Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes
September 16, 2009


Unexcused Absent: Albert Adcock, Jerry Lemmond, Darrell Doby

Guest speakers: David Dycus, Mark Luellen, Sam Buchanan

County staff present: Susan Condlin, Rhonda Gaster, Tommy Brooks

Opening Remarks: Donald Nicholson welcomed the committee. He introduced our guest speakers, David Dycus, Regional Agronomist with NCDA and Mark Luellen, Lee County Ranger with North Carolina Forest Service.

David Dycus gave a power-point presentation on agriculture statistics in Lee County. Mark Luellen followed with a power-point presentation on forestry in Lee County.

Business:

Approval of Minutes – Tony Ragan moved to approve the minutes as mailed. La-Verne Joyner seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.

Fund Balance – The balance of the NCDFP Trust Fund grant is $8,065.46. There were no transactions to report.

Discussion of Proposed Bylaws and Operating Procedures Changes -

Worth Pickard made a motion to approve the corrected Operating Procedures and Bylaws with the addition of “as needed from the township” in the following:

IV. Rules of Conduct for Members
   D. Add as needed from the township after the following: Members not meeting the 75% attendance requirement may be removed by the action of the Board of County Commissioners and replaced by another interested individual “as needed from the township”.

V. Meetings
   H. Voting. Section III should be changed to Section IV-E to be consistent with the document.

George Wilberg seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.

Discussion on application and procedures for applying to be a VAD – Several sample applications were distributed to members for review. The fee to file the Conservation Agreement
at the register of deeds will be $14 with additional sheets being $3 per sheet. The only document that must be filed is the Conservation Agreement. A permanent file of applications to the VAD program will be held in the Extension. George Wilberg made a motion to approve the application process. After discussion, Worth Pickard made a substitute motion to table approval of the application process until next meeting. Barbara Alphin seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. The committee will examine the applications presented for review and finalize an application and fee schedule at the October meeting.

A question was posed by Tom Boerger to clarify the definition of what are single and multiple ownership. Tommy Brooks stated he would check with Dick Hoyle, County Attorney, to clarify.

**Discussion on Signage** – Samples of signage was included with the sample applications. LaVerne Joyner made a motion to accept the basic design. Worth Pickard seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands.

**Announcements:**

**In-Kind-Report** – The committee entered their volunteer hours while serving on the Agriculture Advisory Board on the NCDACS ADFP Trust Fund Timesheet for the in-kind-report. This will be done at each meeting and will be mailed to NCDA in December.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center

**Adjournment:** Ed Angel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Watson seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.