



# AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



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## MINUTES

6:00 PM, Monday, November 13, 2017

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

Members Present: Mr. Blanton  
Mr. Hollifield  
Ms. Alexander  
Ms. Sewell  
Mr. Howard  
Ms. Willoughby

Staff Present: Adam Chapman, Planner 1 – Community Development  
Sherrie Williams, Planner – Community Development

### 1. Call to Order

Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

July 10, 2017  
Tabled until Chairman is present

### 3. Election of Vice Chair

Tabled until Chairman is present

### 4. Continued Discussion on Creating a Letter of Support to FARM Center

No public comment, Ms. Alexander requested that the letter is made more compact so the letter would be easier to read or use bullets. Ms. Sewell requested that we should get with the Heritage Fair Committee (HFC) to partner with about the AAB. Ms. Sewell stated that the C-Funds were secured for the entrance to the new FARM Center on Hwy 123 at the Zaxby's.

**5. Continued Discussion on Creating an AAB Mission Statement, AAB Proclamation, and potential AAB Partnerships (including creation of an event survey)**

The mission statement:

Educate our community on the importance, significance, benefits, economic and cultural impact agriculture has on our region, through communication and cooperation with the various public, agricultural and industrial concerns, in order to ensure agriculture's vital role in the economy, and that the charter of the County are both maintained and improved.

The "Oconee Grown" slogan was also included in the motion.

A motion was made by Ms. Willoughby and seconded by Mr. Hollifield to accept the mission statement as presented along with the slogan. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Sewell would like to partner with Heritage Foothills and the Farmers Market would like a letter drafted to present to them.

**6. Discussion on AAB Signage and Website**

Staff stated that a website can be created, asked for some input from the AAB on what they would like to see on the web page, asked for any information (i.e. pictures)

Ms. Sewell stated that the SC Certified Signage is very helpful in letting the public know that the products are locally grown.

Mr. Howard stated that the website SC Certified shows all the members in alphabetical order.

**7. Discussion of Calendar**

Mr. Hollifield stated that during the busy season he has to shut down his produce stand in order to get to the meeting on time, suggested changing the meeting time to 6:30 PM.

**8. Old Business**

No Old Business

**9. New Business**

A discussion on the possibility of providing food and/or drinks, for the AAB members at the meetings. Mr. Hollifield asked about the Work Shop between County Council and the Planning Commission about the Control Free District (CFD). Staff explained the

situation about having to have 200 acres to do a development, and once to are rezoned you cannot go back to the CFD.

#### **10. Board Correspondence with Outside Agencies**

- a. Agri-tourism
- b. Certified Organic farming
- c. Poultry farming
- d. Cattle farming
- e. Fruits and/or Vegetable farming
- f. Bee Keeping
- g. Silviculture & Forestry operations
- h. Aquaculture
- i. Agri-business
- j. Or another agricultural pursuit, as that term is commonly understood

#### **11. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Ms. Alexander with a second by Ms. Willoughby.  
7:48 PM