

LEE COUNTY

Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow

Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes July 21, 2010

Members present: Donald Nicholson, Tom Boerger, Worth Pickard, Barbara Alphin, Wayne Watson, Ed Angel, Wayne Yarborough, AK Griffin, Jane Barringer

Absent: Tony Ragan, Jerry Lemmond

County staff present: Tommy Brooks, Susan Conclin, Seth Holt, Stephanie Romelczyk, Sara Beitzel, Ann Billings

Presenters: Don Kovasckitz (GIS), Grace Lawrence (BRAC - Working Lands Preservation Plan)

Opening Remarks: Donald Nicholson, Chair, called the meeting to order. No public comments. Donald welcomed new member AK Griffin. AK will be representing the Cape Fear District.

Business:

Approval of Minutes – A quorum was established. Worth Pickard made a motion to accept the minutes as mailed. Barbara Alphin seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion unanimously passed.

Resignation of Member – La-Verne Joyner's resignation was read and accepted. This leaves two vacancies for East Sanford. In addition we still have one vacancy from the West Sanford Township. Board was asked to seek out people to fill vacancies.

Review of Approval of Applications – No applications for the month of July. To date 9 landowners enrolled with a total of 1,638.34 acres.

GIS – Don Kovasckitz with Lee County GIS, demonstrated how to access VAD map and information through the Lee County GIS web page. Don will work with Susan and Tommy to keep the map up to date as applications are approved.

Lee County Working Lands Preservation Plan – Grace Lawrence presented the board with a draft of the Farm Land Protection Plan for Lee County. Grace asked board members to review the plan, and email Susan, Tommy, or her with changes or suggestions, by June 29, 2010. Grace will present the final draft to the VAD at the August meeting and ask for their endorsement of the plan. County Commissioners will be presented with the document at their September meeting.

Fund Balance – The final balance of the NCDFP Trust Fund grant is \$43.90. Bumper stickers that were approved at the June meeting were passed out.

NC Agriculture Development Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Report – Tommy reported that the grant is now over. Paper work for the final payment has been sent to Raleigh. Tommy reported that on the end of year In-Kind report that there was a total of 268.25 hours contributed by board and staff members. At a value of \$19.51 per hour this equates to \$5,233. This was well over our In-Kind match required for the grant.

Township Sign Update – Permission forms were presented to the board for approval. Ed Angel made the motion to approve the form as read, Worth Pickard seconded the motion, all approved with a show of hands, motion carried.

Wayne Yarborough and AK Griffin signed permission forms allowing Lee County to place VAD signs on their property. Tommy is to put in a work order to General Services to put up these two signs. Four areas in the Pocket and Greenwood townships were agreed upon. Representatives for those areas were asked to contact landowners and get permission forms signed. The other township representatives were asked to continue contacting landowners regarding sign placement.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm: Tom Boerger made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Watson seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.