

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 2 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: February 10, 2011

Advisory Board Present:

Kathryn Spann- Soil & Water Representative/Chair
Neil Frank- At Large/Vice Chair
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Will Wilson- Eno VAD
Melissa English- At Large
Samantha Gasson – At Large
John Monroe- At Large
Ron Bodkin- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest- Open Space Manager
Wendy Seddon- Open Space & Real-estate
Michelle Wallace- Horticultural Agent
Patrick Linder- UNC

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday February 10, 2011, and called to order at 8:06 am by the chair. The meeting was held at the Soil and Water office, the chairman and vice chairman being present.

- 1. Minutes** – A draft copy of January 2011 minutes was sent to members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Neil Frank to approve the minutes. Will Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Financial Report-**
 - Farmland Board financial report-** Lisa Marochak passed out a copy of the financial report for the Farmland Advisory Board. A motion was made by Neil Frank to accept the financial report as presented. Will Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - County Budget-** Eddie Culberson reported that the county is facing a 2.3 million dollar short fall this year. Each department has been asked to reduce their budget by 2% from the previous year's budget.
 - Farmland Giveaways-** A motion was made by Samantha Gasson to allow staff to spend up to \$1,000 to purchase t-shirts and hats with the Farmland logo. Neil Frank seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Screen printing fee-** A motion was made by John Monroe to allow staff to pay for a "screen printing set up fee" for the VAD signs so they can be printed locally. Will Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 3. Workshop-** Kathryn Spann reminded the board that the Farmland Workshop will be held February 19, 2011 8am-12:30pm. Neil Frank has reserved the Bahama Ruritan for the event. Lisa Marochak and Kathryn Spann went over the agenda and booths with the board and staff.

- 4. Board Retreat for January 2011** – Kathryn Spann reported that the board retreat took place on January 22nd 8:30am-noon. The meeting was held at the Farm Bureau office located on Miami Blvd. Ron Brown was the facilitator of the retreat and did an excellent job. Kathryn Spann sent Mr. Brown a thank you note for taking the time to not only facilitate the retreat but he did it pro bono. A lot was accomplished during the ½ day retreat and the board now has some possible goals to work toward. The board revisited some of the goals and decided on what they should try to accomplish for 2011.

New Business

- 1. Membership-** Kathryn Spann introduced Ron Bodkin, who is a landowner in Durham County. Bodkin spoke to the board about what he does and why he is interested in joining the board. At 8:31am the board went into executive session. At 8:34am the board came out of executive session. A motion was made by Samantha Gasson to appoint Ron Bodkin as At Large members of the Farmland Advisory Board. Neil Frank seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Grant-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - Economic Development Administration Grant-** revolving/Federal grant applied for \$180,000 grant funding for two positions 1full time and 1 part time fully funded Academic Development Coordinator. These positions would be for two years and is run through Durham County Government.
 - NIFA Grant-** applied for a \$34,122 grant for Southern High School for their Ag Ed program.

Set Next Meeting Date – March 17, 2011 at 8am

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman Kathryn Spann adjourned the meeting at 10:05 am.

Kathryn Spann
Chairman

Neil Frank
Vice Chairman