

# LEE COUNTY

*Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow*

## **Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes June 16, 2010**

**Members present:** Donald Nicholson, Tom Boerger, Worth Pickard, Barbara Alphin, Wayne Watson, Ed Angel, Wayne Yarborough, Tony Ragan

**Absent:** La-Verne Joyner, Jane Barringer, Jerry Lemmond

**County staff present:** Tommy Brooks, Susan Conclin and Rhonda Gaster

**Opening Remarks:** Donald Nicholson, Chair, called the meeting to order. No public comments. Donald welcomed Seth Holt, Extension's new row crops and livestock Agriculture Agent.

### **Business:**

**Approval of Minutes** – A quorum was established. Tom Boerger made a motion to accept the minutes as mailed. Worth Pickard seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried.

**Fund Balance** – The balance of the NCDFP Trust Fund grant is \$580.48. Grant funds must be used before June 30, 2010. The committee discussed using the remaining funds to purchase bumper stickers and/or license plate. Tony Ragan made a motion to get bumper stickers saying, Lee County VAD Supports Agriculture. Tom Boerger seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried. Barbara Alphin made a motion to get 250 bumper stickers with the remaining funds in the account. Tony Ragan seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried. Susan was asked to contact VLO to order the bumper stickers.

**Review and Approval of Applications** - We had five Voluntary Agricultural District applications for approval.

1) Wayne and Geraldine Yarborough - Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the application, Tony Ragan seconded, application approved.

2) William and Gail Logan - Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the application, Barbara Alphin seconded, application approved.

3) Tony and Martha Ragan - The chairman asked Tony Ragan, board member, to abstain from voting. Tom Boerger made a motion to approve the application, Wayne Watson seconded, application approved.

4) Cecil and Faye Cameron - Application was turned in this week. Due to time limitations the Tax office had not reviewed it by the time of the meeting. Ed Angel made the motion to approve the application upon satisfactory approval from the tax office, Tom Boerger seconded, application approved.

5) Eunice Cameron - Application was turned in this week. Due to time limitations the Tax office had not reviewed it by the time of the meeting. Ed Angel made the motion to approve the application upon satisfactory approval from the tax office, Tom Boerger seconded, application approved.

**Total enrolled in the VAD program: 9 landowners with 1,638.34 acres.**

**Township Sign Update:** A map was placed on the bulletin board with the different townships. Members of the township discussed possibilities for sign placement. The committee members were to go out and investigate a location. Tommy will check with Department of Transportation and the City of Sanford to see if we can piggy back on their sign when leaving the city, entering the county. Tommy will also check with GIS and have them put the city layer on the Voluntary Agriculture District map.

The Lee County Board of Commissioners meeting is Monday, June 21 at 6:00 pm. The presentation of the VAD signs will be presented at this time.

**Presentation Update** - We are still hopeful that the Sanford Board of Realtors will request a presentation. Numerous requests have been made to their officers, waiting for a response.

**Announcements:**

North Carolina Cooperative Extension is hosting a large event tonight, June 16, on Natural Gas Exploration: What You Need to Know. We have registered a maximum of 250 people and have a waiting list of 60. This issue affects landowners in the Northern and Western areas of our county.

Invitation to Chris Gaster's Farm, 232 Holder Road, Sanford, NC 27332 to view his roasted soynuts operation. Open house will be June 17 at 4:00 pm. He has been working on this project over 10 years. His business is Farmers Roasted Soynuts. You can visit his web site at: <http://www.farmersroastedsoynuts.com/> All committee members are invited to attend. Wayne Watson, Tommy Brooks, Donald Nicholson, and Tom Boerger plan to attend.

**In Kind Report** – Members were instructed to complete their NCDACS ADFP Trust Fund Timesheet for today's meeting and give to Rhonda. Be sure to include all hours spent talking to land owners.

**Next Meeting Date** – Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center

**Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm** – Ed Angel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Boerger seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.