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Agricultural Advisory Board

FINAL Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Board

August 14, 2018 7:00 PM CCACC (Chatham County Agriculture Conference Center)

Called to order, 7:05 pm

Present: Tandy Jones (Chair), Cathy Jones (Vice-Chair), Bobby Tucker (Secretary), Henry Outz (Chatham Soil and Water), Sharon Day, Dr. J. Dykers, Terrill Ellington, Ginger Cunningham (NCCES Director)

Absent:, Walter Petty (BOC liaison), Joe Wachs, Wesley Hancock, Esta Cohen

1. Introduction of Guests

No guests were present for the board meeting.

2. Agenda Approval

Tandy introduced the meeting and solicited input on the proposed agenda. No edits were suggested.

3. Discussion/Approval of Minutes

Item #2 removed as it referenced a previous meeting.

After inclusion of the addendums, the May minutes were also motioned for acceptance and approved unanimously.

4. Discussion of Status of VAD Draft Ordinance

Tandy thanked Henry for his effort editing the VAD Ordinance, in addition to the work performed by the sub-committee. The sub-committee finished reviewing the draft Ordinance, followed by addition review by Esta and Henry. Tandy sent the most recent version to the County Attorney, who will review prior to sending the final Ordinance to the Board of Commissioners in September. In the interim, Ag Board members can send

comments directly to the attorney. Questions were raised on the chain of communication between the Ag Board and the BOC, based on reporting requirements stated in the draft Ordinance.

5. Review of Ag Board Membership (SE District)

Wesley Hancock recently resigned from the Ag Board due to a job change. The Board will re-advertise a request for Ag Board applications and send an email notice to qualified applications not accepted during the previous solicitation. Preference for applications shall include members from the SE district, and/or registration as a licensed forester.

6. Policy of Guest Participation

Board members have suggested the need for a policy pertaining to guest attendance. Ag Board meetings are always open to the public, although the Board can't control what guest participants choose to discuss. It was agreed to ensure that guests are allocated at least three (3) minutes at the end of the agenda to present, not including time for follow-up discussion (as available). As needed, the Board can invite guests to attend a subsequent meeting with a dedicated agenda discussion.

7. Other Business

Cathy reported on a discussion with a younger Chatham citizen about the need to promote Chatham agriculture (e.g., CCCC Sustainable Ag Program) at the high school level. Ginger mentioned that most of the County Extension 4-H programming is targeted to the elementary/middle school level. The FFA program typically takes over in high school.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.