

North Carolina Industrial Hemp Commission

MINUTES

March 5, 2018 11:30 AM
Telephone / Internet Conference Call

Table with 2 columns: Commission attendees, Other official attendees. Lists names of participants such as Guy Carpenter, Chief Tony Godwin, Billy McLawhorn, Tom Melton, PhD, Fen Rascoe, Pat Short, Alexander Stewart, PhD, and Guochen Yang, PhD.

Call to Order – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Statement Concerning Conflicts of Interest – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton read the statement concerning conflicts of interest and asked members to identify any potential conflicts of interest. Commissioner Fen Rascoe declared a conflict of interest for the application submitted by Braxton Rascoe and stated that he would abstain from any discussion of this application and from voting on the application.

Roll Call of Attendees– Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton initiated a roll call to determine if a quorum of Commissioners were present. Eight Commissioners as listed above were in attendance.

Opening Statement – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton stated that the primary purpose of the meeting is to approval applications. Chairman also reminded the Commission that Lori Pfister who had provided very valuable administrative and meeting coordination support for the Commission since its inception had taken a new job. Chairman Melton thanked Mrs. Pfister for her support and several Commissioners voiced their appreciation for the outstanding support she had provided.

Approval of Minutes from the December 14, 2017 meeting– Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton – Minutes were not sent out to the members prior the meeting. The Chairman had a copy of the minutes and stated that the minutes from the January 25, 2018 meeting would be approved at the next meeting.

Recognition of Conference Call – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton reminded Commissioners to state their names prior to participating in discussion or making motions.

Program Update – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman Melton called on Phil Wilson to provide a program update.

- **Wilson** – Reported that as of today (1/25/18), there are 155 licensed growers, 2,550.67 licensed acres and 329,804 square feet of licensed greenhouse production.

Chairman **Melton** called on Emily Febles to provide an update on progress on adoption of permanent rules as well as an update on law enforcement education. He clarified that staff was editing the temporary rules for in preparation for review by the Commission as it moves forward on adopting permanent rules. The process for adoption of the permanent rules would be totally public and transparent as the Commission discussed the rules and made decisions related to the adoption of permanent rules.

- **Febles** – Reported that progress toward adoption of permanent rules was moving forward pretty well. There is a first draft of the proposed permanent rules that would be ready for consideration by the Commission during an in-person meeting at a Raleigh location in mid to late April 2018.
- **Febles** – Reported that she had spoken with and received input from Commissioner Chief Tony Godwin, Commissioner Sheriff Sam Page and Chairman Melton on developing educational material for law enforcement that could be disseminated by email and printed out by officers. Educational material would include links and information about North Carolina’s Industrial Hemp program in an effort to provide law enforcement officers with information on how to contact the program should they encounter situations that required additional or up to date information. Commissioner Chief Tony **Godwin** commended Ms. Febles for her work on the law enforcement education program and that it would be very helpful to the law enforcement community.

New Business

- To review and approve research pilot program applications. **Melton** – Acknowledged the stated potential conflict of interest of Commissioner Fen Rascoe, related to applicant Braxton Rascoe. Commissioner **Rascoe** stated that he would not vote on any of the applications so that all applications could be handled as one group for discussion and dispensation. Chairman **Melton** informed the Commissioners that there was one Research Only application up for approval that had been submitted by William Strader, Director of the Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Service who had applied so that he could do an educational research project. Chairman **Melton** also stated that there were 41 applications to be considered and that some of them had not been acted on as quickly as the Commission would have liked. Going forward there would be an effort to increase the frequency of meetings during times of heavy application volume to turn applications around fast and allow successful applicants to acquire transplants and seeds for planting.
- Chairman **Melton** read the names of applications under consideration: Jereme Lewis Walker; Jerry Dean Baldwin; Albert Peter Sagan; David Ford Couch; Clifford Paul Reed; Marlene Rene Jones; David D. Palmer; Michael Glenn Morgan; William Robert Bull; John Mark Scarce; Ervin Wade Pearce; Steven Edward Robertson; Landon Chase Langston; Kenneth Dean Lanier; Russell Heath Harrell; Sandy Allison Langdon; Kirkland Blair Copeland; Sidney Gene Copeland; Woodruff Franklin Sink, Jr.; Heather Lauren Bryant; Stephen A. Salmon; Daniel Lee Cecil; Roy Cleveland Young Jr.; Charles M Peterson; Alice Modisette McMeeken; Kristi Michelle Vantine; Joseph Benjamin Millikan; Marcus Reid Wheeler; John Thomas Isley; William Edward Strader; Kamal Eugene Bell; Thomas Ryan Gibson; Thomas E. Gibson, Jr.; Derek Scott Ross; Stanley Lewis Thompson; Major Manley Jones; Mickey Lee Bissette, Jr.; Walter Graham Smith; William Martin Rodgers; Danny Ray Justice; Jerry Wayne Manuel.

Industrial Hemp Commission

Dr. Tom Melton, Chair
 Guy Carpenter
 Sheriff Sam Page

Chief Tony Godwin
 Fen Rascoe

Dr. Sandy Stewart, Vice-Chair
 Billy McLawhorn
 Pat Short
 Dr. Guochen Yang

