

St. Mary's County Government AGRICULTURE, SEAFOOD, AND FORESTRY BOARD

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Steve Reeves., Chairman Scott Bacon, Vice Chairman			
Ben Beale Lynn Klug	Colleen Corrigan John K. Parlett, Jr	Phil Dorsey Alan Polk	Phil Langley Patrick Russell
Michael Sirk	Charles Webb	Joseph Wood	Bruce Young

Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board January 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

<u>Call to Order</u>

The Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center. Members in attendance were Steve Reeves, Scott Bacon, Colleen Corrigan, Phil Langley, Lynn Klug, John Parlett, Patrick Russell, Joseph Wood, and Bruce Young. Also present were Donna Sasscer, Lisa Ledman and Bennett Wilson from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. Guests in attendance at the meeting included: Cindy Greb from the Southern Maryland Resource and Conservation Development (RC&D); Andrew Garte, Frank Allen, and Robert Prine from the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust (PTLT), and Shelby Hampton from the Southern Maryland Agriculture Development Commission (SMADC).

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. It was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the December 13, 2018 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Parlett.

New Business

Election of new officers – The Board voted unanimously, motioned by Mr. Parlett, seconded by Mr. Bacon, for the officers to remain the same for 2019.

Old Business

North St. Mary's County Farmers Market Relocation – Ms. Veith updated the Board that site plans were shared with all vendors at the Annual Meeting. The vendors seemed very receptive to the plans. Staff has drafted a Memorandum of Understanding with RC&D to oversee the construction of the new project.

SMADC Regional Agriculture Center – Ms. Hampton-Watson updated the Board Meeting on the Request for Proposals (RFP). Applications are due on February 21st. Ms. Hampton-Watson also told the Board of an upcoming Agriculture Marketing Class through the University of Maryland, SMADC has a scholarship available for anyone interested in attending.

Rural Legacy – Ms. Greb shared with the Board that all future easements will not include Maryland Department of Natural Resources as an easement holder/grantee, however they will still be funding partners. Mr. Garte presented a map of the proposed Huntersville Rural Legacy Area to the Board and stated that there were currently 7 landowners in the proposed expansion area interested in participating in the program. The Board voted to forward a letter of support of the Huntersville Rural Legacy Area Expansion to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. Mr. Parlett questioned the name of the proposed expansion area since it will no longer be just the Huntersville area, Ms. Greb responded that all agencies are familiar with the current Huntersville Rural Legacy Area so a name changed may be detrimental to the request.

Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) – Ms. Sasscer stated that the State had just released easement applications for the FY2020 cycle. Applications will be due to her office by May 1, 2019.

Zoning Uses –The Board requested more time to review the proposed zoning uses changes. The Board would like Mr. Hunt, Director of Land Use and Growth Management, to attend the March Board Meeting.

Sub-Committee Reports

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee *Members –John Parlett, Colleen Corrigan, Patrick Russell, and Charles Webb* The North St. Mary's County Farmers Market held their Annual Vendor Meeting. Estimated sales for the market were \$1,093,000.

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board Members – Phil Langley, Alan Polk, Steve Reeves, Patrick Russell, and Joseph Wood No update at this time.

Agricultural Reconciliation Committee Members – Colleen Corrigan, Phil Dorsey, Steve Reeves, Michael Sirk, and Joseph Wood No update at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m., motioned by Mr. Parlett and seconded by Ms. Klug. The next meeting will is scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2019 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.