

## MINUTES

### **Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 08 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: September 24, 2009

#### **Advisory Board Present:**

Kathryn Spann- Soil & Water Representative/Chair  
Neil Frank- At Large  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Gus Gray- Cape Fear VAD  
Talmage Layton- Falls/Lick Creek VAD  
Bo Glenn- Open Space & Trails Representative  
Samantha Gasson- At Large  
Becky Heron- County Commissioner  
Billy Cooley – Farm Bureau Representative  
Aileen Glasgow- Business Representative

#### **Others Present:**

Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water  
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water  
Lynwood Faison- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest- Open Space Manager  
Wendy Seddon- Open Space & Real-estate  
Helen Youngblood- City County Planning  
Michelle Wallace- Cooperative Extension  
Kelly Ibrahim- Division of Soil & Water

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday September 24, 2009, and called to order at 8:04 am by the chair. The meeting was held at the Soil and Water office, the chairman and vice chairman being present.*

- 1. Minutes** – A draft copy of August 2009 minutes was sent to members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the minutes. Aileen Glasgow seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Financial Report-** No changes since last board meeting.
- 3. Membership Update**–Kathryn Spann reported that Samantha Gasson is a landowner and 4H teacher who is interested in joining the Farmland Advisory Board. Samantha Gasson spoke to the board about what she does and why she is interested in joining the board. A motion was made by Aileen Glasgow to appoint Samantha Gasson as an At Large member of the Farmland Advisory Board. Becky Heron seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Spann asked staff and Board members to bring interested applicants to the next board meeting.
- 4. Farmland Plan update-** Jennifer Brooks gave an update on the Farmland Plan and reported that a draft copy of the plan is on the Durham Soil & Water website so the public can have a chance to review the plan and make comments. Jennifer Brooks reported that she forwarded a copy of the draft plan to the state for review. The plan should be finalized and ready to be presented to the Board of County Commissioner at the December BOCC meeting. Per the request of the Farmland Board Jennifer Brooks will set up a sub-committee meeting at the beginning of November so the board & staff can process and see how the comments from the public and various advisory councils affect the plan.
- 5. Easement Projects Status Update** – Jane Korest reported that the State has 2 million this year for the entire state program. Korest reported that the subcommittee will need to

plan a meeting date some time in October to discuss if we want to submit an applicant this time or not. Jane Korest will set up the next subcommittee meeting date.

A 2:00pm closing is scheduled tomorrow on the McFarland Farm. On the Roger Tilley Easement they are working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> supplemental appraisal review.

6. **Report from Assessor's Office on proposal for farm equipment property tax:** Tabled until next meeting.
7. **Plan a Breakfast Series, livestock agent-** Tabled until next meeting
8. **Jordan Lake/Falls Lake Watershed-** Kelly Ibrahim with the Division of Soil & Water talked to the board about the new Jordan Lake Rules. Ibrahim also talked to the board about the upcoming meetings concerning the Falls Lake Watershed. Ibrahim went over some of the things that could potentially affect agriculture. Ibrahim stressed that it is very important for everyone to try and attend the meetings and voice their concerns especially horse farmers. Board members discussed a plan to attend upcoming Falls Lake rulemaking meetings, and potential outreach to other County boards.
9. **NC Horse Council-** Aileen Glasgow reported that the NC Horse Council will meet on September 30<sup>th</sup> to give the results of the Economic Impact Study done last year.
10. **NC Cattlemen's Association-** The North Carolina Cattle Industry Assessment Referendum vote will take place on October 6, 2009. Voting will take place at the NC Cooperative Extension Offices. All eligible voters must vote in their county. Absentee ballots may be obtained by contacting the NC Cooperative Extension Service Office or the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association.
11. **Set Next Meeting Date** – Lisa Marochak will email possible dates for the next board meeting this week.
12. **Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Chairman Kathryn Spann adjourned the meeting at 10:31 am.

*Kathryn Spann*  
Chairman

*Neil Frank*  
Vice Chairman