

# LEE COUNTY

*Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow*

## **Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes May 19, 2010**

**Members present:** Donald Nicholson, Tom Boerger, Worth Pickard, Barbara Alphin, Jane Barringer, Jerry Lemmond, Wayne Watson, La-Verne Joyner, Ed Angel, Wayne Yarborough

**Absent:** Tony Ragan

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

**Opening Remarks:** Donald Nicholson, Chair, called the meeting to order. No public comment.

### **Business:**

**Approval of Minutes** – A quorum was established. The following corrections were made to the April 21, 2010 minutes: County staff present: Delete Tommy Brooks as attending the April 21, 2010 meeting. Under Review and Approval of Applications: The third application for approval should be Alan Cox; the fourth application for approval should be Barbara G. Alphin and Reevis S. Alphin. With the corrections made to the April 21, 2010 minutes, Jerry Lemmond made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Wayne Yarborough seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried.

**Fund Balance** – The balance of the NCDFP Trust Fund grant is \$2,376.34. Grant funds must be used before June 30, 2010. Discussion ensued on spending the remaining funds. Worth Pickard made a motion to buy signs with the remaining funds in the Special Program Supplies. Jerry Lemmond seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried. Money will be moved from other line items to cover the negative balance of -\$254.21 in Workshop & Conferences. Supplies will be purchased to cover current and future office expenses. The Board discussed purchasing additional promotional materials. Tom Boerger made a motion to procure license plates and bumper stickers that copy the VAD sign from remaining Promotional Materials line item. Ed Angel seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried. Susan Conclin will contact Correction Enterprises to get a price for the license tags and contact VLO for the bumper stickers.

Jane Barringer suggested board members give out the Voluntary Agricultural District Program Brochure that was created to promote the VAD. Susan gave brochures to each board member. Ed Angel stated he would deliver brochures to the Lemon Springs, Broadway and Olivia Post Office. Wayne Yarborough will leave brochures at Crop Production Services and Worth Pickard will take brochures to the Sanford Chamber of Commerce. Remaining members will give to neighbors, place in businesses throughout the county and give to people who ask about VAD.

**Township Sign Update** - Tommy Brooks said the Department of Transportation (DOT) stated the Voluntary Agricultural District Township signs must go on private property, not on the state right-of-way. The committee agreed that an agreement between the landowner and the VAD chairman would need to be signed. Tommy Brooks and Rhonda Gaster will work on an agreement. The board discussed where to place the township VAD signs. Ed Angel made a

motion for Board members to identify places within their townships to place the large VAD sign. La-Verne Joyner seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried.

It was agreed that the first Board member to secure a landowner agreement to have a VAD sign placed on their property would be the site of our photo opt with the Commissioners.

**Resignation of George Wilberg, West Sanford Township** – After the April 21, 2010 meeting, George Wilberg sent an e-mail stating he must resign his position on the Agriculture Advisory Board. An official letter was not sent. He has missed the last three meetings. His resignation was accepted.

**Agriculture Advisory Board Representation** – The following districts need representation: one from West Sanford Township and one from East Sanford Township. Gaynell Lee, Clerk to the Commissioners reports that she has received one application from the Cape Fear District, Patrick Kelly. An application from A. K. Griffin, from the Cape Fear District, came in at the meeting and will be submitted the following day. Board members in the West and East Townships should try to solicit members to be on the Agriculture Advisory Board by submitting an “Application to Serve on Boards/Commissions”. Application can be printed from our website under Voluntary Agriculture District.

**Report of Voluntary Agricultural Districts: Enhancing Agricultural Development Workshop** – Tom Boerger, Ed Angel, Jane Barringer, Susan Condlin and Wayne Watson attended the workshop. The comments on the workshop were positive and they covered a lot of informative material.

Wayne Watson asked about the status of the Farmland Preservation Plan. Tommy Brooks stated that BRAC has asked for an extension. Susan Condlin commented we are now looking at possibly having it completed by September 2010.

**Presentation Update**- Chairman Nicholson has given the following presentation:

- o North Carolina Cooperative Extension at their Report to the People program
- o We are still hopeful that the Sanford Board of Realtors will request a presentation. Numerous requests have been made to their officers.

**Announcements:**

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/>

**In Kind Report** – Members were instructed to complete their NCDACS ADFP Trust Fund Timesheet for today’s meeting. Please bring your timesheet to the June meeting to turn in. These must be submitted when the grant ends.

**Next Meeting Date** – Wednesday, June 16, 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. Wayne Yarborough seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.