

## North Carolina Industrial Hemp Commission

### Agenda

May 8, 2017 2:00 PM

### Telephone / Internet Conference Call

Commission attendees	Other official attendees
Guy Carpenter	Phil Wilson, Plant Industry Division
Chief Tony Godwin	Jon Lanier, NCDA&CS
Billy McLawhorn	Anne Brown, NCDOJ
Tom Melton, PhD	Lori Pfister, Research Stations Division
Sheriff Sam Page	
Fen Rascoe	
Pat Short - <i>absent</i>	
Sandy Stewart, PhD	
Guochen Yang, PhD - <i>absent</i>	

Call to Order – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

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

Opening Statement – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Recognition of Conference Call – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

- Express the necessity of each speaker identifying himself each time he speaks on the call.
- What to Expect - conditions on the call for Commissioners and Listening guests.

Recognition of Special Guests – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Approval of Minutes from the May 5, 2017 meeting – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

- Melton calls for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting? *Stewart makes the motion, McLawhorn seconds it. Unanimous vote.*

### New Business

- **Melton** - review and approve research pilot program applications. The one tabled application from the previous meeting was to be considered today with the explanation, however he has withdrawn his application at this time. That applicant is working with a faculty member at Appalachian State and the faculty member will resubmit the application. There are 8 new applications, 2 are research only applications. One is a faculty member of NCSU and one is a faculty member (or staff member) at NCA&T. These locations are doing variety trials. The university locations do not need the farmer certification. These are decided to be reviewed for application with the total group of applicants. **Carpenter** - asks question to clarify the one that has been withdrawn. Reviews the applications that were approved last meeting and has it clarified that the withdrawn application is the same applicant. *Carpenter makes the motion that the IHC approve the whole group at one time. Rascoe seconds the motion* Dr. Melton reads the names: Nancy Nelms Bass, Jeanine Marie Davis (Research Only), Steven Russell Coltrain, Leon J. Moses (Research Only), Melvin Morris Mitchell, Harrison J. Hooker, John William Finch, Andrew Milton Davis III. Discussion? None. Roll Call Vote: *Carpenter, Godwin, McLawhorn, Page, Rascoe, Stewart. Approved.*

### Industrial Hemp Commission

Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Dr. Sandy Stewart, Vice-Chair

Guy Carpenter Chief Tony Godwin Billy McLawhorn

Sheriff Sam Page Fen Rascoe Pat Short Dr. Guochen Yang

- Stewart** – moves to make a motion in regards to the previously tabled applications due to the identification of their seed source. *Moves to untable those applications and approve them contingent upon the receipt of an advisory letter from the Attorney General’s (AG) office stating that transporting industrial hemp seed across state lines for the purposes of the North Carolina Industrial Hemp Pilot Program is not illegal. Carpenter seconds the motion. Discussion?*

**Carpenter** – when do we expect that letter to move forward? **Stewart** – the timeline is not concrete, but expectations are forthcoming, perhaps the next couple days. The letter would state that it is not illegal to move the seed across the state lines in the AG office. **Rascoe** – does this mean we have a verbal commitment at this point? **Brown** - the Senior Deputy AG has been out of town the letter is on his desk to be reviewed. That is the information she has. **Carpenter** – the drafted letter is to be signed by the AG? **Brown** – as she understands it will be an advisory letter and signed for by a staff member. It will not be an AG signed letter. **Carpenter** – does that still hold up under this motion. **Brown** – reviews the motion and confirms it says the AG office. **Melton** – it will be from the AG office, it will be on the AG letterhead and it will be signed by an associate of the AG office. **Stewart** – wants to interject that there is still no response from the letter to the DEA. Believes that the opinion that will come from the AG office will be in agreement with what most of the IHC has believed all along; it is not illegal. We would then approve those licenses as a commission. **Page** – would like clarification that this letter would provide the IHC with the same legal protection that it would if it was from the AG. **Brown** – there are several levels of letters from the AG office. This would be a signed advisory letter. A signed letter from the AG is very rare. This letter would be considered the lowest level of review. **Page** – expresses his level of concern without the AG approval. **Brown** – this would be a letter from the AG office. Explains this motion is a motion to approve based upon, contingent, the approval of the is letter. **Page** – still considers waiting until the letter is in hand. **Stewart** – asks for more discussion. **Melton** – reads the motion again. **Rascoe**- is there a timeline known? He verbally expresses again that time is of the essence.

Roll Call Vote: *Carpenter, Godwin, McLawhorn, Page, Rascoe, Stewart. Approved.*
- Stewart** – seeks the consent of IHC for continued action without meeting or communication regarding these effects. Once the letter is received can he move forward to enact this without an additional meeting? No questions or concerns. All agree.
- Melton** - To discuss the hiring of Industrial Hemp Program Manager. This position is only able to be held a certain number of days. The position posting would have to be reposted at some point if they do not move forward. Is there any discussion regarding if the commission should move forward with these current applicants? Stewart & Melton think it seems the program is advancing and could use the program manager. **Carpenter** – agrees with the direction to move forward. We owe it to any candidates that are looking at this position to move forward if this is the right fit for them or us. **McLawhorn** – agrees with Carpenter. If we are in this for the long term, then we need to be prepared to handle this as well as we can.

Adjourn

- Rascoe makes the motion to adjourn, Stewart seconds it. Unanimous vote.*