

Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting
McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center
2420 Tramway Road, Sanford, NC 27332
Minutes
July 19, 2017

Members present: Donald Nicholson, Jerry Lemmond, Jane Barringer, Wayne Watson, A.K. Griffin, Cecil Cameron, Paul Garner, Tom Haislip

Unexcused Absence: George Gilliam

Excused Absence: Ed Angel

County staff present: Bill Stone, Rhonda Gaster and Ryan Faulk

Opening Remarks: Donald Nicholson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm and declared we have a quorum. He mentioned that the Sanford Farmers' Market has been successful at the McSwain Center.

Public Comments - None

Approval of Minutes – Jerry Lemmond made a motion to approve the February minutes. Cecil Cameron seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda – Wayne Watson made a motion to approve the Agenda. Paul Garner seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: The VAD balance as of July 19 is \$2,197.50
Receipts = \$101
Expenditures = \$00

Introduction of new board member - Donald introduced our new Agriculture Advisory Board member, Paul Garner.

Election of chair and vice-chair – Voting ballots were distributed. The following were selected to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2017-2018 year:

Chair – Donald Nicholson
Vice-Chair – Cecil Cameron

Review and Approval of Application(s) – Mark A. Fields – 74.78 acres in the Greenwood Township

A.K. Griffin made a motion to approve Mark A. Fields' Volunteer Agriculture District application. Jerry Lemmond seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Enrollment as of July 19: 7,929.92 and 50 landowners

A question was asked, how do you promote the Voluntary Agriculture Program? It has been announced at Forestry meetings, Livestock Association meetings, Lee County Area Farmer meetings, and to several civic clubs. Articles promoting the VAD have been in the newspaper. Not sure why people are not joining. May be the fee of \$65, although no one has complained about the cost. Report to the Sanford Herald the meetings held and what took place. Send letters to the editor of the Sanford Herald about the positive things happening in agriculture.

Jane Barringer suggested having speakers at the meetings to discuss upcoming ventures in the county that could affect agriculture. The committee needs to be informed.

Township Sign Update – Ryan Faulk commented that signs are up in the districts. The district signs are kept by General Services and Rhonda has the farm signs in the office. The farm signs are \$36.

County Extension Director Comments – The Sanford Farmers' Market is very pleased with the move to the McSwain Center. New vendors have joined and client traffic has increased. Sales have gone up across the board.

Zack is not here. He and his wife, Rachel, welcomed their first child, Thomas Matthew Taylor on Sunday.

Announcements – Cecil has CLL – slow leukemia – being treated, 60% chance of full recovery. Life expectancy is 10 years.

Cecil Cameron made a motion to not meet in August. A.K. Griffin seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Cecil Cameron made a motion to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2018. Paul Garner seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Donald Nicholson stated if any member feels we need to meet before January 17, contact Rhonda Gaster and she will notify me.

Rhonda gave the oath of office to Paul Garner.

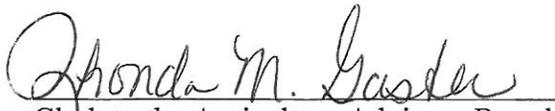
Tom Haislip asked about a current map with the VAD participants. Bill will get with Don K. to get an updated map.

With no further business to come before the board, A.K. Griffin made a motion to adjourn. Jane Barringer seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Lemmond, Barringer, Watson, Griffin, Cameron, Garner, Nicholson, Haislip
Nay: None
Absent: Gilliam, Angel

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.


Chairman, Agriculture Advisory Board


Clerk to the Agriculture Advisory Board