

North Carolina Industrial Hemp Commission

MINUTES

April 2, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Telephone / Internet Conference Call

Commissioners in attendance:	Other official attendees:
Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman	Phil Wilson, Plant Industry Division, NCDA&CS
Mr. Guy Carpenter	Anne Brown, Department of Justice
Chief Tony Godwin	Jon Lanier, Asst. General Counsel, NCDA&CS
Sheriff Tim Manning	Jayne Kizer, EIT, NCSU
Mr. Billy McLawhorn	Beth Farrell, Ag Programs Specialist, NCDA&CS
Mr. Pat Short	
Dr. Guochen Yang	

Call to Order – *Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman*

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

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

Statement Concerning Conflicts of Interest – *Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman*

Chairman **Melton** read the statement concerning conflicts of interest and asked members to identify any potential conflicts of interest. Commissioner **McLawhorn** noted conflict with Application #1132. Chairman **Melton** reminded Commissioners of upcoming deadlines for Ethics training and Statement of Economic Interest forms.

Recognition of Conference Call – *Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman*

Chairman **Melton** noted that the purpose of this meeting is to approve applications. Under state and federal laws, individuals must be issued a license to participate in the North Carolina Industrial Hemp Pilot Program. Growers in the state who wish to cultivate industrial hemp must submit an application for a license to the Industrial Hemp Commission. Applications that have been vetted seriously by N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services staff will be reviewed at this meeting.

Industrial Hemp Program Update – *Mr. Phil Wilson, Director, Plant Industry Division, NCDA&CS*

Chairman **Melton** called on Phil Wilson, Plant Industry Division, N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to provide a program update.

- **Mr. Wilson** – Reported that as of April 2, 2019, North Carolina has 765 licensed industrial hemp growers, representing 9,121.4 licensed acres and 3,625,678 square feet of licensed greenhouse production. There are currently 474 registered processors in the state.

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Approval of Minutes from the March 18, 2019 meeting – Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman

Chairman **Melton** called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2019 meeting. Motion to approve these minutes made by Commissioner **Carpenter** and seconded by Commissioner **Manning**. Motion passed on a voice vote.

New Business

- Review and Approval of Research Pilot Program Applications – *Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman*
 - Application #1132 (Donna Worthington Williams): Commissioner **Short** moved to approve Application #1132 and Commissioner **Manning** seconded. Chairman **Melton** did a roll call vote; Commissioner **McLawhorn** abstained from voting. Application was approved.

 - Chairman **Melton** read the names of the applications under consideration at this time: Mitchell Ruben Berkley III; Matthew Hoyle Allen; Roger Franklin Thompson; James Shane Thomas; Chris G. Nelson; Beverly Buckler Roberts; Steven Wayne Thomas; Landis Brantham; Dean Gregory Nichols; Tony Charles Horton; Ricky Clayton Betts; Richard Glenn Sears; Richard Brett Sears; Joseph Kent Revels Jr.; Joseph Kent Revels; Chad Devin Bullington; Laurie Beth Strange; Edward Lee Williams Jr; Carson Alexander Bruton; Stacey Mitchell; Jean Q. Derby; Jerry Wayne Whitaker; John Steven Chefas; Chloe Christina Blesh; Marc Marsh; William Edward Fussell; Roger Eugene Wheatley; Hiller Fahey Byrum; Donald Justus Brake; Larson Whitney Smith; Brian Stubbs; Scotty Alan Williams; Tim Graylyn Smith; Kristen Shackelford; Ryan Edwood Holmes; Nathan Andrew Souther; Carrie Ann Clair; Linwood Jerome Vick; Olin Thales Davis IV; Cory Michael Byrk; Eric Stewart Morris; George Arthur Staples; Hunter Macabe Romeo; Courtney Francis Nagel; Jordan Garrett Stewart; Scott Andrew Elvis; Sunil Sudhir Patel; Nicolas Dean Cogliati; Patricia Ann Bigsby; Seth S Salmon; Jason Stuart Daniel; Rex Alan Slate; Robert Lloyd Earwood Jr.; James Michael Flanagan; Cory David Zellmer; Malcolm Montae Anderson; Wesley Manion Barnett; David Carlton Bullins; Travis G Walters; Jerry Thomas Jordan; Ronnie Sherrill Strickland; Robert Aaron Minnich; Loretta Roberts Ball; Valerie Ann Norris; Joshua Michael Fasching; Winston Glen Coley; Jimmy Benjamin Wall; David Blair Etheridge; Matthew Herbert Brown; James Austin Insley; Grayson Lee Cash; Callie Morris Williford Jr.; Callie Morris Williford III; Walter Scott Johnson; Dianne Metcalf Shepard; John Mark Moody; Robert Gordon Brothers; Brandon Kenneth Pernell; Richard Spencer Brantley; William Frank Lee; Carolyn Faye Boyette; Roy Lee Berry III; Bryna Elizabeth Grig; David Russell Achenbaugh; Timothy Luke Thomas; Delmer Eugene Langley; Dennis Ray Wood; Reginald Eugene Harrell; Patrick Chandler; Louis Rubio; John Alan Barham; Calvin Everette Lewis Jr.; Salon Richard Ward; Judy Witherspoon Bare; Larry Taylor Pendleton; Christian Miguez Ruiz; Philip Whitfield Faucette II; Samuel Carr Harrington; Jeffrey Carr Harrington; and Jeffry Robert Griffin.

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- Chairman **Melton** asked if there was a motion to approve the applications listed above. Commissioner **Carpenter** made a motion to approve the applications. Commissioner **McLawhorn** seconded the motion to approve. After roll call vote, all applications were approved.
- Warning about the grey areas of existing law – *Dr. Tom Melton, Chairman*
 - Chairman **Melton** noted that laws have been changing, and warned permit holders and manufacturers about grey areas. Questions remain with FDA regarding final products including CBD and other extracts from hemp. North Carolina will continue to operate under the 2014 Farm Bill provisions and it may take several months to develop the State Plan as required in the 2018 Farm Bill.
 - Commissioner **Short** noted that a lot of acres of industrial hemp are being planting and there are farmers who have not been paid for the 2018 crop. He urged growers to be cautious, know who you're doing business with, and to not plant anything you can't plow up.
 - Chairman **Melton** noted that this is a new industry and there are some instances where farmers have not been paid until the buyer can sell product. He urged farmers to watch cash flow accordingly. He also reiterated the need to work with people you trust.
- Adjourn: Being no further business, Commissioner **Manning** made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner **Carpenter**.

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