



**John K. Parlett, Jr., Chairman**  
**David Paulk, Vice Chairman**  
**Colleen Corrigan**      **Phil Dorsey**      **Dr. Edward Falta**      **Patrick Russell**  
**Jon Shenski**          **Michael Sirk**      **James Spence**      **Charles Webb**

**Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board**  
**June 11, 2015**  
**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, Edward Falta, Jon Shenski, James Spence, and Charles Webb. Also present was Tom Koviak from the St. Mary's Soil Conservation District, and Donna Sasscer and Lisa Ledman from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. Guests in attendance at the meeting included Dudley Lindsey from the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust (PTLT) and Greg Bowen from the Southern Maryland Agriculture Development Commission (SMADC).

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. It was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the May 14, 2015 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Webb and seconded by Mr. Paulk.

**Old Business**

SMADC Property- Mr. Bowen updated the Board that the Expression of Interest to request landowners to submit properties for consideration of purchase has been sent out this week. Information meetings will be held at the local libraries throughout the month of June.

Rural Legacy – Ms. Lindsey Allen updated the Board that the PTLT is moving forward with the purchase of 2 properties in the Mattapany Rural Legacy Area. Ms. Sasscer told the Board that the Navy has expressed it would like to have Phase 1 Environmental Assessments on properties in the future, currently Sue Veith from the County's Land Use and Growth Management Department is providing the Environmental Assessments.

**New Business**

Agriculture Economic Update. Mr. Bowen presented the Board with updated information he has gathered in regards to various projects SMADC has been successful in creating/promoting in the region.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee

*Members –David Paulk, Edward Falta, Charles Webb, Colleen Corrigan, Patrick Russell*

No updates at this time

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board

*Members – James Spence (Chairman), David Paulk, Edward Falta, Jon Shenski, Patrick Russell*

The Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board met at the conclusion of the Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board meeting where it voted to approve a Child's Lot Request from Belvidere Farm, motioned by Mr. Shenski and seconded by Dr. Falta.

Agricultural Reconciliation Committee

*Members –Michael Sirk, Phil Dorsey, Colleen Corrigan, David Paluk, & Jon Shenski*

No updates at this time

### **Open Comment**

Mr. Beale told the Board of a cooperative agreement between the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the County for suppression of the Gypsy Moth.

Mr. Beale is in the process of trying to promote the Extension's Agriculture Assessment Survey to get results for a letter sent by the St. Mary's County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Beale told the Board of Palmer amaranth, a new weed in the area that is resistant to most herbicides and is proving to be an obstacle for grain farmers.

Mr. Paulk would like to Board to discuss at a future meeting the Farm Bureau's Equipment Rental Program and their desire to no longer manager the farm equipment that was purchased with grant funds from SMADC.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m., motioned by Mr. Shenski and seconded by Mr. Spence. The next meeting will is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2015 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.