



P. O. Box 1809, Pittsboro, NC 27312-1809 • Phone: (919) 542-8200 •

Agricultural Advisory Board

FINAL Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Board

March 13, 2018 7:00 PM CCACC (Chatham County Agriculture Conference Center)

Called to order, 7:00 pm

Present: Tandy Jones (Chair), Cathy Jones (Vice-Chair), Bobby Tucker (Secretary), Henry Outz (Chatham Soil and Water), Sharon Day, Esta Cohen, Terrill Ellington, Wesley Hancock, Dr. J. Dykers,

Absent: Walter Petty (BOC liaison), Ginger Cunningham (NCCES Director), Joe Wachs

1. Agenda Discussion

Tandy welcomed everyone and solicited input regarding the agenda. No changes suggested.

2. Introduction of Guests

No new guests were present for introduction.

3. Discussion/Approval of February 2018 Minutes

The February minutes were reviewed, motioned to approve, and passed unanimously.

4. Review of New Proposal for Informational VAD Meeting

Tandy provided a background on the process to update the VAD agreement. Although the Ag Board previously decided not to host an informational meeting regarding the new agreement, the County Manager was hesitant to move forward without a public meeting to educate both existing and potential new members. This would allow participants to provide input on optional elements of the Ordinance and Agreement. It is optional to have the agreement notarized to have it recorded with the Register of Deeds. Currently, the Register of Deeds is opposed to recording the VAD agreement due to cost issues. The group agreed that there

is no reason to require the agreement to be notarized if it wasn't going to be recorded. Henry mentioned that the County is willing to notarize the agreement for free, and the County Manager's intent when writing the Draft Letter was to have the agreement notarized. Sharon suggested that the informational meeting could allow participants willing to sign the agreement to go ahead and do so, allowing others to deliberate prior to the final meeting. Tandy confirmed that the agreement could be signed prior to approval of the final by the BOC.

The current draft of the Ordinance is now being reviewed by the County Attorney and other staff. Henry will request the current version and/or get a timeline for when their version will be ready for review by the Ag Board. The Ag Board would like to have the revised Ordinance at least one week prior to the next the meeting (April 10th). The Ag Board is on-board with the informational meeting if changes to the final Ordinance can be presented to the public.

5. Review/Approval of Draft Letter and Agreement to VAD

Per the previous discussion, approval of the draft letter will be postponed to a later date. The group provided suggested changes to Henry for incorporation into the letter, which were noted separately.

6. New Business

The group agreed with the suggestion to coordinate with other Advisory Boards. Tandy had already requested that the Planning Board provide a member to help keep us informed about UDO decisions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.