

**Henderson County  
Farmland Preservation Taskforce: June 9, 2025**

The Farmland Preservation Taskforce held a meeting on June 9, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the King Street Meeting Room located at 100 N. King Street. Virtual Attendees are denoted with a “V.”

<b>Taskforce Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Chair		✓
Commissioner Sheila Franklin, Chair	✓	
Jason Davis – Henderson County Planning Board	✓	
Brent Coston – Soil & Water Conservation District	✓	
Gary Steiner – NC Cooperative Extension	✓	✓
Jimmy Cowan – NC Farm Bureau	✓	
Joffrey Merrill – AgHC	✓	
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	✓	

**Also present:**

Chris Todd, Assistant County Manager; Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner; April Hoyt, Henderson County Soil & Water; Dr. Terry Kelley, NC Cooperative Extension

**Call to Order**

Commissioner and Taskforce Chair Sheila Franklin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance:**

Commissioner Franklin led the invocation and pledge after the meeting was called to order.

**Adjustment and Approval of Agenda:**

There were no adjustments to the agenda. Taskforce member Jimmy Cowan motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Taskforce member Jason Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Brett Werner gave public comment.

**Adjustment and Approval of April 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes:**

Taskforce member Randy Newman motioned to approve the May 12, 2025, meeting minutes. Taskforce member Jimmy Cowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Agricultural Growth Zone Grant Update**

Staff provided an update on the Agricultural Growth Zone (AGZ) grant from the NC ADFPTF. Once the state budget is passed in October, more grant funding information should be available. Staff will provide the Taskforce with updates as they receive them.

**Farmland Preservation Information Distribution**

Staff presented the Taskforce with an updated version of the informational flyer, based on recommendations from the previous Taskforce meeting. The Taskforce and Soil and Water staff provided feedback on the flyer, which will be incorporated into the final version of the flyer. The informational flyer will be included in the County Tax Bills, set to be mailed out on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Henderson County Agricultural Services Building**

Assistant County Manager, Chris Todd, provided an update on the new Agricultural Services Building. This building would be a hub for several different agricultural agencies, services, and the Soil and Water Conservation District Department.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Taskforce meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the King Street Meeting Room.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.

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Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Chair  
Commissioner Sheila Franklin, Chair  
Henderson County Farmland Preservation Taskforce