

# AAB Agenda

## July 12, 2021



1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes
  - June 14, 2021
3. **Public Comment Session** [3 minutes per person]  
*If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by contacting the Planning Department at [planninginfo@oconeesc.com](mailto:planninginfo@oconeesc.com) or 864-638-4218, so that we may receive your comment and read it into the record.*
4. **Andy Whitten, Young Farmers – Road safety and agriculture**  
*[to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up for discussion, if required]*
5. **Discussion - Farmland conservation and preservation: Agricultural Advisory Board / Planning recommendations**  
*[to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up for discussion, if required]*
6. **Agricultural Advisory Board meeting start time**  
*[to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up for discussion, if required]*
7. **Adjourn**

## Oconee County Agricultural Advisory Board

### When & Where

4:00 PM

Monday, July 12, 2021

Council Chambers

415 South Pine Street

Walhalla, SC 29691

### Alternative participation

**YouTube:** "YourOconee"

**Radio:** F.M. 92.3 (within  
500' of Council  
Chambers)

### Staff contact

846-638-4218

[planninginfo@oconeesc.com](mailto:planninginfo@oconeesc.com)

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Debbie Sewell, Chairman, At-Large

Tessa Moxley, Secretary, At-Large

Rex Blanton, District III

Charlie Whiten, District V

Kim Alexander, Vice-Chairman, District I

Larry Cantrell, District II

Ashley Townsend, District IV

Kerrie Roach, Ex-Officio

# AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



TEL (864) 638-4218 FAX (864) 638-4168

## Minutes

4:00 PM, Monday June 14, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

### Members Present

Rex Blanton  
Debbie Sewell  
Kim Alexander  
Tessa Moxly

### Staff Present

Vivian Kompier

### Media Present

None

**1. Call to Order** – Ms. Sewell called the meeting to order at 4:18 PM.

**2. Approval of minutes from May 13th** – Ms. Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes, with corrections (add the day of the month to second item- April 12th-; under item four, change sentence "Purchased by county, 50 - year lease to Farm Center" to "Land was purchased by the county, then leased under a 50-year lease to the Farm Center"). seconded by Rex Blanton and approved 4/0.

**3. Public Comment-** none

**4. Presentations to AAB** [to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up for discussion, if required]

- Mike Smith- Planning Commission, Chairman-Boards and Committees working together toward a common goal
  - Pat - Cattlemen's Association
    - The county needs incentives for landowners to keep land in agriculture
    - In the past two weeks 400 acres of farmland has been sold to developers

**Oconee County Administrative Offices**

**415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691 / 864.638.4218 / www.oconeesc.com**

- Mr. Smith suggests finding a model of the county purchasing land and leasing it back to a farmer within the state in order to present the idea to the County Council
- Discussion about “AgLanta”, a government program based in Atlanta.

Discussion:

- Ms. Tessa Moxley made a motion to appoint Rex Blanton as the point person to find incentive programs that protect Ag land to present at the next Ag board meeting, with the purpose of working with the Planning Commission on a proposal for the County Council. Seconded by Ms. Kim Alexander and approved 4/0.
- Road safety and Agriculture
  - Ms. Debbie Sewell speaking for Charlie Whiten - Proposal to start a safety campaign in the county with signage, etc.
  - Ms. Kim Alexander questions if the signs would be an effective measure
  - Mr. Mike Smith - Highway 24 planning discussion. Roundabouts are an effective measure to reduce intersection collisions.

Discussion

- Ms. Alexander made a motion to table further discussion until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Rex Blanton and Approved 4/0.
- Letter from Trixi Derosa-Davis-Strengthening Local Food Act

**6. Adjourn**— Mr. Rex Blanton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:10pm, seconded by Kim Alexander, and approved 4/0.