



St. Mary's County Government
AGRICULTURE, SEAFOOD, AND FORESTRY BOARD
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Steve Reeves., Chairman
Scott Bacon, Vice Chairman

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John K. Parlett, Jr
Charles Webb

Phil Dorsey
Alan Polk
Joseph Wood

Phil Langley
Patrick Russell
Bruce Young

Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board
April 11, 2019
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, Colleen Corrigan, Phil Dorsey, Phil Langley, Lynn Klug, Charles Mattingly, John Parlett, Alan Polk, Michael Sirk, Charles Webb, and Joseph Wood. Also present were Donna Sasscer and Sue Veith from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. Guests in attendance at the meeting included: Dudley Lindsley from the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust (PTLT) and Cindy Greb from the Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D).

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. It was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the March 14, 2019 were read and approved by the Board, motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Parlett.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Old Business

North St. Mary's County Farmers Market Relocation and Southern Maryland Agriculture Development Commission (SMADC) Regional Agriculture Center (RAC) – Ms. Veith updated the Board that on March 19th the Commissioners of St. Mary's County reviewed the county's RAC proposal for the \$1M SMADC Grant. It was proposed to have 2 locations to serve the purposes of the RAC – a Meat Processing Facility will be constructed near the Charlotte Hall Convenience Center and classrooms and storage along with all other RAC components will be located in the Value Added Building at the relocated North St. Mary's County Farmers Market.

Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) – Ms. Sasscer told the Board that MALPF was currently making offers for the FY2019 Easement Cycle. Applications for the FY2020 Easement Cycle continue to be submitted to the DED office. Staff is in the process of ranking the properties using the Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) scoring system.

Rural Legacy – Ms. Lindsley updated the Board that there has been a lot of landowner interested in the proposed Expansion Request for the Huntersville Rural Legacy Area. PTLT continues to work to promote the Land Trust. Ms. Greb stated that RC&D is currently working with Historic St. Mary’s City to preserve additional land through REPI around St. Mary’s City.

Legislative Update – Mr. Dorsey updated the Board on SB 876, establishing that a riparian property owner or lessee shall have the right of first refusal to apply for and, if approved, obtain a water column lease, or an aquaculture lease for use in the water column. He was pleased with the group of supporters that showed up to Annapolis to testify on behalf of the legislation; however the Committee was not favorable of the legislation. Mr. Mattingly gave an update on the Medical Marijuana Application Process.

Sub-Committee Reports

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee

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

North St. Mary’s County Farmers Market will open for the season on April 3rd. During the month of April the North Market will be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays only. May – November the North Market will be open Mondays – Saturdays.

The California Farmers Market will open on April 20th and be open Saturdays until Thanksgiving from 9 am – 1 pm.

The Home Grown Farm Market will open on April 6th and be open Saturdays until Christmas from 9 am – 1 pm.

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 Period

No update at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m., motioned by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Parlett. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2019 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.