

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 4 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: December 19, 2013

Advisory Board Present:

Kathryn Spann- Chair- Soil & Water Representative
Will Wilson- 2nd Vice Chairman
John Monroe- At Large
Anthony Lopez- Falls/Lick Creek VAD
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Demetrius Thompson- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water, Director
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest- Open Space, Manager
Michelle Wallace- Cooperative Extension
Lin Lopez- citizen

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, December 19, 2013 and called to order at 8:10 am by the Chair. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the second floor conference room.

1. **Minutes** – Tabled to next meeting- no quorum
3. **VAD update**- Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
 - **VAD renewals**- Lisa Marochak reported that staff is working on the renewals of VAD applications that are 10years or older.
 - **Ordinance**- Eddie Culberson reported that they are now waiting on the County Attorney's office to look over the Ordinance.
4. **Membership Update**- no business
5. **Easement Updates**- Jane Korest reported on the following:
 - **Carrington Farm**- November 8th closed on the Carrington Farm easement
 - Closing on Jimmy Coates and Van Ellis Farms by the end of the year.
 - Gerald Thacker is not moving forward with the Easement process
 - Pee Wee Harris is moving forward with solar farm.
 - Working with three potential landowners that have expressed interest
6. **Ag Development Coordinator**- Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - **GAP Certification**
 - Public Health received \$8,000 for 5yr for Health Impact Assessment. They are willing to pay for the GAP Certification Training cost.
 - Still working out the date and details with NC State
 - Had 11 people sign up that they are interested GAP Certification training
 - Reinvestment Partners donated \$100 for breakfast/snacks
 - **Food Processing Center**- The Farmland Board has been working with Peter Skillern and Reinvestment Partners, LLC. Durham Soil & Water is applying

for a \$100,000 grant with ADFP to help implement the food processing center. \$35,000 will go toward cool storage, \$15,000 toward kitchen preparation, \$30,000 toward specialized consulting services and the remaining \$20,000 for training programs.

Reinvestment Partners, LLC is investing \$462,000 in facilities and the city of Durham is going to invest \$75,000. Total project is over \$621,500.

7. Breakfast series/event planning-

- **2nd Breakfast-** The board decided to move the 2nd breakfast date to January 30th. The breakfast will be held at 721 Foster Street in the conference room.
 - **Topic- “SCALING up”**
 - Peter Skillern with Reinvestment Partners, LLC will speak on his food processing center
 - GAP Certification
 - Society of St. Andrews will be invited to speak at the breakfast
- **3rd breakfast-** Will be held on February 13th – location to be determined.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Election of Officers-** Tabled until next meeting

Next Meeting Date – January 23, 2013 at 8am- 721 Foster St; Durham, NC 27701

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chair, Kathryn Spann adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am.

Kathryn Spann

Chair

Neil Frank

Vice-Chairman