

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 1 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: August 15, 2013

Advisory Board Present:

Kathryn Spann- Chairman/ Soil & Water rep.
Neil Frank-Vice Chairman
Will Wilson- 2nd Vice Chairman
John Monroe- At Large
Anthony Lopez- Falls/Lick Creek VAD
Gus Gray- Cape Fear VAD
Talmage Layton- At Large
Bo Glenn- Open Space & Trails rep.
Samantha Gasson- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water, Director
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Wendy Seddon- Open Space & Real-Estate

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, August 15, 2013 and called to order at 8:07 am by the Chair. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the second floor conference room.

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Neil Frank to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Gus Gray seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Budget Report-**
 - Farmland line item- Eddie Culberson reported that the Farmland Board has a budget of \$3,870 for FY14 under the Soil & Water Departmental Budget.
3. **VAD update-** Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
 - **VAD Application**
K. Ryan & Alicia Butler - in the Little River VAD and has 22.977 acres that they would like to enroll in the VAD Program. A motion was made by Neil Frank to approve the VAD application as presented. Will Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
4. **Membership Update-**
 - Policy/Term Limits-** Kathryn Spann reviewed the policy and how it is interpreted. The Farmland Board currently has one At Large vacant seat. A motion was made by Will Wilson to appoint Talmage Layton to the At Large seat. Gus Gray seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Policy for Excused/Unexcused Absences-** A motion was made by Neil Frank for board members to give 48 hour advanced notice to have an excused absence. John Monroe seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
5. **Easement Updates-** Wendy Seddon reported on the following:
 - **Easements-** Some appraisal progress has been made on the Federal side. Hopefully leading to some real movement this fall. Seddon met with surveyor to get quotes on the Blalock Farm yesterday.

The two grants that we submitted for Douglas Daye and the Tilley Farm got approved so Jane Korest and Wendy Seddon will be taking them to the BOCC meeting on September 9th to approve the Cooperative Agreement.

- **NRCS-** Eddie Culberson reported that the new State Conservationist, Timothy Beard started June 3.

- 6. Farmland Protection Ordinance-** Kathryn reviewed proposed changes to the Farmland Ordinance with the Board. A motion was made by Will Wilson to accept the proposed changes to the ordinance. Neil Frank seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- 7. Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - **Brochure-** May have 11 new farms to add
 - **BETC-** Gave an update to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Horse Council Workshop-** Jennifer Brooks reported that there will be a Free workshop open to all horse farm owners and operators. The Workshop may be of particular interest to those within the Falls Lake watershed in Orange, Durham The Workshop will be held on August 22, 2013 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Orange County Environmental and Agricultural Building (Food Laboratory) 306 Revere Rd, Hillsborough, NC 27278.

Next Meeting Date – September 19, 2013 at 8am- 721 Foster St; Durham, NC 27701

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman Kathryn Spann adjourned the meeting at 9:55 am.

Kathryn Spann
Chairman

Neil Frank
Vice Chairman