



Buncombe County Agricultural Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda for April 16, 2024, at 11:00 am

49 Mount Carmel Rd, Asheville, NC 28806

Call to order	Steve Duckett, Chair
Public Comment	
Approval of April 16, 2024, meeting agenda	Board
Approval of March 19, 2024, meeting minutes	Board
Board Member Reports	Board
Applications for VAD and EVAD	Avni Naik, BCSWCD
Tone Hollar Expansion	Ariel Zijp, BCSWCD
Farmland Preservation Report	Ariel Zijp, BCSWCD
Announcements and Discussion	Board



Buncombe County Ag Advisory Board Meeting

Farmland Preservation Program Report

April 16, 2024

Ariel Zijp & Avni Naik

- Easement Monitoring in with Equinox
- Grant Application site visits
 - NCDAs applications – Roberson backed out of process & Slocumb didn't rank well
 - USDA applications – Roberson backed out & didn't have enough funding to reach Okoboji
 - Agricultural Growth Zone application- interview 25th
- Reminder to Mark Your Calendars
 - Conservation Donor Dinner – June 13th at 5:30pm – working on invitations
- Working on potential new projects & getting landowner estimates
 - Mike Adams & Katie Grear -Lady Luck Farm, Sandy Mush
 - Curtis Hawkins, Sandy Mush
 - Richard Kendricks, Alexander
 - Geoffrey Barndt, Alexander
 - Tom Battle, Candler
- Easement Project Updates
 - Larson Easement –finishing appraisal and scheduled closing in April 18
 - Jasperwood Farm Easements – final review & tentative closing set for May
 - Splendor Valley LLC Easement –refinancing has been approved, now subordination process
 - Clark/Maddox Easement – on pause until agreement resolution.
 - SAHC Community Farm Expansion Easement – working to exclude the disputed area.
 - Tone Hollar Farm – title work and starting deed work
 - Soden – title work and starting deed work
 - Parham/Fortner Farm – contracting with surveyor & starting up survey
 - Rogers Farm Trust – survey and environmental assessment finished.
 - David Rogers – survey and environmental assessment started.
 - Scott Fisher– survey draft in review and environmental assessment finished.

- Landowner Packets for throughout the easement process
- NCDA grant application site visits next week
- Reminder to Mark Your Calendars
 - Friends of Ag Breakfast – March 26th on PUV at Leicester Community center!
 - Myth busting and PUV packet for landowners. Packet put together that will be handed out at the Ag Breakfast and hope to have it at the Tax Department that can be handed out for new PUV landowners. Include information around easements, VAD/EVAD
 - Conservation Donor Dinner – June 13th at 6pm – looking for sponsors to raise \$1,000.
- Working with the County to hire two new attorneys to replace Lynn Cox as she plans for retirement.
- Meeting with new potential projects
 - Mike Adams & Katie Gear -Lady Luck Farm, Sandy Mush
 - Thom Lindheimer, Reems Creek (donation)
 - Curtis Hawkins, Sandy Mush
 - Richard Kendrick, Alexander
 - Geoffrey Barndt, Alexander
- Easement Project Updates
 - Larson Easement –finishing appraisal and scheduled closing on April 18
 - SAHC Teague Property Easement – working to exclude the disputed area.
 - Jasperwood Farm Easements – BDR & Deed drafts submitted for review scheduling closing for April/May.
 - Splendor Valley LLC Easement –refinancing has been approved, now subordination process.
 - Clark Easement – waiting on subordination agreement resolution.
 - Worthen & Krekel – waiting for new attorney to start deed work.
 - Soden – waiting for new attorney to start deed work.
 - Parham/Fortner Farm – contracting with surveyor & starting up.
 - Rogers Farm Trust – survey and environmental assessment started.
 - David Rogers – survey and environmental assessment started.
 - Scott Fisher– survey and environmental assessment finished.

Announcements & Discussions

Staff will be working with the County attorney to update our Farmland Preservation Program ordinance to clarify some language especially around the VAD/EVAD programs. The State has provided a VAD ordinance template that Staff is planning on reviewing with County Legal to ensure the language is up to date.

With no further announcements or discussion, the meeting ended at 11:31 am.