



**John K. Parlett, Jr., Chairman**  
**David Paulk, Vice Chairman**  
**Phil Dorsey**      **Adam Dyson**      **Dr. Edward Falta**      **James Moore**  
**Jon Shenski**      **Michael Sirk**      **James Spence**      **Melissa Thompson**      **Joseph Wood**

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**Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board**  
**January 9, 2014**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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**Call to Order**

The Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center. Members in attendance were John Parlett, David Paulk, Phil Dorsey, Adam Dyson, Dr. Edward Falta, Jon Shenski, James Spence, and Joseph Wood. Also present was Phil Shire and Yvonne Chalet from the St. Mary's County Land Use and Growth Management, Ben Beale from the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, Bruce Young from the St. Mary's County Soil Conservation District, Francis "Jack" Russell from the St. Mary's County Board of Commissioners, and Robin Finnacom, Donna Sasscer, Lisa Ledman from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. Attendance was called and it was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the November 14, 2013 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Spence.

**Old Business**

Agriculture Services Center – As stated at the last meeting the project is currently estimated at \$30,000 - 35,000 over budget due to the request to have more offices than open floor space. Permits will be applied for soon and the project will be put out to bid to get the project done within budget but it may not be feasible. More information should be known by mid-February.

Rural Legacy - A letter should be sent to the Board of County Commissioners on December 11, 2013, expressing discontent with the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust and the possibility of partnering with the local Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Board. No comment has been received back.

Farmers Market – the North St. Mary's County Farmers Market had its annual meeting in December. There were approximately \$950,000 in sales last year at the market. At this meeting the vendors explored options of layout of a building on the "Triangle" Property that is adjacent to the Library & Three Notch Trail. Mr. Parlett is concerned that the "Triangle" Property is not sufficient in size and would like to see other parcels with room for future growth considered before money is invested into this 2 acre parcel

### **New Business**

Text Amendments - The Board discussed the proposed text amendment to make the changes to the Zoning Ordinance to allow a micro-brewery and a pub-brewery to operate in the County in accordance with recently enacted changes to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which added St. Mary's County to the list of counties where a Class 7 micro-brewery license and a Class 6 pub-brewery license could be issued. It was explained that a Micro-Brewery can only sell to a distributor and a Pub can only sell to patrons. Both must be affiliated with a restaurant and therefore are allowed only in areas zoned for restaurants. Public Comment will be open until January 17, 2014. The Board, motioned by Mr. Paulk and seconded by Mr. Dyson, voted to send a letter of support for this text amendment.

Southern States – The Southern States in Charlotte Hall is in the process of attempting to expand its facility. There is an issue with one parcel that is is zoned 3 different ways. A Zoning Amendment is forthcoming to the Board of County Commissioners.

The 2014 Meeting Schedule will stand as follows:

January 9, 2014	July 10, 2014
February 13, 2014	August 14, 2014
March 13, 2014	September 11, 2014
April 10, 2014	October 9, 2014
May 8, 2014	November 13, 2014
June 12, 2014	December 11, 2014

Mr. Dorsey motioned to retain Mr. Parlett as Chairman and Mr. Paulk as Vice-Chairman of the Agriculture, Seafood and Forestry Board for 2014. Mr. Spence seconded this motion and all approved.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee

*Members – Joseph Wood (Chairman), James Moore (Vice Chair), David Paulk, Edward Falta*  
Dr. Edward Falta was added as a new member of this committee.

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board

*Members – James Spence (Chairman), James Moore (Vice Chair), Adam Dyson, David Paulk, Joseph Wood*

No update at this time.

Agricultural Reconciliation Committee

*Members – James Moore (Chairman), Michael Sirk (Vice Chair), Phil Dorsey, Adam Dyson, & Jon Shenski*

Mr. Jon Shenski was added as a new member of this committee.

**Open Comment**

Ms. Finnacom received a letter from Maryland Department of Agriculture in regards to the horse industry looking for land to place and educational center. Ms. Finnacom and Ms. Sasscer are currently working with the County's Recreation and Parks division and the Greenwell Foundation.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 p.m., motioned by Mr. Spence and seconded by Mr. Dorsey. The next meeting will is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2013 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.