

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 3 (Farmland Protection Advisory Board) Date: April 20, 2023

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

Nicole Connelly – Chair, Little River VAD  
Mark Waller, Vice Chair – Farm Bureau Representative  
Talmage Layton – Falls VAD  
Nancy Herndon – Cape Fear VAD  
Douglas Daye – Flat River VAD  
David Heeks – At Large  
Shakira Campbell – DOST Representative  
Matthew Eagle – At Large

#### **Others Present:**

Lisa Marochak – Soil & Water  
Sherry Scully – Soil & Water  
Celeste Burns – Open Space  
Jane Korest – Open Space

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at the Durham Farm Bureau office. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by the Chair.*

1. **Approval of March 2023 Board Minutes** – Nicole Connelly requested approval of minutes submitted. Motion made by Nancy Herndon and seconded by Talmage Layton. Motion passed to approve minutes.
2. **Financial Report** – Lisa Marochak provided financial update. Purchases made this past month include hats and bags with Farmland Board logo that will be provided to new VAD participants and Conservation Easement enrollees.

Further possible purchases discussed. Motion made by David Harris and seconded by Matthew Eagle to purchase tablecloth and window clings depending on determination of mailer cost. Sherry will request mailers to be included from Farmland Board in future tax mailings. If this is not an option, mailers will be produced and mailed to PUV property owners and realtors highlighting VAD and Conservation Easements.

3. **VAD Update** – Sherry Scully provided VAD update. This past month one renewal and one new application were received.
  - Ricky Pope and Laura Blue – 12 ac on John Jones Rd for renewal
  - TAFNC – 6 parcels of 83 ac on Cornwallis and Erwin Rds resubmittalMotion made by Matthew Eagle to approve these VAD applications; second made by Talmage Layton. All voted in favor of this motion.
4. Discussion addressed the need to submit an Annual Report. Celeste Burns and Shery Scully will work on the program sections to present at the May meeting. Nicole will provide the introduction letter.
5. **Easements and Open Space** – Celeste Burns reported the following updates:
  - Working with Alston Glenn on adding 12 acres to his existing easement. The BOCC has approved additional funding for this easement and will close soon
  - Continuing work with Clara Glenn family
  - Waiting to hear from NRCS concerning application for funding for Bill and Margie Sparrow's farm

6. Stormwater Follow-up – Heidi Carter not able to attend meeting but hopes that Stormwater fees will be discussed in May at Work Session. Sherry reported that the next work session is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> at 9am. Public Comment is always accepted at this meeting. Heidi and Sherry will keep Board updated on agenda items.
7. **Ag Economic Development Grant Program Update** – Projects are ongoing. One project received payment this month and work towards projects whose deadline is June is progressing. Sherry also announce the Durham/ Orange Pond Clinic scheduled for May 6 at Cornwallis Farm.
8. **Cooperative Extension Update** – provided by John Lyttle (shared by Sherry Scully)
  - April 25 – Produce Safety Workshop with CFSA
  - April 26 – Producer training to rent Mobile Poultry Processing Unit

**Next Meeting** – May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Farm Bureau office or online.

**Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:54 pm.

Nicole Connelly  
Chairman

Sherry Scully  
Soil and Water

June 15, 2023  
Date approved