

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 7 (Farmland Advisory Board)      Date: March 20, 2014

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

Neil Frank- Chairman- At large.  
Will Wilson- Vice Chairman- Eno VAD  
John Monroe- At Large  
Wendy Jacobs- BOCC Representative  
Anthony Lopez- Falls/Lick Creek VAD  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Bo Glenn- Open Space & Trails Representative  
Demetrius Thompson- At large

#### **Others Present:**

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water, Director  
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest- Open Space, Manager  
Wendy Seddon- Open Space  
Michelle Wallace- Horticulture Agent  
Lin Lopez- citizen  
Peter Skillern -citizen

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, March 20, 2014 and called to order at 8:06 am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the second floor conference room.*

- 1. Minutes** – John Monroe requested that the minutes be changed to reflect that the purpose of the GAP Subcommittee was to make recommendations to the full board on how the board should proceed with addressing the issue of the high cost of GAP certification. A motion was made by Bo Glenn to accept the recommended changes and to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Will Wilson second the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Membership** -Eddie Culberson requested a board member to talk with the clerk on the length of time that members may be able to serve on the board. Commissioner Jacobs volunteered to check into the status of the rules.
- 3. Breakfast update-** The Breakfast was held at 721 Foster St in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room on March 13, 2014 at 8 am to 9:30am. The board discussed continuing the series beginning in November, 2014. The board discussed possible guest speakers and topics for the next series.
- 4. VAD update-** Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
  - VAD renewals-** Eddie Culberson and Lisa Marochak are working on renewals of VAD applications. Three renewal applications were presented, Susie Ellis for 49.533 acres, Roger & Lisa Tilley for 81.032 acres, and a VAD application renewal for the late Author Tilley was changed to Roger Tilley for 158.79 acres. A motion was made by Talmage Layton to accept the renewal applications. The motion was seconded by Bo Glenn. Motion passed without dissent.  
Eddie Culberson presented a VAD renewal application for Neil & Catherine Frank for 329.164. Neil Frank recused himself. Will Wilson, requested a motion to approve. Bo Glenn made a motion to accept the renewal application. The motion was seconded by Samantha Gasson. The motion passed without dissent.

5. **Budget-** Eddie Culberson gave an update on the budget.
6. **Easement Updates-** Jane Korest reported on the following:  
Two Applications were approved by the BOCC and were forwarded to FFRP by the February 28<sup>th</sup> deadline.
7. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
  - **Geer Street Food Aggregation Building-** Peter Skillern was a guest and discussed the Geer Street Food Aggregation Building and requested a letter of support for a USDA Community Food Grant opportunity. A motion was made by Talmage Layton to write a letter of support for the grant. Will Wilson second the motion. The motion passed without dissent.
  - **Northern High School** – Mike Dupree requested \$800 to support the Agriculture Education Program at Northern High. Will Wilson made a motion to allocate \$400 to Northern High’s Agriculture Education Program to assist in the funding of field trips. The motion was seconded by Samantha Gasson. The motion passed without dissent.
8. **Potential Tour for BOCC & new County Manager.** Neil Frank expressed an interest in finding dates in June for a tour. Wendy Jacobs said that she would send an email to the Clerk to the Board requesting available dates in June.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **John Monroe reported on the work of the GAP subcommittee:** Two letters were reviewed to be sent to state and federal leaders expressing the concerns of the cost of GAP certification and possible solutions. Commissioner Jacobs made a motion for the subcommittee to modify the letters and incorporate the recommendations from the board and send them to the agencies. Talmage Layton second the motion. The motion passed without dissent.
2. **Eddie Culberson reported:** The ADFPTF grant selection committee has selected the grant application for a no till drill to interview. The interview is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 at 3:00pm.

**Next Meeting Date** – April 17, 2014 at 8am- 721 Foster St; Durham, NC 27701

**Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Neil Frank adjourned the meeting at 10.02 am.

Neil Frank  
Chairman

Will Wilson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair