



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



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MINUTES

6:30 PM, Monday, May 14th, 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

Members Present:

Ms. Sewell District 1
Mr. Hollifield District 2
Dr. Gray District 3
Mr. Land District 4
Ms. Willoughby District 5
Ms. Alexander At-Large
Mr. Blanton At-Large

Staff Present: Adam Chapman, Zoning Administrator

Media Present: Upstate Today

1. Call to Order

Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order at 6:30

2. Approval of Minutes

May 14th minutes: Motion for approval by Mrs. Willoughby, seconded by Ms. Alexander. Unanimous vote for approval.

3. Staff Presentation

Mr. Chapman gave the AAB a presentation from his attendance at the National Planning Conference and how it relates to agriculture. Mr. Chapman presented an ordinance from Santa Barbara on buffers between agricultural land and other uses.

4. Discussion of Discussion on Proposals by the AAB to be presented to County Council.

Mr. Blanton lead the conversation on the various proposals. Mrs. Sewell recommended adding some language referring to forestry being the number one farm product being produced in Oconee County.

5. Discussion on Marketing and Advertising of the AAB

Mr. Blanton stated that even though the AAB had previously vote on adopting a logo produced by the Chamber of Commerce. While the Chamber of Commerce logo is very good and was gracious to be offered, some changes that the AAB wanted to change could not be incorporated. Mr. Blanton and Mr. Land offered up another potential logo option for the AAB. Mr. Land asked if the AAB wanted to think about this logo until the next meeting. Mrs. Sewell asked if asking the other, non-Heritage Farmer's Markets, Markets, would like to work with the Heritage Farmer's market or at-least coordinate non-conflicting times and dates. A conversation regarding the times and locations of various farmers markets throughout the County was had. Mrs. Sewell noted that often times the Clemson Extension workers are not exclusive to Oconee County. Mr. Blanton asked if any of the AAB members have spoken with any agriculture groups in regards to working with the AAB. Mr. Hollifield recommends inviting the farmers and ranchers within the County to come and voice their opinions and issues that they have to the AAB. Mrs. Alexander offered the idea to host these listening sessions with farmers and ranchers at the County Fair in September. Mr. Chapman will ask about the correct way to make this happen. Motion was made to replace Mr. Land with Dr. Grey on the AAB subcommittee, Mr. Land made the motion, Mrs. Alexander seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Blanton noted that Mr. Howard is retiring from the Extension Service and that the AAB would be losing him shortly. A conversation was had regarding possible replacements. Mrs. Sewell noted that doing something for Mr. Howard would be nice idea and the AAB agreed. Mrs. Sewell noted some agriculture related legislation that may occur regarding pollinators and solar farming systems.

6. New Business

None

7. Old Business

None

8. Adjourn

Mrs. Alexander made the motion, Mr. Land seconded the motion. 7-0 in favor.