

Minutes

December 19, 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

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The December 19, 2017 Board of Agriculture meeting was held via conference call. Commissioner Troxler called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. and read the Ethics Reminder. A roll call by Chrissy Waggett established there was a quorum. The following Board members participated in the call: Doug Boyd, Billy Carter, Jim Lambeth, Scott Tyson, Ben Shelton, Bob Sutter, and Jeff Turner.

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The first order of business was approval of increased veterinary laboratory fees. Commissioner Troxler called on Dr. James Trybus to present the request. The last request for a fee increase was in 2009. Since that time, lab submissions have increased by over 26%, which has led to an increase in additional costs. In addition, there are rising costs of equipment, supplies and maintenance agreements which has made meeting the lab's mission challenging.

The memo outlining the various increases is attached to these minutes.

In response to a question from Bob Sutter, it was noted that there is not another viable option for animal owners. Dr. Meckes, the State Veterinarian, also mentioned that they have spoken with industry who are all on board and supportive of the fee increase. Commissioner Troxler noted that these fee increases would help erase the deficit created at the lab.

Jeff Turner made the MOTION to approve the increase in veterinary laboratory fees as presented. The MOTION was seconded by Doug Boyd. There were no questions or further discussion and the MOTION passed unanimously.

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Commissioner Troxler then called on Scott Bissette, Assistant Commissioner, to discuss the NC Forest Service Rules up for re-adoption. Mr. Bissette reminded the Board that they were presented the rules at their meeting in August when they voted to start the rulemaking process. The rules have been through the 60-day comment period, and no comments were received. The rules are now ready for final adoption, which must happen by December 31st in order to comply with the Rules Review Commission Re-adoption Schedule.

Mr. Bissette did note that there will be one change to the rules as published. At the August 23, 2017 Board meeting, the Board voted to include "Recreational State Forests" in instances where State Forests and Educational State Forests are mentioned. This change did not make it to the published rules so the Board would be adopting the rules with this change.

The MOTION was made by Doug Boyd to adopt the rules with changes as presented. The MOTION was seconded by Bob Sutter and carried unanimously after having no further questions or discussion.

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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 1:44 pm.

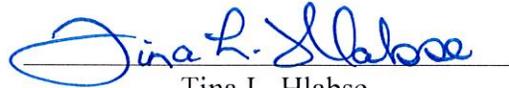
Recorded and Prepared by:

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