE Commission.

Chairman Jonathan Brooks moved to agenda item #5, review, discussion and possible action to approve, amend or reject the minutes from the January 17, 2025 regular meeting of the ABLE Commission. Commissioner Usry made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2025 regular commission meeting. Commissioner Revelis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks – Yes
Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis – Yes
Commissioner Robert “Bob” Usry – Yes
Commissioner Keith Mitchell – Yes
Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford – Yes
Commissioner Austin Benton – Abstain

Chairman Brooks moved to agenda item #6, discussion and possible action on the following employee training program applicants’ curriculum pursuant to OAC 45: 15-3-1.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve the re-certification for Oklahoma Liquor Sales Policy, In-House Training – Costco Wholesale Corporation. Commissioner Revelis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks – Yes
Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis – Yes
Commissioner Robert “Bob” Usry – Yes
Commissioner Keith Mitchell – Yes
Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford – Yes
Commissioner Austin Benton – Yess

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT FOR JANUARY 2025:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks moved on to Item #7 on the agenda, presentation of Executive Director’s Report and the report for Chief Law Enforcement Agent Todd Peck in his absence. The reports are a review of administrative and operational activities for January 2025, with possible discussion. Executive Director Brandon Clabes provided the following information to the ABLE Commission:

- Director Clabes met with many different entities, committees, agencies and conferences including: meetings with Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS); Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations (OSBI); attended the Rose State College Regents meeting; attended the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs meeting; meeting with Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (OBNDD); meeting with Oklahoma State Department of Health; meeting with Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES); meeting with Oklahoma Department of Public Safety (DPS); meeting with Oklahoma Restaurant Association (ORA); meeting with Senate Appropriations Hearing; meeting with Chief J.D. Younger of the Edmond Police Department; meeting with Representative Neil Hays; meeting with Representative John George; and meetings with members of the media, several constituents and concerned citizens of the public.
- Director Clabes and Assistant Director Carter met with Representative Hays regarding the upcoming Vape legislation and an ongoing investigation.
- Director Clabes and Assistant Director Carter attended a legislative breakfast in Shawnee at the Gordon Cooper Technology Center where several legislators were present.
- Director Clabes and Assistant Director Carter met with Chief Financial Officer/Comptroller Jennifer Treadwell and Human Resources Director, Christine Chalmers, regarding several finance and human resource issues.
- The ABLE Commission has hired a Chief Operations Officer that will take over several duties. They will start on March 3, 2025.
- Deputy General Counsel Leif Arvidson is working on the Annual Report for the ABLE Commission. It will be available in the upcoming months.
- Director Clabes and Assistant Director Carter had a zoom meeting with ORA representatives, James Leewright, Collin Graham and Julia Jernigan regarding proposed legislation.

- ABLE staff continues to meet with lobbyists and wholesalers to discuss better communication among the agency and industry.
- Director Clabes presented the following information on behalf of Chief Law Enforcement Agent Todd Peck:
 - Chief Peck continues to disseminate new agency policy and procedures on a weekly basis via the Lexipol application.
 - Director Clabes authorized the purchase of body-worn cameras for ABLE agents. Once delivered, they will be issued to all districts along with the utilization policy, once approved. Chairman Brooks expressed the importance of the body-worn camera policy being available to the public for input before it is adopted.
 - ABLE agents are currently testing new handheld radio equipment in an effort to obtain better communication in the field.
 - Assistant Director Carter and Chief Agent Peck attended a groundbreaking ceremony in Wellston, Oklahoma for the new DPS training center.
 - Currently, OSBI human resources is in the process of filling an agent vacancy for McAlester district.
 - Director Clabes, Assistant Director Carter, Chief Peck and Lieutenant Rekstad met with the U.S. Attorney's office regarding an on-going investigation.
 - Agents participated in a refresher firearms course at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Firing Range.
 - Chief Peck continues to take the lead in moving forward with the agency's Digitization Project. The decision was made to begin with all legal files and old Commission meeting records.
 - The ABLE Commission has been able to surplus/donate six older vehicles. Three of those vehicles were sent to state surplus while the other three were donated to the Moore/Norman Vo-Tech Basic Peace Officer Certification (BPOC) program.
- The next regular ABLE Commission meeting will be in 5 weeks on March 28, 2025.

