

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



TEL (864) 638-4218 FAX (864) 638-4168

Minutes

6:30 PM, Monday, September 14, 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

LIMITED IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE PERMITTED

Due to the Novel Coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing state of emergency, in-person attendance at this Commission meeting by members of the general public will be limited. Attendance will be limited to twenty percent of the stated maximum occupancy, which equates to thirty-four (34) persons (including Council members, other elected officials, and staff). Attendees will be required to sit in designated seats, appropriately spaced. In-person attendance will be allowed on a "first-come" basis.

Additionally, to ensure the meeting otherwise remains open to the public, we will continue to broadcast it live on the County's YouTube channel, which can be found via the County's website at Oconeesc.com.

*Further, the public may call in and listen by dialing **888-475-4499 OR 877-853-5257** and entering meeting ID # **828 4377 0168**. And, individuals parked in close proximity to Council Chambers may listen to the meeting on FM 92.3.*

PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY PROHIBITED

During this election season, please remain aware that engaging in partisan political activity during a County Commission meeting is prohibited. Oconee Code of Ordinances Section 2-61.

"Partisan political activities" are those activities that are directed at the success or failure of a political party, candidate for political office, or political group.

Members Present

Rex Blanton

Sandra Gray

Ed land

Debbie Sewell

Amanda Callahan

Staff Present

Vivian Kompier

Media Present

None

1. Call to Order – Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
2. Approval of minutes from 08/10/2020 – Mr. Land made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Gray and approved 5/0.
3. Citizen comment – None

4. Conservation Bank Board guest speaker Mr. Andrew Smith explained the Board and how it works.
5. Board member comment – Ms Sewell asked about the Agricultural Disclosure Act letter that will be presented to Council. The Board wanted to see it before Council does.
6. Farmer’s resource guide –Discussion with no motion or vote.
7. Nontraditional and specialty agriculture assistance – Ms. Sewell made a motion for the Board to provide feedback on a letter that will be emailed to Mr. Chapman and forwarded to the Board members that essentially states looking into County land incentives for land owners who lease their land to food growers as well as the food growers. Ms. Callahan seconded the motion
8. “Victory gardens” – Mr. Land mentioned that there will be no fair this year so we can take this off the agenda until next year.
9. Adjourn – The meeting unanimously adjourned at 7:10pm.

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.