**Lee County Forestry Landowners Association Meeting**

 **April 13, 2023**

President Mark Luellen opened the April 13, 2023 meeting of the Lee County Forestry Landowners’ Association at the Lee County Extension Center. Treasurer Bud Taylor reported a membership of 35 and a bank balance of $2,089.57. Secretary Charles Oldham passed out written minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting that included the email address of Dr. John Hatcher (jhatcher@ncforestry.org) and the North Carolina Forestry Association website ([www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org)).

Amanda Wilkins, Extension Agent, Agriculture -Horticulture for Lee County, announced the opening of the Farmer’s Market on April 22nd . That day is also the first day of Ag Week which runs through April 29. During a short business discussion the subject was broached of a tour of a forestry site or facility for the group, as well as program topics for future meetings..

 Amanda also announced the NC Bradford Pear Bounty event to be held in Sanford on October 28th. Visit [www.treebountync.com](http://www.treebountync.com) to learn how property owners who cut down this pretty, but invasive, species can have it replaced with a native tree.

 The speaker for the meeting was Dr. Kelly Oten, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist (Forest Health) at NC State University. She presented a program entitled “It’s An Invasion”. Dr. Oten discussed an extensive list of invasive plants and species including:

 Callery Pear = Bradford Pear

 Cogongrass

 Spongy “Gypsy” Moth

 Laurel Wilt

 Emerald Ash Borer

 Elm ZigZag Sawfly

 Spotted Lanternfly

She concluded her talk with a discussion of the Asian Long Horned Beetle. Dr. Oten asked that if we see any of the above mentioned plants or insects to please contact her at (919-515-5573 or email klfelder@ncsu.edu ) or Amanda Wilkins at (919-775-5624 or through the Extension website, [lee.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.lee.ces.ncsu.edu) )

 The door prize for the meeting was supplied by Lynda Turbeville and was won by Martha Oldham.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Oldham, Secretary