Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes
May 16, 2012

Members present: Donald Nicholson, Wayne Watson, Molly Whitaker, AK Griffin, Jane Barringer, Worth Pickard, Tony Ragan, Wayne Yarborough

Absent: Mary Lou Jones, Ed Angel, Jerry Lemmond, Bill Minard, and Tom Boerger

County staff present: Tommy Brooks and Rhonda Gaster

Guest speaker: Ron King, P.E. State Signing and Delineation Engineer for NC Dept. of Transportation

Opening Remarks: Donald Nicholson, chairman, called the meeting to order. No public comments.

Donald introduced the guest speaker, Ron King, Engineer for NC Dept. of Transportation. He gave a presentation on the Voluntary Agriculture District Signage. The current VAD signs are not DOT approved for the right-of-way. You can place them on private property, with the permission from the landowner. Even if you get permission from the landowner, you must make sure the sign is not in the “Clear Zone”. The “Clear Zone” is approximately 30 feet from the edge of the road. If you think it is questionable whether you are in the “Clear Zone”, call your local DOT and they will come out. You can, however, use a banner type sign with two colors, green background with white lettering, and no graphics. This would meet the DOT criteria and could be attached to the Welcome to Lee County sign. This sign would need approval by the Lee County Board of Commissioners and a resolution from the commissioners approving the slogan to be used. In order to put an extra banner under the current Welcome to Lee County sign, the sign would have to be raised and stronger supports installed, break away steel. If this were the case, the cost would go up significantly. Any changes or additions to DOT signs come at the expense of the county, not the DOT. If you have questions about the DOT right-of-way call your local district engineer for Lee County.

Business:

Approval of Minutes – A quorum was established. Worth Pickard made a motion to accept the minutes as posted. Tony Ragan seconded the motion. All approved with a show of hands. Motion passed.

Fund Balance – The VAD balance as of May 16, 2012 is $1,707.49
Receipts = $26.00
Expenditures = $00
Change in Board Members – If you received notification from the county that your term is coming to an end, please consider renewing. If you are not renewing, please suggest someone in your community that may be interested in serving. Expiring Terms in June 2012 are Mary Lou Jones, Tom Boerger, Bill Minard, Jerry Lemmond, Wayne Yarborough and Worth Pickard. This will give us 2 vacancies in Pocket, 1 vacancy in Jonesboro, 2 vacancies in East Sanford, 1 vacancy in West Sanford and 1 vacancy in Cape Fear townships. An application was included with your agenda.

Applications: No new applications were submitted for enrollment in the VAD program. Currently we have 6,358.13 acres and 37 landowners enrolled in the program.

Pending Applications:
- William Dalrymple II – 118.82
- Clyde A. and Hetty Lee D. Nicholson – 237.56 acres
- John Harrington Gross, William Glen Gross, Kathy McNeill, Susan Thomas - 40.01 acres
- Kenneth and Sharon Patterson – 23.408 acres
- Evenly Brown Sloan – 84.53 acres

Revocation of Land in VAD – To be discussed at the June meeting.

Township Sign Update – If you know a location to place a township sign, please get the permission form completed and give to Susan, Tommy, or Rhonda.

Announcements – None

Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 4:00 pm at the McSwain Extension Education and Agriculture Center.

Worth Pickard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, A.K. Griffin seconded. All approved with a show of hands. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Chairman, Agriculture Advisory Board

Clerk to the Agriculture Advisory Board