

## MINUTES

### **Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District**

Agricultural Building  
721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 6 (Farmland Advisory Board)      Date: September 21, 2017

#### **Advisory Board Present:**

Will Wilson- Vice Chair  
Talmage Layton- Falls VAD  
David Heeks- At Large  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Heidi Carter- BOCC Representative  
Samantha Gasson- At Large  
Neal Curran- At Large  
Nicole Connelly- Business Representative

#### **Others Present:**

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water  
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest-Open Space  
Cheralyn Schmidt- Cooperative Extension  
Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board  
Celeste Burns- Open Space  
Demikia Taylor- Ag teacher at Northern High School

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 and called to order at 8:05am by the Vice Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.*

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Samantha Gasson to approve the minutes for August 2017. Talmage Layton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Board Attendance**
  - Michelle Parker-Evans continued the discussion from the August meeting about the Farmland Board attendance.
3. **Budget-** Lisa Marochak reported that since the last meeting she has spent \$150 for the Durham Farmers Market Pavilion rental out of the \$600 Farmland Board donation for the Expanding Opportunities for Minorities in the Local Food System Workshop.
4. **VAD Renewal**
  - A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the VAD application (renewal) for Douglas Daye. The application is for 38.403 acres. Samantha Gasson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
5. **Easements- Jane Korest reported on the following:**
  - **Mr. Daye's Farm** - closed on easement
  - **Monroe Farm (Amhed Tilley Farm)** - received notice that they received an ALE grant.
6. **Ag Economic Development Coordinator update-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
  - a. **Small Grant Program**

The BOCC approved \$25,000 for the small grant program for farmers. The subcommittee met and worked on the draft application, process, ranking and evaluation criteria forms. A copy of the forms were shared with the Farmland Board. A motion was made by Samantha Gasson to approve the application, ranking form and evaluation criteria as amended by the Farmland Board. Nicole Connelly seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

**b. Expanding Opportunities for Minorities in the Local Food System** workshop for minority owned restaurants, minority farmers and minority students will be held on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 8:30am to 11am at The Pavilion (501 Foster St).

**7. DFFN update-** Nicole Connelly reported that DFFN will hold a Food and More event on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**8. Farm Campus committee update:** Tabled until next meeting

**9. Farmland Board Retreat-** Lisa Marochak reported on the following:  
The retreat will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> noon-4pm at Kings Daughter's Inn. Lisa will bring catering prices to the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Next Meeting**– October 19, 2017 at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701 (second floor conference room)

**Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Vice Chairman, Will Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:04am.

Will Wilson  
Vice Chair

Lisa Marochak  
Senior Administrative Officer

Date approved