

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



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AGENDA

6:30 PM, MONDAY, July 8th, 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

Minutes – Monday, July 8, 2019

Members Present

Berry Rickard
Sandra Gray
Edward Land
Rex Blanton
Doug Hollifield
Debbie Sewell
Kerry Roach
Vickie Willoughby

Staff Present

Adam Chapman
Vivian Kompier

Media Present

Caitlin Herrington, The Journal

- 1. Call to Order** – Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
- 2. Public Comment** - None
- 3. Approval of Minutes** – Mr. Land made a motion to accept the minutes of May 13, 2019, seconded by Mr. Hollifield and approved by all.
- 4. Oconee Food Summit** – Guest speaker Mandolin Bright spoke about the Oconee Food Summit Event that is in the process of being planned for a Friday in February of 2020. Ms. Bright is asking the board for input and help identifying people for the committees.

5. FARM center update – Stanley Gibson gave an update on removing trees to increase the parking area, tweaking the layout for the fairgrounds, installing a perimeter road to help with the traffic flow. Leadership Oconee chose them as their project giving them an arena drag, landscaping, and a new sign. The fair is scheduled for September 24-28. The farmers market is growing, produce is coming in. We need to find ways as to not have conflicts with the other markets in the county. We are also looking for grants and new events to have.

6. The State of Agriculture –

Mid-year report for Council – We will compile and get it back to Council.

Comprehensive Plan Agriculture Element – Mr. Chapman explained the Agriculture Element and asked them to read it and give their input on it.

7. Agriculture clearing house of information – Sandra Gray said that they are working on the document online with information on how new farmers can reach different entities in Oconee County. She will also forward that to staff so they can forward it on.

Clemson Extension established a blog scgrower.com. On that blog there are weekly updates and also an events tab. You can send your events to kwalker@clermson.edu and they will get posted on there.

8. Old Business – Ms. Sewell was happy that County Council presented her with Proclamation 2019-10 designating the week of June 17th as Pollinator week. She will bring it in to be posted.

9. New Business – Mr. Hollifield attended a training course for producers. He explained that there are new rules and regulations coming in the near future. Ms. Roach explained that the Food Safety Modernization Act is grower to table with the least amount of pathogens.

10. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm

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.