

# LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

*Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow*

## **Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center 2420 Tramway Road, Sanford, NC 27332 Minutes January 20, 2016**

**Members present:** Donald Nicholson, Jane Barringer, Jerry Lemmond, Cecil Cameron, George Gilliam, Ed Angel, Wayne Watson

**Excused Absence:** Molly Whitaker

**Unexcused Absence:** AK Griffin, Harvey Godfrey, Stephen Baber

**County staff present:** Rhonda Gaster

**Guest Speaker:** Joe Austin, Field Specialist with ADFP

Donald Nicholson started the meeting at 4:05 pm and stated he is waiting for a committee member that is running late in order to declare a quorum. Donald asked George Gilliam, new Agriculture Advisory Board member, to introduce himself. Donald introduced Joe Austin, guest speaker from ADFP, who gave a 45-minute presentation on the Voluntary Agriculture District and how it impacts agriculture. He stated that ADFP stands for Agriculture Development Farm Protection. He mentioned several upcoming VAD Workshops: February 25, 2016 at University of Mount Olive, March 17, 2016 at Forsyth Agriculture Building in Winston-Salem. There will also be a Managing Your Land and its Legacy on March 4, 2016 in Jones County.

Ed Angel arrived at 4:20 pm.

**Opening Remarks:** Donald Nicholson, Chair, declared we have a quorum at the conclusion of the presentation by guest speaker, Joe Austin.

**Public Comments -** None

**Approval of Minutes -** Cecil Cameron made a motion to approve October 21, 2015 minutes. Wayne Watson seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Nicholson, Barringer, Lemmond, Cameron, Watson, Angel, Gilliam

Nay: None

Absent: Whitaker, Griffin, Godfrey, Baber

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Agenda –** Jerry Lemmond made a motion to approve the Agenda. Wayne Watson seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Nicholson, Barringer, Lemmond, Cameron, Watson, Angel, Gilliam  
Nay: None  
Absent: Whitaker, Griffin, Godfrey, Baber

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** The VAD balance as of October 21 is \$2,122.50  
Receipts = \$65  
Expenditures = \$00

**Board Vacancies** – 3 vacancies  
East Sanford (2)  
Jonesboro (1)

Board applications are available online at:  
<http://www.leecountnc.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ubfplUejQ9U%3d&tabid=61> or you can obtain from Gaynell Lee, Clerk to the Board by calling 919-718-4605 ext. 5507.

**Review and Approval of Application(s) – 0 application**

Donald encouraged members of the board to get landowners to join the Voluntary Agriculture District.

**Oath of Office** – George Gilliam took the Oath of Office for the Agriculture Advisory Board.

**Township Sign Update** –No update.

**County Extension Director Comments** – N/A - Susan Condlin, County Extension Director, retired November 30, 2015.

**Announcements** – Extension has a new horticulture agent, Minda Daughtry. Her first day was January 4, 2016. Cecil Cameron stated the caterers were having a difficult time coming up to the back door of the auditorium because of all the wet weather. There is a movement to put a shelter and concrete pad leading up to the back entrance. Cecil thinks this board should support the effort. Cecil made a motion that the Agriculture Advisory Board support any reasonable effort to provide shelter and concrete pavement for caterers at the back side of the building. Jerry Lemmond seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Nicholson, Barringer, Lemmond, Cameron, Watson, Angel, Gilliam  
Nay: None  
Absent: Whitaker, Griffin, Godfrey, Baber

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Donald asked about the process in hiring a new County Extension Director. Rhonda attended the Department Head meeting yesterday and Mr. Crumpton stated he and Clinton are looking at applications this week and making a selection for interviews. Not sure when the new director will be in place. Jerry Lemmond made a motion that we encourage the county to move ahead in hiring a County Extension Director. Ed Angel seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Nicholson, Barringer, Lemmond, Cameron, Watson, Angel, Gilliam

Nay: None

Absent: Whitaker, Griffin, Godfrey, Baber

The chairman ruled the motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 17, 2016.

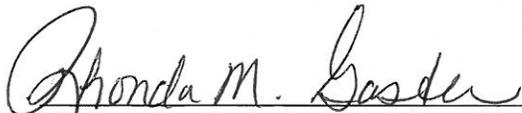
With no further business to come before the board, Jerry Lemmond made a motion to adjourn. Ed Angel seconded. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Aye: Nicholson, Barringer, Lemmond, Cameron, Watson, Angel, Gilliam

Nay: None

Absent: Whitaker, Griffin, Godfrey, Baber

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

  
Clerk to the Agriculture Advisory Board

  
Chairman, Agriculture Advisory Board