

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow

Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes November 16, 2011

Members present: Donald Nicholson, Tom Boerger, Worth Pickard, Wayne Watson, Molly Whitaker, AK Griffin, Jane Barringer, Bill Minard

Absent: Tony Ragan, Jerry Lemmond, Wayne Yarborough

County staff present: Seth Holt, Susan Conclin and 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 as posted. A.K. Griffin seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion passed.

Fund Balance – The VAD balance as of November 16, 2011 is \$1,162.49
Receipts = \$50.00
Expenditures = \$26.00

Review of Approval of Applications – Received one Voluntary Agricultural District application since the last meeting. William Craig Buchanan – 19.55 acres in the Cape Fear District. Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the application, A.K. Griffin seconded. All approved with a show of hand.

Total to Date – 4,875.42 acres (30 landowners)

Pending Applications

William Dalrymple II – 118.82
Clyde A. and Hetty Lee D. Nicholson – 237.56 acres
John Harrington Gross, William Glen Gross, Kathy McNeill,
Susan Thomas - 40.01 acres.
Kenneth and Sharon Patterson – 23.408 acres
Ray Covington – 971.6 acres

New Legislation – House Bill 406 – States “An act to provide that land that is engaged in agriculture may qualify for enrollment in a Voluntary Agriculture District even though it does not qualify for taxation at its present-use value, and to provide that residential lots created on

land that is the subject of a conservation agreement must meet municipal zoning and subdivision regulations, and to provide that revocable voluntary agricultural district conservation agreements are not required to be recorded. Susan will ask Dale Talbert, Assistant County Attorney or Dick Hoyle, County Attorney, to attend the January meeting for clarification on the new House Bill 406. Will also ask the attorney how this will affect Lee County's VAD Ordinance.

Township Sign Update – Township signs need placement in the Cape Fear and Deep River Districts. A suggestion was made to ask Tony Ragan about placing a sign on his property on Lower Moncure Road in the Deep River District. A.K. Griffin will check with Randy Castleberry about placing one in the Cape Fear District.

Jane Barringer suggested putting a VAD brochure in the next forestry mailing.

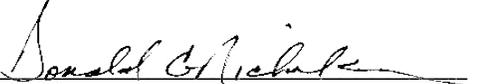
Natural Gas Program Update - North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Lee County has been educating the public on gas leases and negotiations.

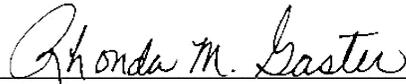
Announcements – Nickels for Know-How Referendum is taking place today. Please take the time to vote.

Our annual Farm-City Week Banquet is Monday, November 21 beginning at 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$7. Our annual Cotton Picking Contest is Sunday, November 20 at 2:00 pm. All members are encouraged to participate.

Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.


Chairman, Agriculture Advisory Board


Clerk to the Agriculture Advisory Board