

Minutes

November 16, 2017

N. C. Board of Agriculture

Doug Boyd

Ben Shelton

Jose Calderon

Bob Sutter

John William Carter, III

Jeffrey Turner

Anne Faircloth

Scott Tyson

Jim Lambeth

Faylene Whitaker

Steve Troxler, Chairman

Table of Contents

Call to Order

Reading of Ethics Reminder

Approval of Peak-Season Dates for 2017-2018 Soil Samples

Approval of Rental Rates – Hunt Horse Complex

Minutes

November 16, 2017

N.C. Board of Agriculture

The November 16, 2017 Board of Agriculture meeting was held via conference call. Commissioner Troxler called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. and read the Ethics Reminder. A roll call by Chrissy Waggett established there was a quorum. The following Board members participated in the call: Jose Calderon, Billy Carter, Anne Fairecloth, Jim Lambeth, Scott Tyson, Bob Sutter, Jeff Turner, and Faylene Whitaker.

~~~~~

The first order of business was approval of the peak-season dates for 2017-2018 soil samples. Commissioner Troxler called on Tina Hlabse, General Counsel and Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, to present the request. David Hardy, with the Agronomics Division, was also on the phone to answer any questions.

The Appropriations Act of 2013 charged the Board of Agriculture with charging a fee of at least four dollars for in-State soil testing during peak season. By statute, the Board of Agriculture may modify the dates of the peak season by either starting earlier in the year, or ending it later in the year, as long as it includes at least a 4-month period beginning no later than December 1 and extending at least until March 31 of the following year.

The Agronomics Division requested the Board approve a peak season for soil sample fees to begin on Friday, December 1, 2017 and end on Sunday, April 1, 2018. The money generated during last year's peak season was used to pay for temporary labor during peak season and to purchase two new robotic instruments.

Bob Sutter made the MOTION to approve the peak season dates for soil sample fees as presented. The MOTION was seconded by Jeff Turner. There were no questions or further discussion and the MOTION passed unanimously.

~~~~~

Commissioner Troxler then called on Tina Hlabse to present the request from the North Carolina State Fair to increase the James B. Hunt, Jr. Horse Complex stall rental prices. Chris Bulla, with the Hunt Horse Complex, was available to answer any questions. The North Carolina State Fair is a receipt-supported enterprise fund that relies on revenues from year-round events to fund expenses.

The \$6.00 per stall increase will help the Horse Complex meet their expenses and reflects a direct pass through of increased contractor costs from competitive bids for stall cleaning and waste removal. The rental rate will change from \$27.00 to \$33.00 and would apply to all new horse show contracts issued on or after January 1, 2018.

In response to a question from Bob Sutter concerning the big increase, Chris Bulla noted that they were receiving few bids by stall cleaning and waste removal contractors and went with the lowest price and best deal.

The MOTION was made by Jeff Turner to accept the increase in rental rates at the James B. Hunt, Jr. Horse Complex as presented. The MOTION was seconded by Jim Lambeth and carried unanimously after having no further questions or discussion.

~~~~~

Commissioner Troxler reminded everyone that the Board of Agriculture will hold another conference call on December 19 to formally readopt rules under the North Carolina Forest Service.

There being no further business to discuss, Jeff Turner made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. The MOTION, seconded by Billy Carter, passed unanimously. The meeting of the N.C. Board of Agriculture adjourned at 10:40 am.

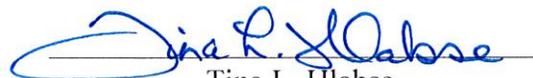
Recorded and Prepared by:

Christina L. Waggett

Adopted by the Board this 1<sup>st</sup> day  
of March, 2018.



Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner of Agriculture  
Chairman



Tina L. Hlabse  
Secretary