

Indiana Hemp Advisory Committee
August 25 2020; 0900-1200
Beck Ag Center
4550 US 52
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Members Present:

Don Robison
Bruce Kettler
Brad Hoffeditz
John Mandabach
Mark Boyer
Dan Osborn

- 1. Intro by Don Robison...**
 - a. COVID Precautions for meeting explained to all members and guests
 - b. WEBEX and Hybrid procedures for meeting explained

- 2. Call to Order... 0904**

- 3. Welcome by Bruce Kettler**
 - a. Thanks to State Chemist Office

- 4. Comments by Dr. Karen Plaut, Purdue Glenn W Sample Dean of Agriculture**
 - a. Thanks to all of the partners (ISDA, Purdue, OISC) as well as stakeholders. We appreciate you being here. We are working hard on getting a new State Chemist. We have an offer out and will hopefully have this person in place very soon. Appreciate the efforts of Don and OISC to keep moving forward. Patience, Compassion and Resilience. We will get through this.
 - b. No questions for Dr. Plaut at this time.

- 5. Committee Introductions**

- 6. Motion to Approve Minutes from Last Meeting.** Moved by Bruce Kettler. Seconded by Brad Hoffeditz. Motion Approved.

- 7. Meeting Objective..** To inform the committee and the public on the progress towards commercialization of hemp.

- 8. Purdue Hemp Update from Marguerite Bolt, Hemp Extension Specialist**
 - a. Late planted hemp is trending this year. Could be due to COVID uncertainty, shipping delays and new growers.
 - b. Growers are trying new varieties. CBG varieties are popular. Some problems are arising, especially in genetics. Plants are quite small. Some growers are experiencing seed quality issues. However, things do look better than last year.
 - c. Some growers are experiencing stalk borer. Common stalk borer and Eurasian hemp borer damage.
 - d. Reports of root pathogens and root girdling.
 - e. Some leaf spots. Phoma.

- f. Weed management is still a challenge. Hand pulling, hand weeding. Labor is an issue this year.
- g. Things have been relatively quiet. Fewer calls about general plant health concerns. County educators could be helping out more. Growers could also be talking to others, learning from each other.
- h. Midwest Cannabinoid Testing Database. Working with U of Illinois, U of Wisconsin, MSU and Rockriver Labs to provide results. Starting to input testing data from samples. Plug for this resource. Can be useful for growers.
- i. No questions for Marguerite.

9. Emergency Rule Process from Don Robison

- a. Agency was given emergency rule authority for hemp only. We do not have authority for seed, microorganism, pesticide, fertilizer, etc. Given authority so that we can have regulations in place and grow a legal crop.
- b. Each rule is in place for 90 days. After that, an extension can be requested. Emergency rule went into place January 2. We asked for an extension which put us at the end of June. We do currently have an emergency rule in place. We will have more changes to make giving us an emergency rule at the beginning of 2021. Changes deal with what the USDA requires of us to put together a State Plan. When the State Plan is approved, the emergency rule will be active, but we will go through the rule making process. Please ask for clarification during this time. A new emergency rule must be drafted if we have many changes. One example is that the crop needs to be harvested within 15 days of the sampling request.
- c. State Plan was updated to the USDA requirements. Multiple changes were made to the Standard Operation Procedures and Emergency Rule over several months.
- d. Final submission was August 14. Approval (or changes) will be sent to us within 60 days. The plan is to start licensing on November 1. The licensing software will be up and running at this time.
- e. Hemp Software is planned to go live on November 1. Mi-Corp is the vendor for the new software. Fees will come into play for 2021. Growers will set grow sites, sampling requests, crop records, etc. all in the software.

10. Hemp Licensing Software by Kim Skees

- a. No questions on software

11. Third Party Sampler Plan from Don Robison

- a. USDA requires third party sampler plan. OISC is not in a position to sample all crops, nor is any other regulatory agency due to staffing and time constraints. Third Party Sampler Plan will be consistent across all growers.
- b. Growers cannot perform their own official testing. We encourage you to test your own crops, but an official sample is needed. We will use CCA (Certified Crop Advisors) in Indiana. There are hundreds across the state. In 2021, every grow site must officially be sampled and test results uploaded. CCA's will get the sample request and test all crops in Indiana. OISC will then send notifications to the growers to contact the CCA. Grower will receive the results and will upload the official results. OISC will spot check results and reports.
- c. There will be a fee charged for the CCA service. OISC is not part of the fee transaction.
- d. Pilot group for CCAs will be trained this Fall.

12. 2021 Thoughts by Don Robison

- a. 2020 harvest must be complete by October 31. This applies to 2020 only!

b. Federal background checks will be required 60 days before license application. There will be a link online.

13. Farm Service Agency Information by Don Robison

a. Reach out to your local FSA after you plant your crop. You will need drawing of grow site, varieties, etc. Each combination of space and variety will be its own FSA.

14. Questions

a. **Q-** I know at one time Purdue was working on a hand analyzer. Can you give us an update?

A- PUWL is not working on this. PNW was working on it. Not sure of the accuracy and it is not approved by the USDA as of yet.

Q- What do you recommend for growers, handlers, etc. to coach everyone to be looking ahead at State Plan and revisions?

A- We will put together an online meeting and training about what things have changed. Fees have been in there since January. It will be \$750. This covers the cost of the OISC requirements in licesning software. Because it is difficult to change rules, we talk to industry and others, we put in a rule that it will not be more than \$1000. We dont believe that the fees will go up. Hopefully they will go down. Another thing that changed is the must harvest within 15 days. I would plan on an October online training. We will also send out a reminder about the FBI background check. Probably late september, early October. Your application will not be approved until you have this background check. Partners can have only one background check between. The main person needs to have the check. If you have a gun dealer license, you still need a background check unless your gun dealer check was within the last 60 days. The fee for the background check is approximately \$35.

Q- If growers and handlers have to have a license, stores that sell the product should too.

A- I dont disagree that there should be guidance but that is out of OISC's area of expertise. Once it becomes a product with a label, it is not longer in our area of work.

15. Motion to Adjourn. Moved by Dan. Seconded by Brad. Motion Approved.

The meeting has been recorded and the minutes will be posted online.