

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



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MINUTES

6:30 PM, MONDAY, September 10th, 2018
 COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

1. **Call to Order - 6:30**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 August 13th, 2018 - Motion to approve by Mrs. Sewell, Second by Mr. Land, approved with grammatical corrections, 6-0 approved
3. **Public Comment** - None
4. **November meeting date** - Mrs. Alexander made the motion to move November's meeting date from 11/12 to 11/15, Dr. Gray seconded the motion, 6-0 approved
5. **FFA**- Erica Wearing, FFA president for South Carolina, from Seneca High School and an agricultural education major at Clemson University. Mr. Blanton introduced her and congratulated her on her success. Ms. Wearing noted that the future of agriculture lies in educating the youth and engaging the youth to become farmers. Agricultural education is key to the goal of growing the numbers of farmers and securing the nation's food supply. Monetary donations to the FFA is always appreciated and a way to support youth in agriculture. Attending and engaging the FFA with current farmer's knowledge.
6. **Agricultural month proclamation** - Mr. Blanton introduced a proclamation for Council to decree November would be Agricultural Month. The proclamation was handed to the Board members. Mr. Land made a motion to approve November as agriculture appreciation month and advise Council to accept this recommendation, Mrs. Willoughby seconded the motion, 6-0 approved.
7. **Heritage fair staffing and meetings**- Mr. Chapman asked for volunteers to staff the AAB's table at the Heritage Fair. Dr. Gray, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Sewell, Mrs. Willoughby, Mr. Land and Mr. Blanton volunteered to sit a shift.
8. **Discussion on Marketing and Advertising of the AAB**
 - a) Agricultural Directory - Mrs. Alexander and Dr. Gray are still working on creating a contact list.
 - b) Market-to-Table Contest - Mrs. Sewell has received 8 entries and is continuing to promote it.
 - c) Agricultural Display - Mr. Chapman updated the AAB on the status of the coming agricultural display at the County building.
 - d) 150th Celebration Activities - The Gala, which will also be a fund raiser for the Heritage Center, will be held at Chattooga Belle Farms on November 12th.

- e) Radio Minute - A decision was made by the Board to advertise the Farmer and Rancher Listening session and allow a working group of the board to create the content and get it to Mr. Chapman by October 1st.
 - f) Website / Brochures - A brief update was provided to the Board regarding and AAB website and additional handouts or brochures
 - g) Other
- 9. Invasive species and Pesticide Alert System - Mrs. Sewell is working with the County's grants administrator is locating grants for increasing the efficacy of the invasive species and pesticide alert systems.
 - 10. New Business
 - 11. Old Business
 - 12. Adjourn

Anyone wishing to submit written comments to the Agricultural Advisory Board can send their comments to the Planning Department by mail or by emailing them to the email address below. Please Note: If you would like to receive a copy of the agenda via email please contact our office, or email us at achapman@oconeesc.com.