Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes
November 18, 2009

Members present: Ed Angel, Wayne Watson, Barbara Alphin, La-Verne Joyner, Wayne Yarborough, Tom Boerger, Jane Barringer, Worth Pickard, Tony Ragan, Jerry Lemmond, George Wilberg, Donald Nicholson

Unexcused Absence: Albert Adcock

Excused Absence: Darrell Doby

Guest speakers: Grace Lawrence

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

Opening Remarks: Susan Condlin, County Extension Director, called the meeting to order in the absence of the chairman and vice-chairman. She asked for public comment. No public comment.

Susan introduced Grace Lawrence, Program Director for the Ft. Bragg Regional Task Force Working Land Protection Program (BRAC RTF). She presented a power point presentation on the impact BRAC will have on our agricultural land. She hopes to have a rough copy of the Lee County Working Lands Protection Plan in January.

Business:

Approval of Minutes – Worth Pickard moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Ed Angel seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried.

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

Continued discussion on VAD signage

Susan showed a powerpoint presentation on VAD signage across the state of North Carolina. Will post the signs on the website so everyone can view and discuss at the December meeting.

Chris Gaster presented the group with a VAD sign he developed. Had three designs but his computer crashed and he lost everything. Had to reconstruct one sign last night to show at the meeting today. Jerry Lemmond made a motion to allow Chris to show his remaining designs at the December meeting. George Wilberg seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried. Chris will return for our December 16, 2009 meeting.
Presentations to area commodity groups

A reminder will be sent to VAD board members with the following dates of upcoming commodity group meetings:

- Forestry Association – January 25, 2010 – 6:30 pm - Tony’s Seafood
- Area Farmers – February 25, 2010 – 6:30 pm - Ron’s Barn
- Livestock Producers – April 13, 2010 – 6:30 pm – McSwain Extension Center

Donald Nicholson, chairman, will be present at the meetings and if not available, vice-chair, Jerry Lemmond or another committee member will speak.

Promotional Brochures

Susan passed around examples of brochures created from different counties. Study the brochures and will discuss at the December meeting. If you have ideas, share the ideas with Rhonda via e-mail or phone. Will rough up samples before the next meeting.

The group discussed compensating Chris Gaster for his design of the VAD sign. Barbara Alphin made a motion to give Chris Gaster a gratuity for his work. Jerry Lemmond seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion carried.

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, December 16, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.