

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

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

Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board April 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

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 Steve Reeves, Colleen Corrigan, Phil Langley, Lynn Klug, John Parlett, Alan Polk, and Joseph Wood. Also present were Ben Beale from the University of Maryland Extension; Bruce Young from the St. Maryøs Soil Conservation District; and Donna Sasscer, Lisa Ledman, Sue Veith, Bennett Wilson, and Chris Kaselemis from the St. Maryøs Countyøs Economic Development Department. Guests in attendance at the meeting included: Cindy Greb from the Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) and Andrew Garte from the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust (PTLT).

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. It was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the March 8, 2018 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Polk.

Old Business

North St. Maryøs County Farmers Market Relocation ó Mr. Kaselemis met with Mr. Deatrick from the Countyøs Department of Public Works & Transportation and the Dr. Bridgett the County Administrator to discuss a master plan for the project. Phase 1 will be an enclosed building for vendors. Phase 2 will include a value added product building. Phase 3 will include 2 open air pavilions. Guidance criteria is needed to be set for entity that will manage the project/market.

Rural Legacy óMs. Sasscer informed the Board that the State Department of Natural Resources was not happy to have two land trusts working in St. Mary& County& Mattapany Rural Legacy Area. DNR staff believes that it is confusing to landowners to have two land trusts in one area and has forced the County to choose only 1 land trust per area for FY19 applications that were due in February. If the County did not designate 1 land trust per area then funding would be jeopardized. As such, Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) submitted an application for the Mattapany Rural Legacy Area and the Patuxent Tidetwater Land Trust (PTLT) submitted an application for the Huntersville Rural Legacy Area. PTLT has also expressed to the County that they would like to expand the Huntersville Rural Legacy Area in the future.

Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) 6 Ms. Sasscer updated the Board the State plans to limit the number of applications it accepts this year. This could mean that St. Maryøs County may have committed funding that is unable to be spent if all applicants do not accept their easement offer. Staff has also prepared reports for Recertification for St. Maryøs County, this will be on the next MALPF Board Agenda. Certification allows the County to participate in Round 1 Offers extended through the MALPF easement cycle. Legislation allowing MALPF to accept REPI funds was passed.

Zoning Uses ó Ms. Veith will send out a dates to subcommittee members to begin meeting.

New Business

St. Maryøs County Land Preservation Efforts ó Ms. Sasscer updated the Board on the various land preservation options available in St. Maryøs County.

Sub-Committee Reports

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee Members –John Parlett, Colleen Corrigan, Patrick Russell, and Charles Webb No update at this time.

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.

Open Comment

Mr. Langely told the Board that Maryland's Trophy season will start April 21 thru May 15 with a minimum size of 35" and a creel limit of (1) per person. The summer/fall fishery will start May 16th. The size at this time has not been confirmed. Maryland has submitted (2) identical regulations to (AELR), however one was put in as an emergency. If the emergency regulation is approved Maryland would start the summer/fall fishery May 16th thru December 15th with (2) Striped Bass (Rockfish) per person at a minimum size of 19", however there will also be gear restrictions requiring the use of circle hooks while chumming or live lining. If the emergency regulation is not approved the regulation could still be enabled, however it would be 90 days from the submitted date which I believe was April 9th. Potomac River Fisheries season will remain the same as last year on Striped Bass. The trophy season will start April 21 thru May 15 with a minimum size of 35" and a creel limit of (1) per person. The summer/fall season will start May 16 thru December 31 at (2) fish per person with a minimum size of 20" and no circle hook restrictions.

Ms. Veith would like the Board to discuss requiring bonding to ensure roads are not destroyed by timber harvest operations.

<u>Adjournment</u> The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m., motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Polk. The next meeting will is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2018 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.