

North Carolina Industrial Hemp Commission

MINUTES

July 27, 2018 10 AM

Telephone / Internet Conference Call

Commissioners in attendance	Other official attendees
Chief Tony Godwin	Phil Wilson, Plant Industry Division
Billy McLawhorn	Anne Brown, Department of Justice
Tom Melton, PhD	Jon Lanier, NCDA&CS
Guy Carpenter	Emily Febles, Program Manager
Fen Rascoe	
Pat Short	
Alexander Stewart, PhD	
Guochen Yang, PhD	
Sherriff Tim Manning	

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.

Recognition of Conference Call

Chairman Melton expressed the necessity of each speaker identifying himself each time he speaks on the call. Kara Malone now takes the minutes because Lori Pfister accepted another position.

Recognition of Special Guests

Chairman **Melton** welcomed Sherriff Tim Manning to the commission. Sherriff Manning expressed his appreciation for being part of the commission.

Chairman **Melton** stated that everything on the applications on which they vote have been gone through by NCAGR. However, they are required to vote on them even though due diligence has been done on the applications.

Commissioner **Rascoe** said he can assist Manning in getting him up to speed on the IHC.

Roll Call of Attendees– *Dr. Tom Melton, Chair*

Chairman **Melton** initiated a roll call to determine if a quorum of Commissioners were present. Nine Commissioners as listed above were in attendance meeting the requirement of a quorum.

Industrial Hemp Commission

Dr. Tom Melton, Chair
Guy Carpenter Chief Tony Godwin Billy McLawhorn
Sherriff Tim Manning Fen Rascoe Pat Short Dr. Guochen Yang

Program Update – Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

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

- **Wilson** – Reported that as of today (7/27/18), there are 341 licensed growers, 5400.81 licensed acres and 1,117,210 square feet of licensed greenhouse production.

Commissioner **Carpenter** asked Mr. Wilson was asked whether or not a record is maintained to track the different seed varieties. Mr. Wilson replied they are assembling a list of the different seed varieties the licensees are growing. They also ask for the seed variety source and about the testing and to ensure it's legal and compliant to the program.

Commissioner **Carpenter** asked whether or not it's verified that seeds come from out of state. Verifications are conducted for new strains. Phil Wilson confirmed that they verify whether or not the out-of-state sources come from states with a pilot program and ensure the seeds meet low THC levels.

Commissioner **Carpenter** then asked whether the seed can come from another country. Wilson said the country needs to provide documentation on what the seed is and that it's certified industrial hemp seed.

Chairman **Melton** reminded those calling in to contact industrialhemprequests@ncagr.gov

Vice-Chair **Stewart** asked Phil Wilson to provide an update on sampling fields. Hemp fields are beginning to flower. Wilson confirmed they are taking samples. Dr. Stewart reminded licensees if they have hemp in the fields, they need to contact the email address Industrialhemprequests@ncagr.gov to schedule an appointment to test the hemp.

Dr. **Stewart** thanked Janyne Kizer for organizing the conference call. Kizer recognized Emily Febles for assisting.

Approval of Minutes from the June 26, 2018 meeting– Dr. Tom Melton, Chair

Chairman **Melton** called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 26 2018 meeting. Motion to approve Commissioner **Godwin**, and Seconded by Commissioner Carpenter. Motion passed on a voice vote.

New Business

- To review and approve 14 research pilot program applications. **Melton** –
- Chairman **Melton** read the names of applications under consideration: Mark Grantier; Jackson Fields; Albert Butler; Elizabeth Driver; Samuel Jenkins III; Skylar Tankard; Jason Alston; Arlesia Royal; Kermit Myers; Penney Vasquez; Theodore Vanessendelft; Jonathan Ralph Horner Grady; Kellie Schmidt; Mary Carter
- Chairman **Melton** stated he would entertain a motion to either approve or deny the applications listed above. Commissioner **Carpenter** made a motion to approve the applications. Commissioner

Industrial Hemp Commission

Dr. Tom Melton, Chair
Guy Carpenter Chief Tony Godwin Billy McLawhorn
Sherriff Tim Manning Fen Rascoe Pat Short Dr. Guochen Yang

Short seconded the motion to approve. Chairman **Melton** called for discussion. Did roll call vote. All approved.

- Vice -Chairman **Stewart** –The Industrial Hemp Commission’s role is to regulate the program from the cultivation all the way through the first sale to the processor. This commission operates under the Farm Bill Section 7606. The IHC can’t regulate CBD in the marketplace because that falls under the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. North Carolina law mirrors the FDA regulation. NC law mirrors federal law when it comes to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Vice-Chairman Stewart reminded new licensees they approve licenses. The Industrial Hemp Commission IHC doesn’t have regulatory authority. The applications list the varieties and the intention to market. However, the FDA stated in a letter to retailers that the marketing of CBD as a food additive is prohibited legality and marketability of CBD. FDA has stated in letters in retailers marketing of CBD as food additive is prohibited. The legality of CBD extract is a bit of a gray area. Licensees need to understand the hemp market is not a stable one. While the Commission encourages and fosters industry, this end product is a gray area. IHC encourage licensees to do their due diligence. The IHC does not provide legal advice. Since the last meeting, The FDA approved epidiolex recently which is a CBD oral solution for seizure sufferers.
- Chairman Melton stressed that North Carolina mirrors federal law. Its state FDA mimics federal law, at state law incorporating CBD is violation of food and drug act. California issued statement that CBD is prohibited from being in food.

Emily Febles, program manager, said there will be a Law Enforcement training program held in the eastern part of North Carolina. She encouraged attendees to inform their local law enforcement officers to attend. The tentative date will be August 30. However, a location still needs to be booked. Chairman **Melton** stated that the two previous trainings were successful. The trainings are for law enforcement only.

Dr. Stewart spoke about attending the 2nd National Industrial Hemp Regulatory Conference in New York. He spoke about listening to speakers from Cornell who have a hemp research program and learned about how other states are implementing their hemp programs. He and other attendees discovered how other programs throughout the country are progressing and how there was great dialogue amongst guests. He also said that the Drug Enforcement Agency attended and gave a presentation. U.S. Customs and Border Control attended.

No other business was discussed.

- Adjourn: Commissioner **Rascoe** made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner **Carpenter**.

Industrial Hemp Commission

Dr. Tom Melton, Chair
Guy Carpenter Chief Tony Godwin Billy McLawhorn
Sherriff Tim Manning Fen Rascoe Pat Short Dr. Guochen Yang