

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Building
721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 1 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: February 21, 2019

Advisory Board Present:

Will Wilson- Chairman
Nicole Connelly- Little River VAD/Vice Chair
Neil Frank- At Large, Past Chair
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Heidi Carter- BOCC Representative
Talmage Layton- At Large
Samantha Gasson- At Large
David Heeks- At Large
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative
John Monroe- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Kyle Gentry- Soil & Water
Celeste Burns- Open Space
Jane Korest- Open Space
Darnell Parker- Cooperative Ext

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 and called to order at 8:02 am by the Chairman, Neil Frank. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

1. **Approval of Board Minutes-** A motion was made by Will Wilson to approve the November 13, 2018 minutes. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Budget update-** Lisa Marochak reported that the Farmland Board has a balance of \$3,541.53. Waiting on invoice for Minority breakfast.
2. **Easements- Celeste Burns reported on the following:**
 - A motion was made by John Monroe to approve the recommendation by Jane Korest to move forward with Len and Cindy Needham's application to the Feds for an easement on 35 acres. This still will need to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.
 - Other easements: Have been working on survey, reviewing easement language with landowners and working on the appraisal for Alston Glenn.
3. **VAD update-** Lisa Marochak reported that she has six renewal VAD applications for consideration:
 - A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the renewal VAD applications as follows. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Susie Ellis- The application is for 72.704 acres.
 - Michael Garrett- The application is for 61.91 acres.
 - Gus Beecher Gray- The application is for 37.565 acres.
 - David and Linda Harris- The application is for 67.603 acres.
 - William Harris- The application is for 80.537 acres.
 - Sue Latta Trust- The application is for 51.748 acres.
 - Cheri Miller- The application is for 85.806 acres.
 - Allen & Barbara Powell- The application is for 38.135 acres.
 - Riggs Station LLC- The application is for 117.448 acres.
 - William Thomas, Jr Trustee- The application is for 150.309 acres.
 - Roger and Lisa Tilley- The application is for 91.684 acres.

- Mollie Walker- The application is for 30.089 acres.

4. **Farmers Market update-** Will Wilson gave an update on the Roots Farmers Market
 - First day is April 6th, 9am-12pm at Brightleaf square
5. **Ag Economic Development update-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - **Annual Report-** The Board would like to take the Farmland Board Annual Report to the March or April work session. Mike will set-up a committee meeting in early March.
 - **Creating Opportunities with Minorities breakfast-** The event was held on February 20th and 58 people attended.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Election of New Officers-** Neil Frank reported that he will be stepping down as Chair. A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve Will Wilson as Chair, Nicole Connelly as Vice Chair and Mark Waller as 2nd Vice Chair. John Monroe seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 2) **Legislative Ag Day-** Will be held on March 20th. Lunch will be provided.
- 3) **Novel Endophyte Fescue Field Day-** Kyle Gentry reported that the field day will be held at Neil Frank's Farm on April 25th 4:00 pm-6:00 pm.
- 4)

Next Meeting—March 21, at 8am. The meeting will be held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Will Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:39 am.

Will Wilson
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

April 18, 2019
Date approved