- Chairman Jonathan Brooks moved on to Item #8 on the agenda, Assistant Director's operational, docket and legislation report with possible discussion. Assistant Director/General Counsel/Public Information Officer Lori Carter presented the following legislative and legal report to the Commission:

- Assistant Director Carter's docket report consists of 59 cases settled for the month of January 2025. For the month of February 2025, there have been 42 cases resolved. There are 4 cases currently pending on the docket and 23 cases set for the month of March.
- There was a handout presented to the Commissioners that focuses on some current bills that are on the Senate floor for possible discussion.
- Legislative Report:
 - March 6, 2025 is the deadline for the Oklahoma House and Senate bills to be submitted from their committees.
 - Director Clabes and Assistant Director Carter presented their budget to the Senate Public Safety Committee on February 5, 2025.
 - Assistant Director Carter briefly highlighted some legislation that may effect the ABLE Commission this coming session: House Bill 1602; House Bill 1270; House Bill 1367 (Senate Bill 1032); House Bill 2369; House Bill 2799; House Bill 2804 (Senate Bill 520); Senate Bill 272; Senate Bill 344; Senate Bill 436; Senate Bill 465; Senate Bill 1031; Senate Bill 1046; and Senate Bill 1099. Tobacco/vape related bills that are currently being discussed during the session are: House Bill 1265; House Bill 1682 (Senate Bill 936); and Senate Bill 1102.

- Chairman Brooks moved to Item #9 on the agenda, comments from the public limited to items on the agenda for meeting date February 21, 2025.

- Robert Jernigan with the Retail Liquor Association of Oklahoma made a comment related to the agency's social media and consistency amongst the agents.
- Lauren Kidwell with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services made a statement about tracking training with the compliance checks that are performed by ABLE agents.
- Collin Graham with the Oklahoma Restaurant Association thanked the ABLE Commission for the meeting to discussion upcoming legislation and statement regarding employee training courses.
- Ellen Spiropoulos, attorney with the Phillips Murrah Law Firm made a statement regarding the ACCELA licensing system.

- Chairman Brooks moved to Item #10 on the agenda, new business in any matter not known about or, which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of the posting of the agenda. There was no new business to discuss.

- Chairman Jonathan Brooks moved on to Item #11 on the agenda, discussion and possible action to enter into Executive Session as authorized by 25 O.S. § 307 (B)(4). Discussion of confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning pending investigations, claims, and actions, the disclosure of which would seriously impair the public body's ability to process the claims or conduct investigations, litigation, or proceedings in the public interest. Commissioner Revelis made a motion to move into Executive Session. Commissioner Stanford seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks – Yes
Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis – Yes
Commissioner Robert “Bob” Usry – Yes
Commissioner Keith Mitchell – Yes
Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford – Yes
Commissioner Austin Benton – Yes

Commissioners entered Executive Session at 10:59 a.m.

Commissioners exited Executive Session at 11:19 a.m.

- Chairman Jonathan Brooks called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m. and called for a motion to return from Executive Session. Commissioner Mitchell made the motion to return from Executive Session. Commissioner Usry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks – Yes
Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis – Yes
Commissioner Robert “Bob” Usry – Yes
Commissioner Keith Mitchell – Yes
Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford – Yes
Commissioner Austin Benton – Yes

No action was taken in Executive Session

- Chairman Jonathan Brooks moved on to Item #12 on the agenda, adjournment. Commissioner Benton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Chairman Jonathan Brooks – Yes
Vice Chairman Andrew Revelis – Yes
Commissioner Robert “Bob” Usry – Yes
Commissioner Keith Mitchell – Yes
Commissioner A. Ainslie Stanford – Yes
Commissioner Austin Benton – Yes

The meeting was then adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Jonathan Brooks, Chairman