

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** June 19, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Farmland Preservation Taskforce Update

**PRESENTER:** Liz Hanson, Planner I

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. PowerPoint Presentation

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

On April 1, 2023, the Board of Commissioners voted to form a Farmland Preservation Taskforce. The Taskforce held its first meeting on May 13, 2024, and has held two additional meetings since. On May 30, 2024, the Taskforce heard from Evan Davis from the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Kieran Roe and Tom Fanslow from Conserving Carolina to discuss agricultural conservation easements.

On June 10, 2024, the Taskforce continued their discussion on agricultural conservation easements and reviewed examples of program structures. They heard from Ariel Zijp and Avni Naik from the Buncombe County Farmland Preservation division, Ryan Manning from the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, and Mikey Fulk from the Working Lands Trust. Following the discussion on June 10, 2023, the Taskforce unanimously recommended selecting the Soil and Water Conservation District as the primary contact for a proposed Farmland Preservation Program. The Taskforce will meet again on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

This is an informational item.

#### **Suggested Motion:**

*No motion suggested.*

# Farmland Preservation Taskforce Henderson County

June 19, 2024 • Board of Commissioners

Planning Department



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## 1. Taskforce Updates



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## Taskforce Members & Support

Name	Representation
Rebecca McCall, Chair	Board of Commissioners
David Hill, Chair	Board of Commissioners
Hunter Marks	Planning Board
Danny McConnell	Soil & Water Conservation District
Joffrey Merrill	Agribusiness Henderson County
Gary Steiner	NC Cooperative Extension
Jimmy Cowan	NC Farm Bureau
Randy Newman	Hendersonville Board of Realtors
Jason Edney	At-large
Justin Patwin	At-large
Linda Pryor	At-large
Alan Ward	At-large
Danielle McCall	At-large

**Conserving Carolina**  
Kieran Roe  
Tom Fanslow

**Soil & Water**  
Jonathan Wallin  
April Hoyt

**NC Cooperative Extension**  
Dr. Terry Kelley

**NC Department of Agriculture**  
Jeffrey Darnell

**County Support Staff**  
Chris Todd  
Autumn Radcliff  
Liz Hanson

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## Past Meeting Overview

### May 10<sup>th</sup>

- Member Introductions
- Discussed Taskforce background & potential goals
- Voted on meeting schedule
- Scheduled special called meeting for 05/30/24

### May 30<sup>th</sup>

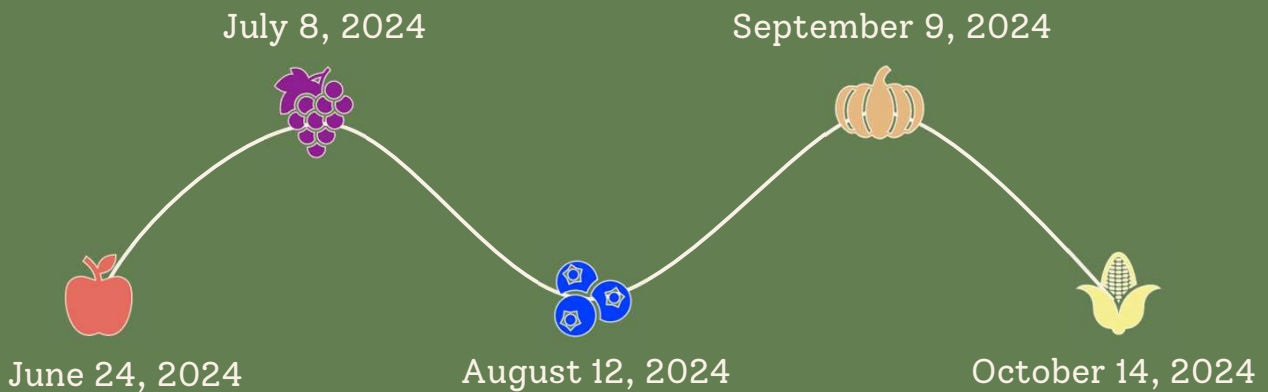
- Evan Davis, Farmland Preservation Division Director (NC ADFPTF)
- Kieran Roe & Tom Fanslow, Conserving Carolina

### June 10<sup>th</sup>

- Ariel Zijp & Avni Naik, Buncombe County Farmland Preservation
- Ryan Manning, Haywood County Farmland Preservation & NC Soil & Water Foundation
- Mikey Fulk, Working Lands Trust
- Presented motion

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## Future Taskforce Meetings.....



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## 2. Presented Motion



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At their June 10, 2024, meeting,  
the Taskforce made a unanimous  
recommendation regarding the  
proposed Farmland Preservation  
Program.

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“I move, for the purposes of moving forward, to select the Soil and Water Conservation District to be the primary contact for the Farmland Preservation Program for the time being.”

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Questions  
&  
Discussion



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