

Minutes

March 7, 2013

N. C. Board of Agriculture

Casey M. Armstrong

Kirk Mathis

Maurice K. Berry, Jr.

Mark Peters

Jean J. Boseman

Elbert R. Pitt, Jr.

William F. Johnston

Larry Sampson

C. Osmond Kearney, Jr.

Jeffery B. Turner

Steve Troxler, Chairman

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Call to Order

Request to Approve Increase in State Fair Ticket Prices

Request to Approve NC Peanut Growers Referendum

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The Board of Agriculture meeting on March 7, 2013 was held at the Agriculture Building in the Hall of Fame Room. Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler called the meeting to order at 3:31pm and read the Ethics Reminder. The following Board members were in attendance via conference call: Kirk Mathis, Maurice Berry, Ossie Kearney, Bert Pitt, Casey Armstrong, Larry Sampson, and Jean Boseman.



The first official agenda item was the request to approve an increase in State Fair ticket prices. David Smith presented the price increases: An adult ticket at the gate will be \$9 and a child ticket at the gate will be \$4, a \$1 increase per ticket from last year. Tickets bought in advance will be \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. This is to encourage visitors to buy their tickets in advance and deter long lines at the entry gates. The price of entry for military and seniors will not change. Ride sheet costs will also remain the same. The group rate tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for children.

The ticket price increases will potentially raise about \$616,000 of extra revenue. This revenue will help to meet the expenses of rising payroll, utility, environmental and material expenses, all while dedicating monies yearly to capital improvements on the campus.

The Department studied the prices of other state and county fairs around the country and found that even with the ticket price increase, the NC State Fair ticket prices are lower than most and still a good value.

Kirk Mathis MOVED to accept the fee increases as presented, which was seconded by Larry Sampson. The motion carried unanimously.



Commissioner Troxler then called on Bob Sutter to present the request to approve the NC Peanut Growers Referendum. Bob reported that there are 1500 farmers growing peanuts in NC. The referendum would give the State's peanut farmers the opportunity to continue to assess themselves at \$3 per ton to generate the funds needed for domestic and export promotion, education, legislation, research, and extension activities.

Bert Pitt made the MOTION, which was seconded by Jean Boseman, that the referendum be accepted. The motion carried unanimously.

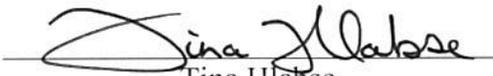
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There being no further business to discuss, Kirk Mathis made the MOTION to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Bert Pitt and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.

Recorded and Prepared by:  
Sarah L. Pearce

Adopted by the Board this 29<sup>th</sup> day  
of August, 2013.

  
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Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner of Agriculture  
Chairman

  
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Tina Hlabse  
Secretary