

LEE COUNTY

Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow

Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes October 20, 2010

Members present: Donald Nicholson, Tom Boerger, Barbara Alphin, Worth Pickard, Jane Barringer, Wayne Yarborough

Absent: Jerry Lemmond, Wayne Watson, AK Griffin, Tony Ragan, Ed Angel

County staff present: Tommy Brooks, Seth Holt, Rhonda Gaster

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

Business:

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

Fund Balance – The current VAD fund balance is \$565. Received \$250 in VAD application fees since the last report. There were no expenses for the month.

Review and Approval of Applications – Received five Voluntary Agricultural District applications since the last meeting.

- 1) William Daniel Logan - Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the application, Tom Boerger seconded, application approved. Total acreage enrolled in VAD is 71.76
- 2) Martha M. Lawrence, Lucy A. Lawrence and Grace R. Lawrence – Barbara Alphin made a motion to approve the application, Worth Pickard seconded, application approved. Total acreage enrolled in VAD is 42.97
- 3) George Wayne Watson – Member of the Agriculture Advisory Board. Wayne was not present for the meeting. Tom Boerger made a motion to approve the application, Barbara Alphin seconded, application approved. Total acreage enrolled in VAD is 38.14
- 4) George Wayne Watson and Judy G. Watson – Tom Boerger made a motion to approve the application, Worth Pickard seconded, application approved. Total acreage enrolled in VAD is 56.38
- 5) George Wayne Watson and Mary Watson Griffin – Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the application, Tom Boerger seconded, application approved. Total acreage enrolled in VAD is 22.49

The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation has expressed an interest in enrolling the property at the McSwain Center for the Voluntary Agricultural District. Susan checked with Lisa Faulkner at the tax office and she said the property is being farmed and would qualify on that basis but because the ownership is not an individual and the foundation is not involved in production of

agriculture, the Agriculture Advisory Board would need to allow an exception to eligibility requirements. A discussion was held. The committee asked the staff to check with the county attorney before an exception is made.

Lee County Working Lands Preservation Plan – Has been certified by NCDA

Township Sign Update – Two township signs have gone up. Katie Petty, property owner, has agreed for a large VAD sign to be placed on her property at the intersection of Steel Bridge and Carbondon Road. Worth Pickard is working to secure other landowners to agree to let the Agriculture Advisory Board place township signs on their property. A discussion was held on placement of the large VAD signs. Donald Nicholson was asked to contact Steve Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture, to see if he can talk to Department of Transportation to allow VAD signs to go on the highway right-of-way.

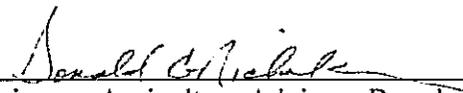
Membership Update – Agriculture Advisory Board members are needed in the East Sanford (2) and West Sanford (1). Jane Barringer contacted a possible member for the West Sanford area.

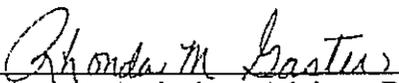
Official Documents for County Web Posting – A memorandum from the Clerk to the Board, Gaynell Lee, was sent to department heads regarding Posting Minutes of Boards/Commission Meetings. In this memo, effective August 1, 2010, Gaynell Lee, will begin setting up a special listing on the County Internet for all boards/commissions/committees that are appointed by the Lee County Board of Commissioners. Minutes must be kept of the meeting and signed by the chairman and the person responsible for taking the minutes once they are approved by the board/committee. If the board/committee does not meet monthly, a draft will be provided for the site until the minutes are signed.

Announcements - The Farm-City Week Banquet is Monday, November 22 beginning at 5:30 pm. The banquet will focus on Voluntary Agricultural District. Julian Philpott, Secretary and General Counsel to NC Farm Bureau Federation, will be the guest speaker. Donald Nicholson asked for a volunteer to introduce the speaker. Worth Pickard agreed to introduce the speaker at Farm-City Week Banquet. Farm-City Banquet tickets are \$7 and on sale now. There will be an Elected Officials Tour Tuesday, November 23 beginning at 7:30 am. The tour will visit the Ragan Farm and Jane Barringer's Forestland in the Deep River area. A Farm-City Week Activities flier was given to committee members. All members are encouraged to attend the banquet and activities.

Next Meeting Date –Barbara Alphin made a motion to meet in January. Worth Pickard seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.

Tom Boerger made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.


Chairman, Agriculture Advisory Board


Clerk to the Agriculture Advisory Board