



OCONEE COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691
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OconeeSC.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Rex Blanton, Chairman, District 3	Tessa Moxley, At-Large
Kim Alexander, District 1	Nate Duncan, District 2
Gary Wilson, District 4	Charlie Whiten, District 5
David McMahan, At-Large	Absent - Chris Talley, Ex-Officio

STAFF

Elise Dunaway

Minutes

6:00 PM, Monday, November 10, 2025
Oconee County Council Chambers

1. **Call to order** – Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order at 6:00PM
2. **Amendment to agenda**- motion by Ms. Moxley to add Mr. Donald and Mr. Smith to the agenda for land protection second by Mr. Blanton. Approved Unanimously.
3. **Moment of silence**
4. **Invocation** – Led by Mr. Whiten
5. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Mr. Duncan
6. **Minutes approval** – Motion to amend by Mr. Blanton second by Mr. Whiten to change the spelling for Mr. Rothel's name. Approved unanimously.

Motion made by Ms. Moxley to accept the minutes as amended second by Mr. Whiten.
Approved unanimously.

7. **Public Comments** - None

8. **Discussion**

- a. Calendar

Motion made by Mr. Whiten to change the meeting on 5/11/26 to 5/12/26 second by Ms. Moxley. Approved Unanimously.

Motion by Ms. Moxley made to approve the 2026 Meeting Calendar as amended second by Ms. Alexander. Approved Unanimously.

b. Land protection

Mr. Smith explains exactly what happened with the problem that Mr. McMahan discovered. This farm was being sold to the Forest Service and through legal situations the conservation easement was lost, as it looks from the paperwork. Although from his explanation there was never an easement but rather an ordinance which doesn't have the same functionality. It is essentially a deed restriction not a conservation easement. This was a confusing legal transaction that looked as if the easement was "lost".

Mr. Donald from the Farm Bureau presents what the bureau does to protect farmland. The bureau prioritizes protection of production land, but it doesn't stop at production land. It will protect us from development. There is no minimum to what can be protected.

c. Farm center

January 29, 2026 as a proposal to meet with their board.

d. Ag signage

Motion made by Ms. Alexander to table the agricultural signs until a future date second by Mr. Whiten. Approved Unanimously.

e. District Reports

Positive reports

9. Motion made by Ms. Moxley to adjourn second by Mr. Whiten.