



Steve Reeves., Chairman
Scott Bacon, Vice Chairman

Ben Beale	Colleen Corrigan	Phil Dorsey	Phil Langley
Lynn Klug	John K. Parlett, Jr	Alan Polk	Patrick Russell
Michael Sirk	Charles Webb	Joseph Wood	Bruce Young

Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board
March 8, 2018
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center. Members in attendance were Steve Reeves, Phil Dorsey, Phil Langley, Lynn Klug, John Parlett, Alan Polk, Patrick Russell, Michael Sirk, Charles Webb, and Joseph Wood. Also present were Bruce Young from the St. Mary's Soil Conservation District; and Donna Sasscer, Lisa Ledman, Sue Veith, and Bennett Wilson from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. Guests in attendance at the meeting included: Cindy Greb from the Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D).

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. It was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the January 11, 2018 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Parlett and seconded by Mr. Young.

Old Business

North St. Mary's County Farmers Market Relocation –There was a discussion of the benefits of reclassifying the property as a Fairgrounds Flea Market however there is concern that while this will not change the plans for the property it may upset the neighbors and the setbacks will be unfeasible with larger buildings. To increase the area of the first (fully enclosed) building, a smaller value added enclosed building may be proposed to be placed directly behind it with an awning to connect the two. There are also still plans to build 2 open air pavilions in the future. The St. Mary's County Farm Bureau sent a letter to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County asking them to establish a Farmers Market Executive Board to govern the operation of this market. Mr. Parlett suggested that the Agriculture, Seafood & Forestry Board (Board) be that entity.

Rural Legacy – Ms. Greb updated the Board that the FY17 easements should settle within 30 – 45 days. Ms. Sasscer informed the Board that the State Department of Natural Resources was not happy to have two land trusts working in St. Mary's County's Mattapanay Rural Legacy Area. DNR staff believes that it is confusing to landowners to have two land trusts in one area and has forced the County to choose only 1 land trust per area for FY19 applications that were due in February. If the County did not designate 1 land trust per area then funding would be jeopardized. As such, Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) submitted an application for the Mattapanay Rural Legacy Area and the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust (PTLT) submitted an application for the Huntersville Rural Legacy Area. Ms. Sasscer also

told the Board that as part of the County's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Budget that \$910,000 was allocated for Rural Legacy Easements.

Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) – Ms. Sasscer updated the Board that so far 13 applications had been received for FY19 easement consideration. Ms. Sasscer also told the Board that as part of the County's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Budget that \$1,333,000 was allocated for MALPF Easements.

Right to Seafood Operations Ordinance – Ms. Sasscer notified the Board that the legislation for the Right to Seafood Operations was withdrawn.

Zoning Uses – Ms. Veith will send out a dates to subcommittee members to begin meeting.

New Business

St. Mary's County Land Preservation Efforts – Ms. Sasscer updated the Board on the various land preservation options available in St. Mary's County.

Sub-Committee Reports

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee

Members – John Parlett, Colleen Corrigan, Patrick Russell, and Charles Webb

No update at this time.

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board

Members – Phil Langley, Alan Polk, Steve Reeves, Patrick Russell, and Joseph Wood

No update at this time.

Agricultural Reconciliation Committee

Members – Colleen Corrigan, Phil Dorsey, Steve Reeves, Michael Sirk, and Joseph Wood

No update at this time.

Open Comment

Ms. Sasscer informed the Board that the equipment rental program was now being administered by the Home Grown Farm Market, LLC. Mr. Langely told the Board that the Potomac River Fisheries Commissioner may reduce the legal size of striped bass allowed to be kept by fishermen.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m., motioned by Mr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Young. The next meeting will is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2018 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.