

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



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

Minutes

5:00 PM, Monday November 8, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

Members Present

Ashley Townsend
Debbie Sewell
Tessa Moxley

Rex Blanton
Kim Alexander
Kerri Roach

Staff Present

Laura Zimmerman

Media Present

None

1. **Call to order** – Ms. Sewell called the meeting to order at 5:02pm
2. **Approval of Minutes** – October 11, 2021. Ms. Alexander made a motion to approve minutes, with corrections, seconded by Ms. Townsend. Ms. Sewell called for a vote. The motion passed 4/0. Mr. Blanton arrived after the vote.
3. **Public Comment Session** [*3 minutes per person*] *If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by contacting the Planning Department at planninginfo@oconeesc.com or 864-638-4218, so that we may receive your comment and read it into the record.*
4. **Presenters** – [to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up in discussion if required]
 - a. **Mandolin Bright**, Oconee County Food Council
 - i. Recap on the establishment and ongoing organization of the Oconee Food Summit, Food Alliance, and Oconee Food Council.
 - ii. Requesting support and partnership from the Ag Board.
 1. Ms. Sewell expressed support on behalf of the Ag Board.
5. **Discussions** – [to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up in discussion if required]
 - a. **Road Safety and Agriculture** – discuss progress with SCDOT/Oconee County Roads & Bridges and Post Office

Oconee County Administrative Offices

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- i. Mr. Whiten has written a letter that he would like to present to the County Council.
 - ii. Ms. Sewell stated plans to draw up a letter on behalf of the Ag Board.
 - b. **Proposed Development Standards** – Discuss Planning Commission’s proposed ordinance as it relates to Agricultural and Forestry lands. Make recommendations for improvements/clarifications for presentation to County Council.
 - i. Ms. Sewell submitted emails to the Planning Commission with edits that were discussed in the AAB meeting on October 11th.
 - ii. Mr. Smith read out some edits that were made to the original proposed development standards document. An original version and an updated Version B will be presented at the upcoming public hearing at 5:00pm on November 15th. Some of the edits are as follows:
 - 1. Added a definition section
 - 2. Screening and buffering stayed the same, except for plant spacing requirements (as long as the screen is continuous, there are no spacing requirements) and a six-month time window for planting.
 - iii. Rex Blanton volunteered to attend the public hearing in support of the Proposed Development Standards on behalf of the Ag Board.
6. **Adjourn-** Ms. Townsend made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:46pm, seconded by Mr. Blanton, and approved 5/0.