

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 05 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: December 6, 2007

Advisory Board Present:

Neil Frank, Chairman – At Large
Talmage Layton – Falls/Lick Creek VAD
Billy Cooley, Farm Bureau
Anna Andrews, Eno VAD
Douglas Daye, Flat River VAD
Aileen Glasgow, Business Representative
Bo Glenn, Open Space Representative
John Jones – Little River VAD
Allen Powell, at Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak, Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks, Soil & Water
Lynwood Faison, Soil & Water
Jane Korest- Open Space Manager
Sharon Davis- Register of Deeds

- 1. Welcome** – Chairman Neil Frank called the Farmland Protection Advisory Board Meeting to order at 8:07AM.
- 2. Minutes** – Minutes were read by Talmage Layton, Falls/Lick Creek VAD. Farm Bureau Representative Billy Cooley made a motion to approve the minutes. Business Representative Aileen Glasgow seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 3. VAD Update** – Administrative officer Lisa Marochak reported that she had 3 VAD applications that need to be approved. The first application is for Cheri Miller and she has three tracts of land off of Tilley Farm Rd. one for 41.137 acres, another for 10.001 acres and the other for 34.659 acres. The second application is for William R. Thomas Jr. located off of Guess Rd. They have three tracts of land 25.3 acres, 57.5 and 66.4 acres. The third application is for Clifford Winton Teasley located on Stageville Rd. for 15.078 acres. Business Representative Aileen Glasgow made a motion to accept the 3 applications as presented. Farm Bureau Representative Billy Cooley seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 4. “Value Added Processing Center”**- Noah Ranells the Orange County Agricultural Economic Development Coordinator came to the meeting and gave an update on the “Value Added Processing Center” and answered questions from the board. All of the Farmland Protection Board members that were present at the meeting were given a copy of the Executive Summary from the feasibility study. At Large, Allen Powell made a motion that this Farmland Protection Board is in support of the “Value Added Processing Center”. Farm Bureau representative Billy Cooley seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 5. Easements Update** - Open Space Manager Jane Korest reported that since the last meeting in September we closed on the Poole Farm Rd easement for 15 ½ acres. The easement will be transferred to Bill Lee who has another 100 acres of farmland in Orange Co.
Korest reported that she is working on closing the 1st section of the McFarland Farm “Little Mountain Farm” for 215 acres by the end of the year. Korest reported that December 14th is the deadline for the states 1st round of Farmland Preservation Trust Fund dollars. The trust fund has money for Farmland plans and other types of projects. They also have money for easements. Korest reported that they are going to submit a grant for the last 200 + acres left for the McFarland Project.

Korest reported that Roger Tilley this past summer bought Arthur Tilley's Farm that is adjacent to his farm. Next Friday 12/14 Korest reported that she is planning to submit a grant application for these two sections, the wooded section of his 1st farm and the new section. A motion was made by Business Representative Aileen Glasgow for a recommendation of support from the board for the Tilley Easement. Farm Bureau Representative Billy Cooley seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Culberson reported he will be submitting a grant application to the state to place an easement on 225 acres for Gerald Thacker. He stated that there are eight entities partnering on the project.

6. **Annual Report-** Administrative officer Lisa Marochak reported that she is in the process of working on the Annual report and it should be ready to pass out to the board for review at the next meeting. Marochak reported that in February the board should be able to present the report at the commissioners work session.

7. **Other Business- Countywide**

- A. **Farmland Protection Plan-** Jennifer Brooks with Soil & Water reported that Alamance County has finally finished their Farmland Protection Plan. Brooks passed around a copy of Alamance County's Plan at the meeting so the board could see what all is needed in the plan. Brooks reported that as Korest previously stated the state's grant funding cycle is coming up and she is planning to submit a grant requesting some money to help us get this process done by a consultant. Brooks reported that we decided that we were going to ask for \$30,000 for a consultant fee. Brooks reported that we have to match the \$30,000 with a 30% in-kind match. The staff's time and resources will be part of the match but it will really help if the board was willing to contribute some funding for it out of next years fiscal budget. Brooks reported that she thinks \$5,000 is a reasonable amount for the board to contribute. At Large Allen Powell made a motion that we allow Jennifer to use the \$5,000 as a match from this board to help fund the Farmland Protection Plan providing that an increase is given during the FY 09 budget session to the Farmland Preservation Board. Farm Bureau Representative Billy Cooley seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

6. **Set Next Meeting Date** – The board set the next meeting date for Thursday, January 17th at 8:00 a.m.

7. **Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Vice Chairman Talmage Layton adjourned the meeting at 9:32 AM.

Neil Frank

Chairman

Talmage Layton

Vice Chairman